

SEMESTER AT SEA COURSE SYLLABUS
University of Virginia, Academic Sponsor

Voyage: Spring 2015

Discipline: Architectural History

ARH 2500: Experiencing World Architecture

Division: Lower

Faculty Name: Lisa Schrenk

Pre-requisites: None

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Over fifty years ago Danish architect and urban planner Steen Eiler Rasmussen argued that architecture should be experienced through all of the senses. The Semester at Sea program offers students an extraordinary opportunity to use their senses to explore manmade sites from many different eras ranging from traditional villages to prominent landmarks. The underlying goal of *Experiencing World Architecture* is to provide students with analytical tools that can help them achieve a deeper understanding of the built environments they experience throughout their lives, starting with locations visited on the voyage.

In meeting this goal, the course will introduce students to basic architectural vocabulary while addressing the cultural, social, economic, political, climatic, technological, and ideological facets of notable built environments from different cultures around the world, including the Pyramids, the Parthenon, Angkor Wat and the Forbidden City. Emphasis will be placed on the architecture of sites that we will have the opportunity to visit, such as the temples of Pagan, the skyscrapers of Hong Kong, the traditional and Dutch colonial housing around Cape Town, and the art deco architecture of Casablanca. Through exploring aspects, such as aesthetics, function, structure, environmental conditions, anthropometrics, and order, students will be able to more fully understand past and contemporary built environments, in particular how cultural meaning, symbolism, and significance are established through architectural forms.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. To develop a familiarity with important historical architectural landmarks and to be able to discuss their significance.
2. To understand how cultural, social, economic, political, climatic, technological, and ideological conditions influenced past architectural developments from around the world.
3. To develop the ability to critically dissect works of architecture, including those experienced on the voyage, in order to better understand aspects of their design and how they reflect the cultures that created them.
4. To become familiar with the basic vocabulary of architecture and to develop the ability to write effectively and critically about the built environment.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

AUTHOR: Patrick Nuttgens
TITLE: The Story of Architecture
PUBLISHER: Phaidon Press
ISBN #: 0714836168
DATE/EDITION: 1997, 2nd ed.

AUTHOR: James O’Gorman
TITLE: ABC of Architecture
PUBLISHER: University of Pennsylvania Press
ISBN #: ISBN: 0-8122-1631-8
DATE/EDITION: 1998

Also (Bring with you): Journal: Moleskine Folio Notepad. Note: Must be ~8.5 “x 11”. You can use either plain or ruled (Plain is good for sketching, ruled is good for neater writing.) Available on Amazon (Ruled: ISBN-13: 978-8862936453, Plain: ISBN-13: 978-8862936477)

Digital Camera

TOPICAL OUTLINE OF COURSE

Depart Ensenada- January 7:

A1- January 9: Introduction to Architecture
What is Architecture?

A2-January 11: Native America
Nomadic vs. Agrarian Building Design
Architecture of the Ojibwe and the Ancient Pueblos
Readings: O’Gorman xiii-63.
Nuttgens 8-15.

A3- January 13: From Caves to Early Cities
The Measuring of Time and the Shaping of Place
Lascaux, Stonehenge, Çatalhöyük, Ur
Readings: O’Gorman 64-100 (optional: 101-107).
Nuttgens 16-27.

Hilo: January 14

A4-January 16: Egyptian Architecture

The Architecture of Power

Saqqara, Giza, Deir-el-Bahari, Abu Simbel

Reading: Nuttgens 28-41.

A5-January 18: Pre-Columbian Architecture

The Architecture of Ritual

Teotihuacán, Tikal, Chichen Itza, Tenochtitlán, Machu Picchu

Reading: Nuttgens 76-85.

Quiz 1

Study Day: January 20

A6- January 22: Asian Architecture: India

The Temple and the Sacred Precinct

Sanchi, Ajanta, Ellora, Khajuraho

Readings: Nuttgens 42-54.

Fazio, *Buildings Across Time*, 63-76.

A7-January 24: Asian Architecture: Japan

Architecture as a Reflection of Nature

Ise, Nara, Kyoto

Readings: Nuttgens 56-74.

Paine, *The Art and Architecture of Japan*, 291-323.

Yokohama: January 26-27

In-Transit: January 28

Kobe: January 29-31

A8- February 1: Asian Architecture: China

Architecture as a Reflection of Culture

Xian, Forbidden City, Suzhou, Shanghai

Readings: Ingersoll and Kostof, *World Architecture*, 11.1: China After 1000, 424-436.

Cartier, "The State, Property Development and Symbolic Landscape in High-rise Hong Kong," *Landscape Research* 24:2 (1999): 185-208.

Shanghai: February 3-4 – **FIELD LAB DATE, FEB 3**

In-Transit: February 5-6

Hong Kong: February 7-8

A9- February 9: Asian Architecture: Southeast Asia
The Transmission of Architectural Ideas

Angkor Wat, Borobudur, Mý Son, Pagan

Readings: Nuttgens 54-55.

Waterson, *The Architecture of South-East Asia through Travellers' Eyes*, 1-24.

White, "The Temples of Angkor: Ancient Glory in Stone," *National Geographic Magazine*, 161:5 (May 1982): 552-589.

Ho Chi Minh: February 11-16

A10- February 17: Bronze Age Greece
Architecture as a Reflection of Mythology

Knossos, Mycenae, Troy

Reading: Hammerton, "Troy: The City Sung By Homer," *Wonders of the Past*, 973-981.

Singapore: February 19-20

Study Day: February 21

A11-February 22: Greek Architecture
The Orders of Architecture

Quiz 2

Journal turn in 1st time – w/ field assignment entry

The Greek Temple, The Acropolis and the Agora

Reading: Nuttgens 86-101.

Rangoon: February 24-March 1

A12-March 2: Roman Architecture
Architecture and the Creation of Space

Pompeii, Roman Forum, Colosseum, Pantheon, Hadrian's Villa

Reading: Nuttgens 102-115.

A13- March 4: Classical vs. Indian Architecture
Universality vs. Locality: A Comparison of Cultural Forms

Reading: Gregory D. Alles, "Surface, Space, and Intention: The Parthenon and the Kandariya Mahadeva," *History of Religions* vol. 28, No. 1 (Aug. 1988): 1-36.

Cochin: March 6-11

A14-March 12: Late Roman/ Early Christian
Architecture and the Transition of Culture

Basilica of Constantine, Early St. Peters, S. Vitale, Hagia Sophia

Reading: Nuttgens 116-129.

Study Day: March 14

**A15-March 15: Romanesque Architecture
Architecture and Belief
Quiz 3**

S. Foy, Fontenay, Durham, Pisa

Reading: Nuttgens 130-143.

**A16- March 17: Gothic Architecture
Architecture, Engineering, and a Desire to Reach Heaven**

S. Denis, Chartres, Beauvais, Salisbury

Reading: Nuttgens 158-175.

Port Louis: March 18

**A17-March 20: Islamic Architecture
The Mosque and the Palace**

Dome of the Rock, Samarra, Cordoba, Taj Mahal, Blue Mosque

Reading: Nuttgens 144-157.

Study Day: March 21

**A18- March 23: Architecture of Africa
Materials in Architecture**

Great Zimbabwe, Djénné, Lalibela

Reading: Ingersoll and Kostof, *World Architecture*, 9.3: Sub-Saharan Africa, 360-368.

Cape Town: March 25-30

**A19-March 31: The Renaissance
The Rise of the Professional Architect**

Florence Cathedral, Tempietto, S. Peters, Villa Rotunda

Reading: Nuttgens 176-189.

Walvis Bay: April 2-6

**A20-April 7: Colonial & Vernacular Architecture
Architecture Adapted for New Worlds**

America and Beyond

Reading: Whiffen, *American Architecture, Volume 1: 1607-1860*, 3-30.

A21- April 9: Baroque & Neoclassicism
The Spread of Architectural Ideas Around the World
Quiz 4

San Carlo alle Quattro Fontane, Versailles, Saltworks at Chaux, UVA, Baroque Churches in Asia and the New World

Reading: Nuttgens 190-217.

Study Day: April 10

A22-April 12: Industrial Revolution & the Skyscraper
Architecture and the Machine

Crystal Palace, Paris, Chicago

Reading: Nuttgens 240-265.

Study Day: April 14

A23: April 15: 20th Century Architecture
The Search for a Modern Style

Frank Lloyd Wright, Le Corbusier, Mies, Postmodernism, Metabolists

Reading: Nuttgens 266-283.

A24: April 17: Architecture Today
Striving for Sustainable Design in an Unsustainable World
Journal turn in 2nd time

Reading: Nuttgens 284-301.

Casablanca: April 18-22

April 24: Global Lens Exams and Study Day

A25: April 25: Final

April 29: Arrive in Southampton

FIELD WORK (*20 percent of Course Grade*)

Field lab attendance is mandatory for all students enrolled in this course. Do not book individual travel plans or a Semester at Sea sponsored trip on February 3rd the day of our field lab.

Shanghai – An Urban Palimpsest

An exploration of Shanghai provides the opportunity to clearly view the layering of architectural developments in an urban environment over time, from traditional temples sites to early colonial buildings to the recent appearance of soaring skyscrapers.

The field lab for Experiencing World Architecture will begin with a stop at the Shanghai Urban Planning Exhibition Center to view the massive model of the city as it currently exists and several temporary exhibits. We will then travel to both commercial and residential districts via foot and public transportation. Visits will include YuYuan Gardens, Nanjing Lu, the Bund, the French Concession, the Expo 2010 fairgrounds, a lilong housing area, and Pudong, where we will go to the top of either Jin Mao or the Shanghai World Financial Center, one of the world's tallest buildings to receive a bird's-eye view of the city. We will then cross the river through the city's tunnel of love, to compare the Bund at night to our experiences in the same area earlier in the day and to view the buildings of Pudong from across the river.

****Note that there will be extensive walking on this field lab!!!****

Academic Objectives:

1. To understand the historic layering of cities and how a city's past informs and shapes its present conditions.
2. To experience how the forms of Western and Eastern cultures came together to define the built environments of Shanghai
3. To develop skills used in understanding, interpreting, and discussing built environments.

Upon completion of the field lab, students will complete a three- to four-page journal entry comparing the functions, architectural forms, and physical context of two of the specific sites we visited in Shanghai. The entry should be based on both personal observations made at the sites and academic research completed while back onboard the ship.

FIELD AND CLASS ASSIGNMENTS

To connect the course to the larger Semester-at-Sea experience you will complete a series of journal entries (one for each stop on the voyage) in which you have analytically reflected upon the design of one built environment that you experience while at the stop. Entries may include a description of a building or another manmade site that:

- had the largest impact on you
- related to a specific aspect of architecture that we discussed in class
- compared and/or contrasted with a previous experience you had at another site (either on this voyage or before)

By the end of the semester your journal must include at a minimum of two full 8-1/2" by 11" pages of handwritten text (~500 words) for each entry on your own thoughts and impressions of the built environments you visited, **plus** one page of visuals (sketches, diagrams, or photographs) relating to the place. Longer entries are definitely fine, shorter ones will lead to a drop in grade. The final

journal will also include a number of in-class writings and entries responding to specific class readings. The journal will be graded on the perceptiveness of both the commentary and illustrations of the entries, as well as their reflection of course context. In addition to the journal assignment, you will complete an architectural scavenger hunt in which you will locate and then photograph examples of various architectural elements and styles.

METHODS OF EVALUATION / GRADING RUBRIC

Grading will be based on the following:	Field Assignment	20%
	Journal	25%
	Quizzes (3 of 4)	15%
	Architectural Terminology Hunt	10%
	Final Exam	25%
	Participation*	5%
	(*includes attendance, curiosity, perceptivity)	

LATE & INCOMPLETE WORK

There will be no make-up quizzes or exams given for this class. Authorized medical excuses and serious personal matters will be the only allowed exceptions. Assignments are due at the beginning of class on their due date. Assignments will drop ½ of a letter grade if turned in late on the due date. They will drop a full letter grade if turned in after the due date and two letter grades if more than a week late. **All assignments must be satisfactorily completed to receive a passing grade for this course. Plagiarism or cheating of any kind will result in an automatic failing grade for the course and potentially in other appropriate disciplinary actions as outlined by the University of Virginia's Honor Code.**

ATTENDANCE

Students are required to attend all classes for their duration. Regular attendance and attentiveness are vital in this course as we will not always be following the textbook and there will be many buildings shown and discussed in class that are not included in the readings. Therefore attendance will be taken at the **start** of each class period. If a student is more than five minutes late for class or leaves before class is dismissed they will receive a half of an absence. Inattentiveness during class may also lead to receiving a half of an absence. **More than three absences will result in an automatic failing grade for the course.**

**Before coming to class: 1) Complete assigned readings.
2) Read through any relevant handouts.**

Stay Informed! You are responsible for knowing about all assignments and deadlines in this class. Being absent the day an assignment is presented or a change in deadline is discussed is NOT a valid excuse for not having that information.

RESERVE LIBRARY LIST

AUTHOR: Ingersoll & Kostof
TITLE: World Architecture: A Cross-Cultural History
PUBLISHER: Oxford University Press
ISBN #: 978-0-19-513957-0
DATE/EDITION: 2013, 1st ed.

AUTHOR: Francis D. K. Ching, Mark M. Jarzombek, Vikramaditya Prakash
TITLE: A Global History of Architecture
PUBLISHER: Wiley
ISBN #: 978-0470402573
DATE/EDITION: 2010, 2nd ed.

AUTHOR: Francis D. K. Ching,
TITLE: Architecture: Form, Space, and Order
PUBLISHER: Wiley
ISBN #: 978-0471286165
DATE/EDITION: 1996, 2nd ed.

AUTHOR: Rasmussen, S.E.
TITLE: Experiencing Architecture
PUBLISHER: MIT Press
ISBN #: ISBN-10: 0262680025, ISBN-13: 978-0262680028
DATE/EDITION: 1962, 2nd ed.
AUTHOR: Banister Fletcher
TITLE: A History of Architecture
PUBLISHER: Butterworth
ISBN #: 0750622679
DATE/EDITION: 1987 / 20th Edition

ELECTRONIC COURSE MATERIALS

AUTHOR: Gregory D. Alles
ARTICLE/CHAPTER TITLE: Surface, Space, and Intention: The Parthenon and the Kandariya Mahadeva
JOURNAL/BOOK TITLE: *History of Religions*
VOLUME: 28, No. 1
DATE: Aug. 1988
PAGES: 1-36

AUTHOR: C. Cartier
ARTICLE/CHAPTER TITLE: The State, Property Development and Symbolic Landscape in

High-rise Hong Kong
JOURNAL/BOOK TITLE: *Landscape Research*
VOLUME: 24, No. 2
DATE: 1999
PAGES: 185-208

AUTHOR: Michael Fazio, et. al.
ARTICLE/CHAPTER TITLE: The Architecture of Ancient India and Southeast Asia
JOURNAL/BOOK TITLE: *Buildings Across Time*
DATE: 2009, 3rd ed.
PAGES: 63-76

AUTHOR: J. A. Hammerton
ARTICLE/CHAPTER TITLE: Troy: The City Sung By Homer
JOURNAL/BOOK TITLE: *Wonders of the Past*
VOLUME: 4
DATE: 1924
PAGES: 973-981

AUTHOR: Ingersoll and Kostof
ARTICLE/CHAPTER TITLE: 9.3: Sub-Saharan Africa
JOURNAL/BOOK TITLE: *World Architecture*
DATE: 2013, 1st ed.
PAGES: 360-368

AUTHOR: Ingersoll and Kostof
ARTICLE/CHAPTER TITLE: 11.1: China After 1000
JOURNAL/BOOK TITLE: *World Architecture*
DATE: 2013, 1st ed.
PAGES: 424-436

AUTHOR: Robert Treat Paine
ARTICLE/CHAPTER TITLE: Ch. 18: Buddhist Architecture of the Asuka and Nara Periods
JOURNAL/BOOK TITLE: *The Art and Architecture of Japan*
DATE: 1974
PAGES: 291-323

AUTHOR: Richard Stone
ARTICLE/CHAPTER TITLE: Divining Angkor
JOURNAL/BOOK TITLE: *National Geographic*
VOLUME: 216, No.1
DATE: July 2009
PAGES: 26-55

AUTHOR: Roxana Waterson
ARTICLE/CHAPTER TITLE:
JOURNAL/BOOK TITLE: *The Architecture of South-East Asia through Travellers' Eyes*
DATE: 1998
PAGES: 1-38

AUTHOR: Marcus Whiffen and Frederick Koepfer
ARTICLE/CHAPTER TITLE: Homes Away From Home
JOURNAL/BOOK TITLE: *American Architecture, Volume 1: 1607-1860*
VOLUME: 1
DATE: 1983
PAGES: 3-30

AUTHOR: Peter White
ARTICLE/CHAPTER TITLE: The Temples of Angkor: Ancient Glory in Stone
JOURNAL/BOOK TITLE: *National Geographic*
VOLUME: 161, No. 5
DATE: My 1982
PAGES: 552-589

Online Resources

Marcus Vitruvius Pollio, *Ten Books on Architecture*: <http://www.booksshouldbefree.com/book/on-architecture-by-vitruvius>

HONOR CODE

Semester at Sea students enroll in an academic program administered by the University of Virginia, and thus bind themselves to the University's honor code. The code prohibits all acts of lying, cheating, and stealing. Please consult the Voyager's Handbook for further explanation of what constitutes an honor offense.

Each written assignment for this course must be pledged by the student as follows: "On my honor as a student, I pledge that I have neither given nor received aid on this assignment." The pledge must be signed, or, in the case of an electronic file, signed "[signed]."

