Architecture 553 examines the impact of politics, culture and the environment on the evolution of American architectural and urban forms from prehistory to World War II. The class explores the interchange between European architectural theory and indigenous and vernacular influences as they came together to create new national and regional forms of building and urban design. While generally chronological in presentation, lectures also examine a series of case studies in order to more closely explore the complexity of form and meaning in the American landscape.

REQUIRED TEXTS:


Additional Readings are posted on Blackboard or listed by their URL in the Syllabus

RECOMMENDED TEXTS:

For students with little or no background in the history of European architecture, i would recommend that you read: Leland M. Roth, Understanding Architecture: Its Elements, History, and Meaning, Boulder, CO: Westview Press, 2006

READING:

Weekly reading assignments are listed in the lecture schedule in this Syllabus. Readings should be completed BEFORE the lecture under which they are listed.

The Frank Lloyd Wright Building Conservancy Annual Meeting will be held in downtown LA, October 3-5. There may be need volunteers. More later

RESEARCH PAPER:

During the course of the semester you will be responsible for researching and documenting the work of an architect, an architectural patron, a local building, building type, or a rural or urban landscape. Possible topics, methods for developing bibliographies, documenting buildings, and evolving an appropriate research model will be discussed as the semester evolves. The instructor must approve topics in advance.

Each student will be required to submit a one-page description of the paper topic and preliminary bibliography on October 22. A ten-page, double-spaced research paper with appropriate footnotes and an expanded bibliography will be due on December 3.

GRADING:

Midterm Exam, October 15: 30%
Research Paper, December 3: 30%
Final Exam, December 17: 40%
ATTENDANCE:

Medical or family emergencies and religious holidays are the only acceptable excuses for make-up exams, acceptance of late assignments and the granting of incomplete grades.

You will be allowed one unexcused absence during the semester. Every unexcused absence after that will result in your overall grade being reduced by one letter grade per absence. STUDENTS NOT RETURNING TO CLASS AFTER BREAK WILL BE COUNTED AS ABSENT FOR THAT DAY.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Any student requesting academic accommodations based on a disability is required to register with Disability Services and Programs (DSP) each semester. A letter of verification for approved accommodations can be obtained from DSP. Please be sure the letter is delivered to me (or to TA) as early in the semester as possible.

http://dsp.usc.edu

ACADEMIC CONDUCT

Plagiarism – presenting someone else’s ideas as your own, either verbatim or recast in your own words – is a serious academic offense with serious consequences. Please familiarize yourself with the discussion of plagiarism in SCampus in Part B, Section 11, “Behavior Violating University Standards” policy.usc.edu/scampus-part-b. Other forms of academic dishonesty are equally unacceptable.

USC seeks to maintain an optimal learning environment. General principles of academic honesty include the concept of respect for the intellectual property of others, the expectation that individual work will be submitted unless otherwise allowed by an instructor, and the obligations both to protect one’s own academic work from misuse by others as well as to avoid using another’s work as one’s own. Plagiarism – presenting someone else’s ideas as your own, either verbatim or recast in your own words – is a serious academic offense with serious consequences. Please familiarize yourself with the discussion of plagiarism in SCampus in Part B, Section 11, “Behavior Violating University Standards” policy.usc.edu/scampus-part-b. Other forms of academic dishonesty are equally unacceptable. All students are expected to understand and abide by these principles.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES:

BECAUSE IT HAS BECOME CLEAR THAT SOME STUDENTS IN LECTURES WILL ABUSE THE USE OF SMART PHONES, COMPUTERS AND OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES AND BECAUSE USING THEM CAN BE DISRUPTIVE TO OTHER STUDENTS, I ASK THAT YOU NOT TO USE THESE DURING LECTURES.

CLASS SCHEDULE

AUG 27 INTRODUCTION: Indigenous People of the American West

PUEBLO BONITO: HTTPS://SAH-ARCHIPEDIA.ORG/BUILDINGS/NM-01-045-0056
TAOS PUEBLO: HTTPS://SAH-ARCHIPEDIA.ORG/BUILDINGS/NM-01-055-0160
SEP 3  Building in New Spain

Gelernter, pp. 35-50; and Marc Treib, "Church design and construction in Spanish New Mexico" in Eggener, pp. 51-72.
MISSION SAN XAVIER DEL BAC: HTTPS://SAH-ARCHIPEDIA.ORG/BUILDINGS/AZ-01-019-0078
CALIFORNIA MISSIONS: HTTPS://SAH-ARCHIPEDIA.ORG/ESSAYS/CA-01-ART-02
SAN JOSÉ DE GRACIA DE LAS TRAMPAS: HTTPS://SAH-ARCHIPEDIA.ORG/BUILDINGS/NM-01-055-0145
LAS TRAMPAS: HTTPS://SAH-ARCHIPEDIA.ORG/BUILDINGS/NM-01-055-0144

SEP 10  Native American Architecture in the East and the Arrival of European Cultures

BACON'S CASTLE: HTTPS://SAH-ARCHIPEDIA.ORG/BUILDINGS/VA-01-ST18

SEP 17  The 18th Century English Plantation

GUNSTON HALL: HTTPS://SAH-ARCHIPEDIA.ORG/BUILDINGS/VA-01-NV53
MOUNT AIRY: HTTPS://SAH-ARCHIPEDIA.ORG/BUILDINGS/VA-01-PE16
WENTWORTH-GARDENER: HTTPS://SAH-ARCHIPEDIA.ORG/BUILDINGS/NH-01-015-0011
CHRIST CHURCH, PHILADELPHIA: HTTPS://SAH-ARCHIPEDIA.ORG/BUILDINGS/PA-02-PH4
BRICK MARKET: HTTPS://SAH-ARCHIPEDIA.ORG/BUILDINGS/RI-01-NE8
TOURO SYNAGOGUE: HTTPS://SAH-ARCHIPEDIA.ORG/BUILDINGS/RI-01-NE82

SEP 24  American Vernacular Traditions

CHRISTIAN HERR/HANS HERR HOUSE: HTTPS://SAH-ARCHIPEDIA.ORG/BUILDINGS/PA-02-LA27
EPHRATA CLOISTER: HTTPS://SAH-ARCHIPEDIA.ORG/BUILDINGS/PA-02-LA34
SINGLE BROTHERS HOUSE: HTTPS://SAH-ARCHIPEDIA.ORG/BUILDINGS/NC-01-067-0078
SHOTGUN COTTAGES, HOUSTON: HTTPS://SAH-ARCHIPEDIA.ORG/BUILDINGS/TX-01-HN64
LOCKE HISTORIC DISTRICT: HTTPS://SAH-ARCHIPEDIA.ORG/BUILDINGS/CA-01-067-0013
CHINATOWN, SAN FRANCISCO: HTTPS://SAH-ARCHIPEDIA.ORG/BUILDINGS/CA-01-075-9010
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<th>The Industrial Revolution and Its Impact on the American Landscape; PRELIMINARY PAPER PROPOSAL AND BIBLIOGRAPHY DUE</th>
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<td>Gelernter, pp. 143-165.</td>
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<td>Gwendolyn Wright, “Independence and the rural cottage,” in Eggener, pp. 142-154</td>
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FALLINGWATER: HTTPS://SAH-ARCHIPEDIA.ORG/BUILDINGS/PA-01-FA28
HOOVER DAM: HTTPS://SAH-ARCHIPEDIA.ORG/BUILDINGS/NV-01-SO51

NOV 12. Monuments to Commerce: The Rise of the Tall Office Building

ROOKERY BUILDING: HTTPS://SAH-ARCHIPEDIA.ORG/BUILDINGS/IL-01-031-0078
RELIANCE BUILDING: HTTPS://SAH-ARCHIPEDIA.ORG/BUILDINGS/IL-01-031-0076
MERCHANTS NATIONAL BANK (NOW POWESHIEK NATIONAL BANK): HTTPS://SAH-ARCHIPEDIA.ORG/BUILDINGS/IA-01-CE225

NOV 19 The City Beautiful Movement and Conquest of the American West

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY: HTTPS://SAH-ARCHIPEDIA.ORG/BUILDINGS/MA-01-BB42
PALACE OF FINE ARTS: HTTPS://SAH-ARCHIPEDIA.ORG/BUILDINGS/CA-01-075-0036
THE WASHINGTON CLUB (R. W. PATTERSON HOUSE): HTTPS://SAH-ARCHIPEDIA.ORG/BUILDINGS/DC-01-DU02
WISCONSIN STATE CAPITOL: HTTPS://SAH-ARCHIPEDIA.ORG/BUILDINGS/WI-01-DA20
UNION STATION D.C.: HTTPS://SAH-ARCHIPEDIA.ORG/BUILDINGS/DC-01-CH10
CARNEGIE HALL, TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE: HTTPS://SAH-ARCHIPEDIA.ORG/BUILDINGS/AL-01-087-0056-02

NOV 26 Frank Lloyd Wright and the American Avant-Garde

ROBIE HOUSE: HTTPS://SAH-ARCHIPEDIA.ORG/BUILDINGS/IL-01-031-0032
TALIESIN AND ENVIRONS: HTTPS://SAH-ARCHIPEDIA.ORG/BUILDINGS/WI-01-IA1
HIGHLAND PARK PLANT OF THE FORD MOTOR COMPANY: HTTPS://SAH-ARCHIPEDIA.ORG/BUILDINGS/MI-01-WN126

DEC 3 TRADITION AND INNOVATION BETWEEN THE WARS: FINAL REVIEW; RESEARCH PAPER DUE

Gelernter, pp. 230-259; and Margaret Kentgens-Craig, “The Search for Modernity: America, The International Style and the Bauhaus,” In Eggener, PP. 294-312
TRIBUNE TOWER: HTTPS://SAH-ARCHIPEDIA.ORG/BUILDINGS/IL-01-031-0089
FISHER BUILDING, DETROIT: HTTPS://SAH-ARCHIPEDIA.ORG/BUILDINGS/MI-01-WN77
NEBRASKA STATE CAPITOL: HTTPS://SAH-ARCHIPEDIA.ORG/BUILDINGS/NE-01-109-0034
PHILADELPHIA SAVINGS FUND SOCIETY: HTTPS://SAH-ARCHIPEDIA.ORG/BUILDINGS/PA-02-PH46
GREENBELT, MD: HTTPS://SAH-ARCHIPEDIA.ORG/BUILDINGS/MD-01-033-0015
LANGSTON TERRACE: HTTPS://SAH-ARCHIPEDIA.ORG/BUILDINGS/DC-01-NE02
NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL CHAMBER: HTTPS://SAH-ARCHIPEDIA.ORG/BUILDINGS/AZ-01-001-0054
HOOVER DAM: HTTPS://SAH-ARCHIPEDIA.ORG/BUILDINGS/NV-01-SO51
FALLINGWATER: HTTPS://SAH-ARCHIPEDIA.ORG/BUILDINGS/PA-01-FA28
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