ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE (subject to revisions) 8/27/17

A comprehensive calendar of work of deadlines & reading assignments to be completed BEFORE each class. Most readings other than the textbook appear on the Canvas website, or www.andrew.cmu.edu/course/48-241

 P&M = Conrads, U. Programs & Manifestoes on 20th Century Architecture (1960)

Date | Lec.# - Topic, Assignments, Due Dates, and Reading:
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Mo. Aug. 28 | #1 - Intro. / Overview

We. Aug. 30 | #2 - Modernity, Theory, Causes
Lecture on modernization and industrialization in western societies 1750-1900 and its effects on architecture. Includes discussion of growth and reform of cities and the restructuring of society and economy in the Industrial Revolution. The split between architecture & engineering, the advancement and proliferation of technology & materials such as steel, concrete and glass, and the resulting dichotomy to historicist ornament. What was 19th-century architecture like? Why did it slowly change at the end of the century? What was the "intellectual and cultural revolution" around the turn of the century? What ideas and theories helped spur the development of modern architecture?
- Curtis textbook: pp.7-39

Thu. Aug. 31 (7:00pm, MM303) OR
Fri. Sept. 1 | #3 - DISCUSSION1: Modernism
Discussion of the terms "modern," "modernity," "modernization," "modern movement," etc. How are they different? What do they have in common? What is "modernism" and how is it different from past styles or epochs? Why did it come about in the late 19th-century? How do Baudelaire and Simmel define modern times? What is Kitsch, Avantgarde, Popular Culture?

DUE: Reading Report #1 (Required) report on all four articles listed above

Mo. Sept. 4 | NO CLASS - Labor Day

We. Sept. 6 | #4 - Arts & Crafts and Good Design
Lecture on various Arts & Crafts movements in the late 19th-century England, France, and Belgium, and the varied attempts to define a completely new style of art and architecture, appropriate to the modern world, more functional, organic, and aesthetic, and not as dependent on historical styles. In what way were these movements responses to modernization and modernity? How did they counter the academic art establishment? Why and how was craft a conservative response to industrialization and international homogenization? What is the connection to art?
- Curtis textbook: pp.53-69, 87-93, 131-138

Th. Sept. 7 | Practice Building ID Quiz (tentative)

Fr. Sept. 8 | #5 - Design 2: Art Nouveau & Secession Movements
Lecture on various attempt to define a completely new style of art and architecture, appropriate to the modern world, more functional, organic, and aesthetic, and not as dependent on historical styles. How did the Art Nouveau and Secession movements align and differ with English Arts & Crafts? Explain the origins and theories behind the forms of the Art Nouveau. What was the Secession? What made it radical? What is a “Gesamtkunstwerk” (“Total work of art")?
- Curtis textbook: pp.53-69.

Mo. Sept. 11 | #6 - Father Figures: Wagner & Berlage
Lecture on the work and theory of Otto Wagner and H.P. Berlage, two of the “Fathers" of modern architecture. How and why did each react against the historicist and eclectic architecture of the 19th-century? How and why did they demand a more modern, more functional, less ornamented architecture, using modern materials for the modern city? How does Wagner's work relate to the Secession? What are the 3 main points of Wagner's Modern Architecture? What is his theory of cladding? What are the three main ideas of Berlage’s theory?
- Curtis textbook: pp.6-67, 152-153

DUE: Reading Report #2 (Optional) - Respond to either Wagner or Berlage
We. Sept. 13 #7 - Pre-War America: Wright & Modernity
Lecture on the American architecture in the first decades of the 20thC, especially domestic architecture and the work of F.L. Wright. Focuses on Wright’s innovative attempt to move away from the dominant Beaux-arts architecture towards modern design. How did Wright relate to the Arts & Crafts movement? How did Wright’s "Wasmuth Portfolio" influence European architects? How was Wright’s attitude to the machine different than Morris and the English Arts & Crafts?
- Curtis textbook: skim pp.93-97; 113-129; 217-239
- Wright, F.L. “Art & Craft of the Machine” (1901)

Fr. Sept. 15 #8 - American Industry & Cities
Lecture on the powerful influence of technology and industry on American architecture, in both domestic and civic architecture. Explore idea of mass-production, Taylorism, Fordism, Frederick’s “efficiency theory,” and the rise of the skyscraper. What aspects of American culture, technology and industry did Europeans particularly admire? In what ways did Europeans feel superior to American culture?

We. Sept. 20 #10 - Critical Loos: On Function & Ornament
Lecture on the important early work and theory of the Viennese architect Adolf Loos. What were Loos’ theories about functionalism? About ornament? Did Loos feel ALL ornament was criminal? What kind of ornament did he approve of? How did his ideas about ornament tie into modern life in the city? What was Loos’ attitude about the German Werkbund? About a modern style? About Gesamtkunstwerk? How did his buildings differ from his theories?
- Curtis textbook: pp.69-71
- Optional: Banham, Ch.7 of Theory & Design, pp.88-97.

Fri. Sept. 22 #11 - DISCUSSION 2: Loos & Theory
Discussion on theoretical position of Loos, especially in comparison to the Arts&Crafts, Secession, the Werkbund, and the and the ‘Father Figures’ Wagner and Berlage. How was Loos’ theory on cladding different than Wagner’s? How did it relate to ideas on ornament, and modern society? How do Loos’ ideas on ornament also connect to economics, morality, class, technology, nationalism, modernity, etc.? What is his attitude about technology? Is he a Modernist?
- Optional: Banham, Ch.8 of Studies in Tectonic Culture (1985) pp.121-157
DUE: Reading report 3 (required)

Mo. Sept. 25 #12 - Order: Classicism & Engineering
Lecture on the general “return to order” that affected European arts just before WWI, especially in Germany & France. What role did engineering and new materials play in this movement? How was this classicist “return to order” a reaction against Art Nouveau, and different from 19th-century historicism? In what ways did this classicism and quest for order persist up until 1945?
- Curtis textbook: pp.73-85, 244-245, 300-303
- Optional: Giedion, S. Building in France, Building in Iron, Building in Ferroconcrete (1928/1955)

We. Sept. 27 #13 - Avante-Garde I - Cubism & Futurism
Lecture on the development of different expressive architectural movements in France & Czechoslovakia (Cubism), Italy (Futurism). How were they reactions against both the 19th-century, and Art Nouveau and Impressionism? How were these movements in different countries similar? Different? How did ideas in architecture relate to developments in the other arts, such as painting, as well as modern science and modern life? What is Giedion’s "Space-Time" concept? Why did modern architects after WWI increasingly reject these art movements?
- Curtis textbook: pp.107-111, 149-151
- P&M textbook: pp.34-38+
- Optional: Tafuri M. & F. Dal Co, Modern Architecture, Ch.8, "Arch. & Avantgarde" (1976)

Th. Sept. 28 Building ID Quiz #2 (stay tuned for instructions)
Fr. Sept. 29  #14 - Avant-Garde II - German Expressionism
Lecture on the development of Expressionism in Germany. How was Expressionism a reaction against 19th-century historicism, art nouveau and classicism? How did ideas in architecture relate to developments in the other arts such as painting, as well as modern science and modern life? Why did modern architects after WWI increasingly reject these art movements?
- Curtis textbook: pp.103, 106, 150, 183-188, 289-90
- P&M textbook: pp.32-33, 41-48, 57-58

Mo. Oct. 2  #15 - Avant-Garde III - Dutch De Stijl & Mies
Lecture focusing on the rise of "Neo-Plasticism" or "De Stijl" in Holland, and the related work of Mies van der Rohe, briefly a member of De Stijl. What conditions made Holland one of the countries to embrace modern architecture on a large scale? How was De Stijl related to cubism and developments in painting? What is "Neo-plasticism" and how does it attempt to embrace a new conception of space? How was Mies work both typical of De Stijl, and very different?
- Curtis textbook: pp.152-159
- P&M: pp.39-40, 64-67, 74-75, 78-82, 98, 102, 123
- Optional: Banham, Theory & Design, pp.138-200
DUE: Reading Report #4 (Optional)

We. Oct. 4  #16 - Avant-Garde IV: Russian Constructivism
Lecture on the role of architecture in the creation of a new society in post-revolutionary Russia. What was "new" about these revolutionary architectures? How did they relate to 19th-century architecture? To De Stijl? To Futurism? What was the difference between the Constructivists & Suprematists? How was Communist politics expressed in these?
- Curtis textbook: pp.201-215
- P&M textbook: pp.56, 87-88, 121-122

Fr. Oct. 6  #17 - Bauhaus
Lecture and discussion on the architectural ideas of the Bauhaus. What role did H. Van de Velde, W. Gropius, H. Meyer and Mies v.d. Rohe play in the development of the Bauhaus? How was the Bauhaus different from previous forms of art education? What was the political orientation of the Bauhaus, and why did it clash with authorities in Weimar and then Dessau? How was the Bauhaus related to the Werkbund? To Expressionism? To technology? What events and changes occurred at the Bauhaus in 1919? 1923? 1926?
- Curtis textbook: pp.183-199
- Optional: Frampton, Ch.14 "Bauhaus," in Modern Architecture
DUE: Reading Report #5 (Optional)

Mo. Oct. 9  #18 - Le Corbusier's Machine Villas
Lecture on the early development and theory of C.E. Jeanneret, also known as Le Corbusier. How did LC develop from an arts & crafts training to an important purist painter in Paris, to being at the forefront of modern architecture? Why did LC embrace technology, industry and the machine? What were LC's "Five Points of Modern Architecture? What was the difference between LC's "Five Points of Modern Architecture gradually developed and expressed in the Villa Savoye and the Villa Garches?
- Curtis textbook: pp.163-181, 275-286
- Optional: 1) A. Colquhoun, "Architecture and Engineering; Le Corbusier and the Paradox of Reason" pp.89-115; and 2) "The Significance of Le Corbusier" pp.163-190, both in Modernity and the Classical Tradition (1989)

We. Oct. 11  #19 - Housing the Masses
Lecture on the vast social housing projects that dominated European architectural concerns between the wars, esp. Frankfurt. What were the political and urban situations that made these housing estates popular and feasible? Why the sudden need for so much housing? What is "Existence Minimum"? How was modern architecture particularly suited to these developments? What role did green space, light, sun and fresh air play in the design of the developments? Explain the debates 1) City Center vs Periphery; 2) Low Rise vs. High Rise; 3) Detached vs. Row Housing vs. Apt. Blocks; 4) Perimeter Blocks vs. Zeilenbau

Th. Oct. 12 OR Fr. Oct. 13  #20 - DISCUSSION 3 - Le Corbusier
Discussion on Towards an New Architecture, and the development of Le Corbusier's signature modernism in architectural and urban forms. What are the main points behind Towards a New Architecture? How do LC's architectural ideas relate to his urban ones?
DUE: Reading Report #6 (Required), respond to all writings by Le Corbusier
Mo. Oct. 16 ** MIDTERM EXAM **

" As a way of studying for your exam, each student must submit a list of 3-4 building examples they will use in answering each of the possible essay questions (a form will be emailed to students before the exam). The quality of your examples will be factored into your exam grade. Although you are encouraged to study together, essay answers should be your own individual take on a question or idea, and thus your examples should be chosen accordingly.

We. Oct. 18 #21 - German Functionalism & CIAM

Lecture on the multiple interpretations of "functionalism" among the German avant-garde, including: 1) the "functional" form of vernacular buildings; 2) the canonical "rational" or machine functionalism and "International Style" (MoMA 1932); 3) Häring's organic functionalism; 4) Mendelsohn's dynamic functionalism; 5) Programatic or Use Functionalism; and 6) Taut's Expressionist color. Is there such a thing as truly functional architecture? What is autonomous architecture? What conditions and personalities led to the founding of CIAM? What were the principles CIAM?

- Curtis textbook: pp.183-199, 257-273, 305-311
- P&M textbook: pp.54-55, 71-73, 76-77, 103-120, 126-127, 137-145
- Frampton, "The New Objectivity," in Modern Architecture

DUE: Reading Report #7 (Optional)

Fr. Oct. 20 NO CLASS - MID SEMESTER BREAK

Mo. Oct. 23 #22 - Colonialism & Regional Modernisms: India & Brazil

Lecture on the dissemination of modern architecture and International modernism, focusing on the idea of "colonialism" in India, and the idea of "Regional Modernism" in Brazil. How did modern architecture change when it moved abroad? How did it deal with the different social, economic and climatic conditions? How did it express the political ideology of colonial dominance? Why did modernism play such a minor role until after WWII in the colonies?


We. Oct. 25 #23 - Totalitarianism: Germany, Russia, Italy

Lecture on the architectural programs of totalitarian regimes in Hitler's Germany, Stalin's Russia, and Mussolini's Italy. How did these regimes react differently to modern architecture? Why? How can architecture be "political"? How is "communist" architecture different from "fascist" architecture? What was "modern" about Nazi architecture? Why did totalitarian regimes turn to classicism and monumentality?

- Curtis textbook: pp.351-369


Th. Oct. 26 Building ID Quiz #3 (stay tuned for instructions)

Fr. Oct. 27 #24 - World War II & Modernity

Lecture on the years leading up to WWII, including Nazi modernity, the classicism of Federal architecture in the US, and the influence of war time production and technology on US architecture.


Mo. Oct. 30 #25 - USA & Architecture of Democracy

Lecture on the repercussions of “Total War” and the shift of modern architecture from Europe to the US, the development of an "Architecture of Democracy" after the war, the transition of war production to peacetime consumer culture, and the influx of exile architects from Europe, including Saarinen, Breuer, Mendelsohn, Gropius, and Mies van der Rohe.

- Curtis textbook: pp.319-327, 394-410
- P&M textbook: pp.128-139, 146-147
- Albrecht, "Intro., World War II and the American Dream (1995)

** Tu. Oct. 31 OR We. Nov. 1 #26 - DISCUSSION 4 - Postwar Anxiety

Discussion on "What is Postwar Modern?", particularly it's relation to what came before and after: pre-war Modernism, and Postmodernism. Distinguish Modern, Modernism, Modern Movement, High Modern & Neo-Avant-Garde. Understand the changing mentality from the prewar to the postwar era.

- Optional: Goldhagen, "Coda: Reconceptualizing Modernism" in Anxious Modernisms

DUE: Reading Report #8 (Required)

Fr. Nov. 3 CLASS - TBA
#27 - Modern Living & Suburbia
Lecture on a series of different agendas of domestic architecture after WWII, primarily in the USA, from custom-made experiments in postwar modernism, to more mass-produced suburbs. What role did technology play in the various projects? How was “postwar living” different than prewar living in the US?

#28 - Aalto & Scandinavian Grace
Lecture on the important Finnish architect Alvar Aalto, who pioneered a more human modernism, trying to integrate natural, organic elements with the machine style of international modernism. How did Aalto modify the International Style? What were the different elements that Aalto was working to synthesize? How did his work change prewar to postwar?
- Curtis textbook: pp.300-302, 338-349; also 454-462

#29 - Postwar Le Corbusier
Lecture on Le Corbusier’s postwar architecture, including the changes towards a more organic, natural and sculptural architecture that began in the 1930s. What changed, and why? What ideas continued? How did writings and buildings such as the Unite, Ronchamp, La Tourette, and Chandigargh influence the postwar period?
- Curtis textbook: pp.319-327, 416-442

#30 - Postwar Expressionism & Organic
Lecture on increasing tendency in postwar modern to search for a more expressive, organic, human-centered, and often regionally appropriate architecture. Architects such as Scharoun, Utzon, Behnisch, Saarinen, and Wright sought an alternative to the rigid, hi-tech, and anonymous “glass box modernism” promoted around the world by corporate America. Although the shapes were sometimes similar, each of the architects often justified their forms based on very different theories: be sure you can distinguish WHY each looks as it does.
- Curtis textbook: pp.400, 464-474

#31 - (New) Brutalism & High Tech
Lecture on the fascination with technology and raw materiality in postwar architecture. What was “New Brutalism,” and how did it lead to “Brutalism”? Why the focus on technology, despite a general skepticism about technology after the destruction of WWII?
- Curtis textbook: pp.506-517, 528-545
- Optional: Deyong, S. “High-Tech: Modernism Redux” in Rifkind/Haddad, pp.51-68

#32 - Tropical Modernism & Third World
Lecture on the extension and critique of modern architecture as it was disseminated in so-called Third World and Non-Western contexts. Growth of a new “tropical modernism” to accomodate different environmental and cultural conditions in Brazil, Africa.
- Curtis textbook: pp.490-505, 566-587, 648-655, skim 634-647

#33 - Kahn, History & Monumentality
Lecture on the career of Louis Kahn, how he moved from his Beaux-Arts training to becoming one of the most revered modern architects of the century. What role did history play in developing Kahn’s unique form of modern architecture? What about technology? Geometry?
- Curtis textbook: pp.512-527
- Kahn, Louis. “Order is” and other writings by Kahn from various sources
DUE: Reading Report 10 (Optional)
We. Nov. 29  #34 - Pop & the End of Modernism  
Lecture on the work of Robert Venturi, including his book *Complexity & Contradiction*, and the role they played in challenging some of the central tenets of modern architecture.  
- Curtis textbook: pp.560-565  
- Rifkind, D. “Post-Modernism: Critique & Reaction,” in Rifkind/Haddad, pp.31-50  

Th. Nov. 30 OR Fr. Dec. 1  #35 - DISCUSSION #5: Postmodernism  
Discussion on postmodernism. What is it? Who defined it? What are principle characteristics in architecture and other fields? For the reading report, you should focus on the readings below, and work to distinguish the many different, and often contradictory positions that were established.  

DUE: Reading Report 11 (Required): Read all articles for classes #34 and #35, but respond to “primary source” articles for class #34

Mo. Dec. 4  #36 - Postmodernism 1 & 2  
Lecture on two important theme in “Postmodern,” “post-Fordist,” or “post-Structuralist” sensibility in modern architecture, including greater emphasis on diversity, regional or situated architecture, the use of history, tradition and vernacular sources, increasing globalization, etc. This first part looks at the famous formal battle between two competing groups of architects (Whites vs. Greys), one intent on complexity, the other on purity. The second theme emphasizes the making of place as a way to overcome the sameness and blandness of universal modernism, a trend Frampton named “Critical Regionalism.”  
- Curtis textbook: pp.597-609, 617-633  

DUE: Reading Report 12 (Optional) - Respond to Frampton and any readings for classes #34-36 OR on any subject you want directly related to the course

We. Dec. 6  #37 - Deconstructivism, Pragmatism & End of Theory  
Deconstructivism, a term borrowed from literary criticism, and applied most famously to a 1988 exhibit at MoMA in NYC to describe the work of Gehry, Eisenman, Tschumi and others, evolved from PoMo’s quest from complexity. At the end of the century, critics and architects sought to escape “theory” (both formal theory such as Decon, and critical or social theory such as Marxism) and turn towards a more “pragmatic” and “projective” practice, especially ideas of “sustainability,” and other modes that foregrounded efficiency, economics, etc.  
- Curtis textbook: pp.656-689  
- Haddad, “Deconstruction: Project of Radical Self-Criticism,” in Rifkind/Haddad, pp.69-90  
- Tabb, “Greening Architecture: Impact of Sustainability” in Rifkind/Haddad, pp.91-114  

DUE: Reading Report 13 (Optional) - Respond to readings from classes #36/37 OR on any subject you want directly related to the course

Th. Dec. 7  Building ID Quiz #5 (stay tuned for instructions)

Fr. Dec. 8  CLASS - TBA

TBA  FINAL EXAM (Scheduled by Registrar)