

Arch 529G

History of Architecture II

NJIT HCAD

Tuesdays 1:00 to 2:20 pm, CKB 126, in person
Fridays 1:00 to 2:20 pm, GITC 2315A, in person

Prerequisite: Arch 528G

Spring 2025

Instructor: Etien Santiago, Ph.D.: etien.santiago@njit.edu

Office hours: Fridays from noon to 12:50 pm, in 533 Weston



Eileen Gray, untitled, undated [ca. mid-20th century]

Description

Over the last three hundred years, the world has changed drastically, and architecture has changed with it. This course will describe some of the most important forces and ideas that shaped modern architecture.

The past three centuries gave birth to the Enlightenment, modern sciences, the industrial revolution and its enormous release of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere, a global order of nation-states in which some Western nations wield outsize influence, and the rise of communism and capitalism as economic systems. Architecture nowadays is a product of these sweeping transformations.

Learning Outcomes

Student who pass this course will be able to:

- Identify the main forces and problems of the modern age (from the eighteenth century to today) and their relevance for modern architecture
- Digest and react to a selection of key texts in modern architectural history and theory
- Articulate how their design work fits into the main currents of architectural thinking that defined the modern age

NAAB Criteria

The National Architectural Accrediting Board accredits NJIT's architecture program. The NAAB has Program and Student Criteria that must be covered by any architectural curriculum to attain their approval. This course satisfies the following criteria:

PC.4 History and Theory — How the program ensures that students understand the histories and theories of architecture and urbanism, framed by diverse social, cultural, economic, and political forces, nationally and globally.

PC.7 Learning and Teaching Culture — How the program fosters and ensures a positive and respectful environment that encourages optimism, respect, sharing, engagement, and innovation among its faculty, students, administration, and staff

PC.8 Social Equity & Inclusion — How the program furthers and deepens students' understanding of diverse cultural and social contexts and helps them translate that understanding into built environments that equitably support and include people of different backgrounds, resources, and abilities.

Required Materials

Students are not required to buy any books or textbooks for this course. However, see the bibliography at the very end of this syllabus for recommended textbooks, which are optional, including textbooks that are available for free online via the NJIT Library.

Assignments

There are no quizzes or exams in this course. A final assignment with a deadline toward the end of the semester takes the place of a final exam. You will be able to choose whether you complete the final assignment as a written paper (illustrated with images) or as an oral presentation delivered to the rest of the class with a slideshow.

Reading Responses

In addition to the final assignment, you are required to complete six reading responses. Each one should be approximately one page long with single-spaced text (or two pages long with double spacing). You must turn in a reading response before our in-class discussion about that reading.

Although there are a total of eight in-class reading discussions, you only need to write a reading response for six of those reading sets. You choose which two sets of readings you do not respond to.

If there are two required texts for a given day, then, in your response, you may discuss either one or both of them.

What I am looking for in each reading response is NOT just a summary of the assigned text(s), but rather your reactions to and opinions about what the author(s) wrote. I want to hear your unique take on their argument. Here are some prompts that can help you get started:

- Did you agree and/or disagree with parts of the reading(s), and why?
- How does something that you saw, heard, or experienced connect to the reading(s), affecting what you take away?
- Does the author's argument allow you to think differently about an interest of yours?

Students sometimes wish that they could revisit their reading response after the reading discussion. Therefore, I am offering you the option to update or re-write a reading response after you have turned it in. You are still required to turn in some kind of initial response before at least six of the reading discussions. If your updated response is a clear improvement over your first response, I will raise your grade for it accordingly.

Writing Help

Please take advantage of the Writing Center at NJIT. Its job is to help NJIT students with any kind of writing assignment —as well as assembling effective verbal and visual presentations. <https://www.njit.edu/writingcenter/>

Grading Policy

Your final grade will be based on the following:

Attentive engagement in lectures: 10%
Attentive engagement in reading discussions: 10%
Reading response 1: 10%
Reading response 2: 10%
Reading response 3: 10%
Reading response 4: 10%
Reading response 5: 10%
Reading response 6: 10%
Final presentation or paper: 20%

For each of these categories, you will receive the grade of either a check plus (3 points), check (2 points), or check minus (1 point). A check means that you have satisfactorily achieved the task being asked of you. A check plus means that you have substantially exceeded standard expectations for the task, while a check minus means that you were below standard expectations for that task.

In the “Files” section of Canvas, I have uploaded a few anonymized student responses from past years. This allows you to get a sense of how to obtain a check or check plus.

Because it is important that you work through the class material at the same speed as your peers, late work will receive only partial credit. Any assignment that is turned in late will be docked one grade level, which means that a “check plus” will be downgraded to a “check,” a “check” will be downgraded to a “check minus,” and a “check minus” will be downgraded to no credit for that assignment. The final deadline to submit any work (either late work or updated responses) to Canvas is 11:59 pm on Wednesday, May 14.

Participation

Your participation grade is divided into two categories: the quality of your attentiveness and spoken contributions during lectures, and the quality of your attentiveness and spoken

contributions during reading discussions. I never subtract participation points for any reason; you can only gain them.

Attendance

If you do not show up for class, that will negatively affect your attentive engagement grade. Students are counted absent if they arrive 5 minutes or more after the scheduled start time. Please email me (etien.santiago@njit.edu) ahead of time to let me know if you will be late or absent. The only way to obtain an excused absence is to ask the NJIT Dean of Students to verify the absence: <https://www.njit.edu/dos/student-absence-verification> . Email dos@njit.edu with any questions. As a rule, I do NOT record my lectures.

Final Grade

Below is the NJIT grading scale for graduate students:

Grade	GPA	Significance
A	4.0	Excellent
B+	3.5	Good
B	3.0	Acceptable
C+	2.5	Marginal Performance
C	2.0	Minimum Performance
F	0.0	Failure
I		Incomplete
W		Approved Withdrawal
AU		Audited (no academic credit)
S or U		Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory

In this course, for each grade that you receive:

- A check plus equals 3 points
- A check equals 2 points
- A check minus equals 1 point

At the end of the semester, I will tally up all of your points and attribute a final grade based on the following scale:

- 27 to 30 points: A
- 23 to 26 points: B+
- 19 to 22 points: B
- 15 to 18 points: C+

11 to 14 points: C
10 or fewer points: F

The grade of incomplete is given in rare instances to students who would normally have completed the course work but who could not do so because of special circumstances. It is expected that coursework will be completed during the next regular semester. If this grade is not removed before final grades are due at the end of the next regular semester, a grade of F will be issued.

Academic Integrity

Academic Integrity is the cornerstone of higher education and is central to the ideals of this course and the university. Cheating is strictly prohibited and devalues the degree that you are working toward. As a member of the NJIT community, it is your responsibility to protect your educational investment by knowing and following the academic code of integrity policy that is found at: <http://www5.njit.edu/policies/sites/policies/files/academic-integrity-code.pdf>

Please note that it is your professional obligation and responsibility to report any academic misconduct department. Any student found in violation of the code by cheating, plagiarizing, or using any online software inappropriately will result in disciplinary action. This may include a failing grade of F, and/or suspension or dismissal from the university. If you have any questions about the code of Academic Integrity, please contact the Dean of Students Office at dos@njit.edu.

Generative AI

Use of artificial intelligence to help you write any text turned in as part of this course is NOT permitted.

Learning and Teaching Culture Policy

In addition to the overarching values and ethics of the university, the NJSoA is dedicated to optimism, diversity, and solidarity, professional conduct, constructive evaluation and instruction, collaborative community, health and wellbeing, time management and school-life-work balance, respectful stewardship and space management, and well-rounded enrichment. The pedagogy of architecture and design is as complex as it is rewarding, and as dynamically evolving as the people who learn and teach it. This understanding resides at the core of the NJIT Learning and Teaching Culture Policy: <https://design.njit.edu/learning-and-teaching-culture-policy>

Preliminary Schedule

Tuesday	Jan. 21	Course introduction: Politics and the Pompidou Center
Friday	Jan. 24	Lecture: Primitivism
Tuesday	Jan. 28	Reading discussion: Laugier and Thoreau
Friday	Jan. 31	Lecture: Antiquarianism
Tuesday	Feb. 4	Reading discussion: Jencks
Friday	Feb. 7	Lecture: Phenomenology
Tuesday	Feb. 11	Reading discussion: Pallasmaa
Friday	Feb. 14	Lecture: Institutionalism
Tuesday	Feb. 18	Reading discussion: Foucault
Friday	Feb. 21	Lecture: Nationalism
Tuesday	Feb. 25	Lecture: Colonialism and Orientalism
Friday	Feb. 28	Lecture: Capitalism
Tuesday	Mar. 4	Tour of downtown Newark (weather permitting)
Friday	Mar. 7	Lecture: Race and Racism
Tuesday	Mar. 11	Reading discussion: Wilson
Friday	Mar. 14	Lecture: Industry and the Environment
Tuesday	Mar. 18	NO NJIT CLASSES — SPRING BREAK
Friday	Mar. 21	NO NJIT CLASSES — SPRING BREAK
Tuesday	Mar. 25	Reading discussion: Iturbe
Friday	Mar. 28	Lecture: Modern Utopias
Tuesday	Apr. 1	Lecture: Architecture that Speaks
Friday	Apr. 4	Reading discussion: Scott Brown and Venturi
Tuesday	Apr. 8	Lecture: Media
Friday	Apr. 11	Reading discussion: Colomina
Tuesday	Apr. 15	Lecture: The Avant-Garde
Friday	Apr. 18	NO NJIT CLASSES — GOOD FRIDAY
Tuesday	Apr. 22	Tour of the National Newark Building (to be confirmed)
Friday	Apr. 25	Lecture: Mass-Produced Housing
Tuesday	Apr. 29	Student presentations
Friday	May 2	NO CLASS — Etien will be out of town
Tuesday	May 6	NO CLASS — NJIT THURSDAY CLASSES MEET
Wednesday	May 7	Course conclusion and questionnaire (NJIT Friday classes meet)

**Reference
Textbooks**

Francis Ching, Mark Jarzombek, and Vikramaditya Prakash, *A Global History of Architecture* (Hoboken: Wiley, 2017). Available online at <https://bit.ly/3NSI4WX>

Jean-Louis Cohen, *The Future of Architecture Since 1889* (New York: Phaidon, 2012).

Kathleen James-Chakraborty, *Architecture since 1400* (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2014). Available online at <https://bit.ly/47JveS5>

**Additional
References**

Please consult the full bibliography for this course. I have uploaded it to Canvas.