

Professor Palmer
HIST 541
Fall 2004

Office: 457 Morgan Hall
Hours: By appointment
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Designing Modernity: The Built Environment in the Twentieth Century

Course Requirements:

Week Three Paper (5-7 pp.)	10%	due 7 September
One class presentation/paper (7-10 pp.)	25%	various
Two analytical papers (5-7 pp.)	30% (15% each)	various
Term Paper (15-20 pp.)	35%	due 7 December

Note: The papers for this class are based upon the required readings assigned in the syllabus. In addition to the paper for the 7 September meeting which everyone is required to write, you are free to select any of the weekly topics for your remaining papers. All papers are due at the *beginning* of a given week's class.

Your papers must be typed, double-spaced, in 11-12 pt. font and with margins no wider than 1 1/4 inches. The papers must be stapled together. For questions involving matters of style, syntax, attribution, etc. please see Chapter 2 of Sylvia Barnet's *A Short Guide to Writing about Art* located in the Course Pack.

Required Texts:

The following books are available downtown at Copperfield's Bookstore:

Barry Bergdoll, *European Architecture, 1750-1890*
Alan Colquhoun, *Modern Architecture*
Le Corbusier, *Towards a New Architecture*
William J. R. Curtis, *Modern Architecture since 1900*. (3rd ed.), 1996
Leland A. Roth, *Understanding Architecture: Its Elements, History, and Meaning*
John Summerson, *The Classical Language of Architecture*

In addition, students are strongly advised to purchase a general history of twentieth-century Europe to have on hand as a reference. Suggested titles include:

Felix Gilbert and David Clay Large, *The End of the European Era: 1890 to the Present*
Robert Paxton, *Europe in the Twentieth Century*
Roland Stromberg, *Europe in the Twentieth Century*

All other required readings are to be found in the class Course Pack.

Week One: Introduction
24 August

Week Two: Basic Elements of the Built Environment
31 August

Required:

Leland M. Roth, *Understanding Architecture*, "Introduction" & Part One, pp. 1-134

Course Pack:

Barnet, Sylvia. *Short Guide to Writing about Art*
Chapter Two: "Analysis"

Week Three: The Classical Legacy
7 September

Required:

Roth, *Understanding Architecture*

"Greek Architecture," 182-211 and "Roman Architecture," 212-237

Summerson, *The Classical Language of Architecture*

"Essentials of Classicism, 7-13 and "Classical into Modern," 40-47 [skim the remainder of the book]

Bergdoll, *European Architecture, 1750-1890*

Chapter 1: "Neoclassicism: Science, Archaeology, and the Doctrine of Progress," 9-42 and

Chapter 4: "Revolutionary Architecture," 105-135

Recommended:

Vitruvius, *Ten Books on Architecture*

Week Four: The Iron Age
14 September

Required:

Bergdoll, *European Architecture, 1750-1890*

Chapter 7: "New Technology and Architectural Form, 1851-90," 207-238

Curtis, *Modern Architecture since 1900*

Chapter 1: "The Idea of a Modern Architecture in the Nineteenth Century," 21-32.

Roth, *Understanding Architecture*, 436-442

Course Pack:

The following from Zukowsky, John, ed. *Chicago Architecture, 1872-1922:*

Larson, "The Iron Skeleton Frame: Interactions between Europe and the United States," 39-55

Recommended:

McCullough, David. *Great Bridge: The Epic Story of the Building of the Brooklyn Bridge*
Piggott, J. R. *Palace of the People: The Crystal Palace at Sydenham, 1854-1936*
The Crystal Palace Exhibition Illustrated Catalogue

Week Five: Art Nouveau-Style Moderne
21 September

Required:

Bergdoll, *European Architecture, 1750-1890*

Chapter 8: "The City Transformed, 1848-1890," 241-267

AND

Chapter 9: "The Crisis of Historicism, 1870-93," 269-279

Colquhoun, *Modern Architecture*

Chapter 1: "Art Nouveau," 13-34

Course Pack:

Schorske, Carl. *Fin-de-Siècle Vienna*

Chapter 2, "The Ringstrasse, Its Critics, and the Birth of Urban Modernism"

Recommended:

Jordan, David. *Transforming Paris: The Life and Labors of Baron Haussmann*

Pinknet, David. *Napoleon III and the Rebuilding of Paris*

Russell, Frank, (ed.) *Art Nouveau Architecture*

Silverman, Deborah. *Art Nouveau in Fin-de-Siècle France: Politics, Psychology, and Style*

Week Six: Frank Lloyd Wright & the Chicago School
28 September

Required:

Curtis, *Modern Architecture since 1900*

Chapter 2: "Industrialization and the City: The Skyscraper as Type and Symbol," 33-51.

Colquhoun, *Modern Architecture*

Chapter 2: "Organicism versus Classicism: Chicago, 1890-1910," 35-56

Course Pack:

Gelernter, Mark, *A History of American Architecture*

Chapter 7: "The Age of Diversity, 1885-1915"

Zukowsky, John, ed. *Chicago Architecture, 1872-1922:*

Miller, "Chicago's Secular Apocalypse: The Great Fire and the Emergence of the Democratic Hero," 27-37

Recommended:

Levine, Neil. *The Architecture of Frank Lloyd Wright*

Kelly Smith, Norris. *Frank Lloyd Wright: A Study in Architectural Content*

Week Seven: Futurism

5 October

Required:

Curtis, *Modern Architecture since 1900*

Chapter 6: "Responses to Mechanization: The Deutscher Werkbund and Futurism," 99-112

Colquhoun, *Modern Architecture*

Chapter 5: "Expressionism and Futurism," 87-108

Course Pack:

Banham, *Theory and Design in the Machine Age*

Section IV: "Futurist Manifestoes and Projects, 1909-1914" 99-138

Conrads, *Programs and Manifestoes*, 34-38

Recommended:

Markov, Vladimir. *Russian Futurism: A History*

Tisdall, Carline and Angelo Bozzolla. *Futurism*

Week Eight: The Bauhaus

12 October

Required:

Curtis, *Modern Architecture since 1900*

Chapter 11: "Walter Gropius, German Expressionism, and the Bauhaus," 183-200

Colquhoun, *Modern Architecture*

Chapter 8: "Weimar Germany: The Dialectic of the Modern, 1920-33," 159-182

Course Pack:

Banham, *Theory and Design in the Machine Age*

Section V: "Germany: Berlin, the Bauhaus, the Victory of the New Style," 265-319

Conrads, *Programs and Manifestoes*, 49-53; 69-70; 95-97

Recommended:

Franciscono, Marecl. *Walter Gropius and the Creation of the Bauhaus in Weimar*

Miller Lane, Barbara. *Architecture and Politics in Germany, 1918-1945*

Willet, John. *Art and Politics in the Weimar Period: The New Sobriety, 1917-1933*

Week Nine: Russia's Revolutionary Architectural Avant-garde

19 October

Required:

Curtis, *Modern Architecture since 1900*

Chapter 12: "Architecture and Revolution in Russia," 201-216

Course Pack:

Stites, Richard. *Revolutionary Dreams: Utopian Vision and Experimental Life in the Russian Revolution*,
Chapter 9: "Utopia in Space: City and Building," 190-204
Conrads, *Programs and Manifestoes*, 56; 87-88; 121-122
Lissitzky, *Russia: An Architecture for World Revolution*, 27-71
Milner, John. *Vladimir Tatlin and the Russian Avant-Garde*, 151-180 ("The Monument to the Third International")

Recommended:

Fosso, Mario, et al (eds.), *Konstantin S. Mel'nikov and the Construction of Moscow*
Khan-Magomedov, Selim O. *Pioneers of Soviet Architecture*.
Lodder, Christina. *Russian Constructivism*
Zhadova, Larissa. *Malevich: Suprematism and Revolution in Russian Art, 1910-1930*

Week Ten: Le Corbusier

26 October

Required:

Colquhoun, *Modern Architecture*
Chapter 7: "Le Corbusier and Modern Architecture in France, 1920-35," 137-158
Le Corbusier, *Towards a New Architecture* [entire book]

Course Pack:

Banham, *Theory and Design in the Machine Age*
Section IV: "The World of Art and Le Corbusier," 202-264

Recommended:

Le Corbusier, *Aircraft*
Le Corbusier, *The Radiant City*
Brooks, H. Allen. *Le Corbusier's Formative Years*
Cohen, Jean-Louis. *Le Corbusier and the Mystique of the USSR*
von Moos, Stanislas. *Le Corbusier: Elements of a Synthesis*

Week Eleven: Aspects of American Architecture

2 November

Required:

Course Pack:

Upton, Dell, *Architecture in the United States*
Chapter 4: "Technology," 149-185
Zukowsky, John, ed. *Chicago Architecture, 1872-1922*:
Klotz, "The Chicago Multistory as a Design Problem," 57-75 AND
Bruegmann, "When Worlds Collided: European and American Entries to the Chicago Tribune Competition of 1922," 302-317.
The following from Lewis and Goldstein (eds.) *The Automobile and American Culture*:
Interrante, Joseph. "The Road to Autopia: The Automobile and the Spatial Transformation of American Culture," 89-104.

Kihlstedt, Folke. "The Automobile and the Transformation of the American House, 1910-1935," 160-175.

Recommended:

Nye, David. *American Sublime*.

Week Twelve: Soviet Colossalism

9 November

Required:

Colquhoun, *Modern Architecture*, 120-135

Curtis, *Modern Architecture since 1900*

Chapter 20: "Totalitarian Critiques of the Modern Movement," 351-370

HANDOUTS:

Hoisington, Sonia. "'Ever Higher': The Evolution of the Project for the Palace of Soviets." *Slavic Review* 62:1 (2003): 41-68.

Josephson, Paul. "'Projects of the Century' in Soviet History: Large-Scale Technologies from Lenin to Gorbachev." *Technology and Culture* 36:2 (1995): 519-559.

Palmer, Scott W. "Forging Colossus: Monumental Construction and Political Legitimacy in Stalin's Russia" (unpublished manuscript)

Recommended:

Hudson, Hugh. *Blueprints and Blood: The Stalinization of Soviet Architecture, 1917-1937*.

Paperny, Vladimir. *Architecture in the Age of Stalin: Culture Two*.

Tarkhanov, Alexei and Sergei Kavtardadze. *Architecture of the Stalin Era*.

Week Thirteen: The Built Environment: from Modern to "Post"-Modern

16 November

Required:

Colquhoun, *Modern Architecture*

Chapter 12: "Pax Americana: Architecture in America, 1945-65," 231-254

Course Pack:

Gelernter, *History of American Architecture*

Chapter 9: "Modern Culture, 1945-1973," 260-292

AND

Chapter 10: "Postmodern Culture, 293-318"

Recommended:

Albrecht, Donald (ed). *World War II and the American Dream: How War-time Building Changed a Nation*.

Marling, Karal Ann (ed). *Designing Disney's Theme Parks: The Architecture of Reassurance*

Robert Venturi, et al. *Learning from Las Vegas*

Week Fourteen: No Class (Fall Break)

23 November

Week Fifteen: **No Class (individual conferences to discuss term papers)**
30 November

Week Sixteen: **Open Discussion**
7 December

Term Papers Due