

# USC School of Architecture

## **Arch 556: Readings in Heritage Conservation Theory**

**Units: 2**

**Fall 2015—Monday—6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.**

**Location: Watt Hall – Room 324 (MHC corner office)**

**Instructor Trudi Sandmeier**

**Office: Watt Hall, Room 322**

**Office Hours: By appointment**

**Contact Info: [sandmeie@usc.edu](mailto:sandmeie@usc.edu)**

**213/821-5452 (office)**

**818/648-8646 (cell)**

### **Course Description**

In order to have a more complete intellectual grounding in the broad and trans-disciplinary field of heritage conservation, students will read and critically discuss seminal works in the field related to urban planning, architecture, history (local, public, cultural, architectural, etc.), landscape, archeology, history, law, public policy, cultural studies, and American studies.

Through the reading of complete texts, both contemporary and historic, and subsequent discussion, students will begin to explore the theoretical underpinnings of the field of heritage conservation.

Discussions will be both student led and professor moderated. Each student will be asked to produce five short written analyses of the work read. Additionally, students will be tasked to lead one or more of the weekly in-class discussions.

### **Learning Objectives**

Students will:

- Examine heritage conservation from a broader multidisciplinary perspective, stretching the boundaries of their own perceptions
- Learn critical thinking and analysis skills
- Practice efficient reading strategies
- Determine what writing styles and strategies are most effective to inform their own academic writing specifically their thesis

**Prerequisite(s):** ARCH 549 or permission of instructor

### **Course Notes**

This course will be offered for a letter grade. Course syllabus and materials will be posted on Blackboard.

### **Required Readings and Supplementary Materials**

All readings as described in the schedule below are required.

## Description and Assessment of Assignments

Students are expected to complete each weekly text and participate in the discussion and analysis in class. Over the course of the semester, students will be required to lead the discussion on at least one text. Students will be required to complete five written analyses of the readings over the course of the semester, exclusive of the class where they serve as a discussion leader. It will be up to the student to decide which five books they will review. In the event that a student serves as a discussion leader more than once, they may be excused from some of the required written analysis.

Discussion leader:

Thoroughly and critically read the book you are assigned. Come up with seven to eight questions or thoughts to share with the group to stimulate discussion. Be creative – think about how to engage people in the content while sharing your own thoughts. It is not a monologue opportunity however...

Book review:

DUE by 6:00 pm on the day the book is discussed in class – upload using Blackboard assignment link

refer to this handy USC library web page for book review guidelines -

<http://libguides.usc.edu/content.php?pid=83009&sid=2274305>

## Grading Breakdown

Assignment	Points	% of Grade
Participation	10	10
Discussion leader	15	15
Review 1	15	15
Review 2	15	15
Review 3	15	15
Review 4	15	15
Review 5	15	15
<b>TOTAL</b>	100	100

## Assignment Submission Policy

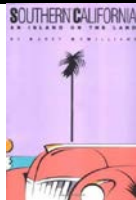
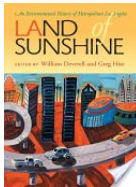
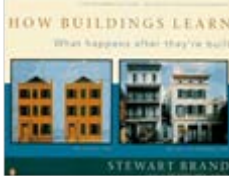
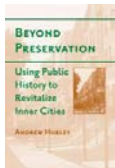


Book reviews will be submitted via Blackboard and are due no later than 6:00 pm on the day the book is discussed.

## Additional Policies

All students are expected to participate in all classes – please discuss any academic absences with the instructor in advance.

## Course Schedule: A Weekly Breakdown

Books will be discussed the day that they are listed on the syllabus – for example, you should be ready to discuss Land of Sunshine on 9/14.

	DiscussionTopics	Readings	Discussion leader/snacks
<b>Week 1</b> August 24	Class overview, presentation on elements of a successful review essay		
<b>Week 2</b> August 31	<b>Southern California: An Island on the Land [Paperback, 378]</b> Carey McWilliams (Author) USC libraries – a few copies LAPL – lots of copies Amazon - \$17.59 to \$5.95		
<b>Week 3</b> September 7	<b>LABOR DAY – no class</b>		
<b>Week 4</b> September 14	<b>Land of Sunshine An Environmental History of Metropolitan Los Angeles [paperback, 360 pages]</b> William Deverell (Editor), Greg Hise (Editor) USC libraries – online LAPL – many copies Amazon - \$26.72 - \$7.99		
<b>Week 5</b> September 21	<b>How Buildings Learn: What Happens After They're Built [Paperback, 209 pgs.]</b> Stewart Brand (Author) USC libraries – 1 copy LAPL – several copies Amazon - \$26.62 - \$7.00		
<b>Week 6</b> September 28	<b>Beyond preservation : using public history to revitalize inner cities</b> Andrew Hurley [paperback, 201 pages] USC libraries – 1 copy LAPL – 1 copy Amazon - \$23.89 - \$16.17		
<b>Week 7</b> October 5	<b>Places of Pain and Shame: Dealing with 'Difficult Heritage' [Paperback, 309 pages]</b> William Logan and Keir Reeves, editors USC libraries – 1 copy LAPL – n/a Amazon - \$43.93 - \$39.53		
<b>Week 8</b> October 12	<b>Icons and aliens : law, aesthetics, and environmental change [Hardcover, 152 pages]</b> John J. Costonis USC libraries – 1 copy LAPL – 1 copy Amazon - \$38.50 - \$3.08		

<b>Week 9</b> October 19	<b>Magnetic Los Angeles: Planning the Twentieth-Century Metropolis (Creating the North American Landscape) [Paperback, 215 pgs]</b> Greg Hise (Author) USC libraries – a few copies and ACLS electronic book - <a href="http://quod.lib.umich.edu/libproxy.usc.edu/cgi/t/text/t-ext-idx?c=acls;idno=heb05828">http://quod.lib.umich.edu/libproxy.usc.edu/cgi/t/text/t-ext-idx?c=acls;idno=heb05828</a> LAPL – a few copies Amazon - \$24.19 - \$2.20		
<b>Week 10</b> October 26	<b>The History of Forgetting: Los Angeles and the Erasure of Memory (2008 Updated Edition) [Paperback, 250 pgs.]</b> Norman M. Klein (Author) LAPL – two copies Amazon - \$23.16 - \$9.23 Verso - \$17.97 + free shipping		
<b>Week 11</b> November 2	<b>NO CLASS</b>		
<b>Week 12</b> November 9	<b>The Past is a Foreign Country [Paperback, 489 pgs.]</b> David Lowenthal (Author) USC libraries – 1 copy LAPL – a few copies Amazon - \$51.00 - \$17.50		
<b>Week 13</b> November 16	<b>In Small Things Forgotten: An Archaeology of Early American Life [Paperback, 260 pgs.]</b> James Deetz (Author) USC libraries – one copy LAPL – a few copies Amazon - \$10.08 - \$4.93		
<b>Week 14</b> November 23	<b>Main Street to Miracle Mile: American Roadside Architecture [1995 edition] [paperback, 259 pages]</b> Chester Liebs (Author) USC libraries – one copy LAPL – one copy Amazon - \$14.99 to \$1.99		
<b>Week 15</b> November 30	<b>Preserving cultural landscapes in America [Paperback, 250 pgs.]</b> Kevin Lynch (Author) USC libraries – 1 copy + free ebook LAPL – no copies Amazon - \$28.80 - \$1.74		
<b>FINAL</b> December 14	<b>Final discussion of all books/overall course. Location TBD.</b>		

## Statement on Academic Conduct and Support Systems

### 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 Section 11, *Behavior Violating University Standards* <https://scampus.usc.edu/1100-behavior-violating-university-standards-and-appropriate-sanctions/>. Other forms of academic dishonesty are equally unacceptable. See additional information in *SCampus* and university policies on scientific misconduct, <http://policy.usc.edu/scientific-misconduct/>.

Discrimination, sexual assault, and harassment are not tolerated by the university. You are encouraged to report any incidents to the *Office of Equity and Diversity* <http://equity.usc.edu/> or to the *Department of Public Safety* <http://capsnet.usc.edu/department/departement-public-safety/online-forms/contact-us>. This is important for the safety whole USC community. Another member of the university community – such as a friend, classmate, advisor, or faculty member – can help initiate the report, or can initiate the report on behalf of another person. *The Center for Women and Men* <http://www.usc.edu/student-affairs/cwm/> provides 24/7 confidential support, and the sexual assault resource center webpage [sarc@usc.edu](mailto:sarc@usc.edu) describes reporting options and other resources.

### Support Systems

A number of USC's schools provide support for students who need help with scholarly writing. Check with your advisor or program staff to find out more. Students whose primary language is not English should check with the *American Language Institute* <http://dornsife.usc.edu/ali>, which sponsors courses and workshops specifically for international graduate students. *The Office of Disability Services and Programs* [http://sait.usc.edu/academicsupport/centerprograms/dsp/home\\_index.html](http://sait.usc.edu/academicsupport/centerprograms/dsp/home_index.html) provides certification for students with disabilities and helps arrange the relevant accommodations. If an officially declared emergency makes travel to campus infeasible, *USC Emergency Information* <http://emergency.usc.edu/> will provide safety and other updates, including ways in which instruction will be continued by means of blackboard, teleconferencing, and other technology.