Course Syllabus
Architecture and Urbanism in Italy

ARC 4950
ARC 5930
Florida Atlantic University
Summer 2, 2017
John Sandell, Associate Professor
Course Hours: TBA

Course Structure

The course is structured in two interrelated parts. The first part focuses on the relationship between the general aspects of urban development and architecture in Venice. It also surveys some aspects of the urban fabric in other cities such as Verona and Florence. The notion of typology as a means of codifying urban and architectural history will be emphasized alongside the meanings and symbols distinct to periods like the Byzantine, Medieval, Gothic, Renaissance, High Renaissance and the Baroque. This part of the course prioritizes our inheritance of historical terms and definitions along side the ability to read and interpret architecture in an urban context that spans a history of over one thousand five hundred years.

The second part of the course studies the architectural and urban experience. This part of the course focuses on the dynamics of the city in space, time and human ecology. This part will be looking and image making intensive. Students are expected to participate in all scheduled activities and discussions. This part of the course will also include some discussion on contemporary urban theory and how we can look to the past following the failure of some aspects of 20th century urban models.

Course Goals

The primary goal of this course is for each student to gain a general understanding and appreciation of some of the major urban and architectural developments during the history of Western civilization. This goal includes how we interpret strata of architectural and urban interventions by recognizing similarities and differences among phenomena and the role they play in the making of a place.

Student Performance Criteria
01 Verbal and Writing Skills
03 Research Skills
07 Human Behavior
09 Uses of Precedents
10 Western Traditions
12 National and Regional Traditions
16 Formal Ordering Systems
36 Context of Architecture

Communications

Office hours: by appointment
Office Location:
Tel. (0039) 345 468-6087
Email: jsandel1@fau.edu

Attendance
Students cannot be absent from any class. Students absent without a written medical excuse from a licensed physician presented on the physician’s official stationary in original form will drop a whole letter grade. Students absent from a required presentation, assignment, or examination will receive without exception, an F for that presentation, assignment or examination. Absence does not absolve the student from homework due the following class. It is each student’s sole responsibility to contact someone from the class to get information on the material covered and assignments given.

Grading

The basic grade, a “C”, shall depend directly upon demonstration of the minimum standard of learning expected from this course. After the minimum criteria have been met, the final grade will be determined by evaluating the quality of generative research and exploration from commencement through completion of the course. Competency in the course shall be evaluated using class presentations, a mid term paper, a final term paper and class participation. Letter grades for projects and term papers are defined as follows:

An “A” grade is awarded when the student knows and understands exceptionally well the material presented in the class and brings some other understanding, both academic and critical to the subject theme demonstrating the ability to delve deeply into the argument.

A “B” grade is awarded when the student demonstrates a good understanding of the material presented in class.

The “C- to F” grades are awarded when a student’s work, effort, and conduct fall below the minimum requirements.

Special Needs

Students requiring auxiliary aids or services to ensure access to academic programs are encouraged to register with the Office for Students with Disabilities.

Required Text & Participation


Texts will also be distributed during class periods. Each student will be responsible for preparing a presentation of the text prior to the following class. Students will be called at random to present the text in full or in part during the class period that follows. Each student called out during class to elaborate on a text will be graded on their ability to explicate and interpret the reading.

Therefore, all students are expected to bring all pertinent research notes and assignments to class for discussion and review. Students are responsible for completing all assigned readings prior to class and are expected to participate in related discussions. Participation will count towards your final grade.

Course Requirements

You will be required to make an oral presentation while in Italy and do a project. The buildings, piazzas, campi and gardens are your study subjects. The due date and topics will be announced during the first week of class. Your sketchbook and class notes are due on June 18. Your final term project will be due on
a CD at the end of the semester. Graduate level students will complete a comprehensive report on a specified project. The relative value of each assignment towards your final grade is as follows:

Class participation: 10%
Term Project: 30%
Exams: 60%  1 midterm: 30% + final: 30%

Class Participation includes preparedness to discuss readings, promptness regarding meeting points and departures while in Italy. Term project includes completion of sketchbooks and/or photographic studies of the city.

Professional and Ethical Conduct

Just as clear and concise drawing is essential to the effective communication of architectural ideas, so too is the clear and concise use of language, both spoken and written. The School of Architecture expects students to communicate their ideas effectively and in a professional manner. This includes handwriting or lettering which is legible, correct spelling, proper punctuation and grammar, and referential citations that meet the Modern Language Association (MLA) standards for research and scholarly writing. All course work will be graded with consideration of these issues.

An idea, once documented in writing or in drawing, is the intellectual property of the author. When presenting an idea, phraseology, or drawing which is not your own, you are legally and ethically bound to identify your source. To do otherwise is plagiarism and constitutes cheating. Plagiarism will not be tolerated in the School of Architecture. The penalty for cheating is a grade of F on the relevant work and may warrant further academic action including failure in the course, academic probation, or expulsion from the University.

If you would like more information about plagiarism and how to avoid making unethical mistakes read the article What is “Plagiarism” and Why do People Do It? by John R. Edlund at the California State University L.A. website: http://www.calstatela.edu/centers/write_cn/plagiarism.htm

Student Work

The School of Architecture reserves the right to retain any and all student work for the purpose of record, exhibition, and instruction. All students are encouraged to reproduce all work for their own records prior to submission of originals to the instructor. In the event of publication the author or the work will be recognized and receive full attribution.

General

Information concerning academic regulations, student rights and responsibilities may be found in the current Florida Atlantic University Catalog and Student Handbook. Personal communication devices such as pagers, beepers, and cellular telephones are to be disabled in class sessions.

Course Topics

- Course Introduction & Early History of Venice
- Reading Layers of Time in Venetian Architecture
- The Campi and the notion of Urban Fabric
- Venice and the Byzantine
- Medieval Venice
- Venice and the Gothic
- Architectural Representation in the Age of Humanism
- Florence: The Renaissance in a Medieval City Structure
- Florentine Renaissance Architecture
- Recognizing Urban Typologies
- Venice and the Renaissance
- Vicenza and the Work of Andrea Palladio
- Venice and the Baroque: A Changing Perspective
- Verona: Revisiting Typology and Urban Fabric
- The Work of Carlo Scarpa
- Modern Interventions in Venice
- Culture and Time

**VENICE PROGRAM**

**Week 1**

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<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Urban Fabric</td>
<td>Venice &amp; Byzantine</td>
<td>Venice &amp; Byzantine</td>
<td>Venice &amp; Byzantine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Campi Types</td>
<td>Torcello</td>
<td>Palaces +</td>
<td>St. Marks</td>
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<tr>
<td>Byzantine</td>
<td>S. Maria e Donato, Murano</td>
<td>Fondaco dei Turchi</td>
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**Week 2**

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<tr>
<td>Medieval Intro.</td>
<td>Gothic Intro</td>
<td>Arch in Age Humanism</td>
<td>Florentine Architecture</td>
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<tr>
<td>Field Trip</td>
<td>Class</td>
<td>Florence</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rialto/arch attributes of the city, campi, fabric.</td>
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<td>Modern Encounter</td>
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**Week 3**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No Class</td>
<td>Medieval Gothic</td>
<td>Gothic</td>
<td>Gothic</td>
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<tr>
<td>Encounter Field Trip</td>
<td>Field Trip</td>
<td>Field Trip</td>
<td>Field Trip Palace</td>
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<td>Modern Ghetto</td>
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<td>Ecclesiastical</td>
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<td>Modern Encounter</td>
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**Week 4**

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**Week 5**

Vicenza  
Palladio  
Padova  
Galileo

Venezia  
Baroque  
La Giudecca  
The Arsenale

Venezia  
Baroque  
17th 18th, decadence  

Venice  
Modern  

**Week 6**

Venice  
Modern  

Scarpa  
Asolo  

Open Day  

Scarpa  

Asolo  

Trento  

Biennale  

Stile Liberty  

FINAL EXAM  

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**General Bibliography**


Murphy, Richard. *Carlo Scarpa and Castelvecchio*, Toronto, Butterworth Architecture


Oosting, Thomas J. *Andrea Palladio’s Teatro Olimpico*, UMI Research Press


