

CA6167: ADVANCED TOPICS IN ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY AND THEORY

Effective Term

Semester A 2025/26

Part I Course Overview

Course Title

Advanced Topics in Architectural History and Theory

Subject Code

CA - Civil and Architectural Engineering

Course Number

6167

Academic Unit

Architecture and Civil Engineering (CA)

College/School

College of Engineering (EG)

Course Duration

One Semester

Credit Units

3

Level

P5, P6 - Postgraduate Degree

Medium of Instruction

English

Medium of Assessment

English

Prerequisites

Nil

Precursors

Nil

Equivalent Courses

Nil

Exclusive Courses

Nil

Part II Course Details

Abstract

This course aims to help students understand the social, cultural, and political forces that have shaped the discourses and paradigms of architecture. This course investigates a series of selected issues and advanced topics in architectural history and theory through various historical and critical lenses. It helps students examine architecture historiography and critically interpret chronological and topical changes in architecture. The course emphasizes the student's ability to formulate special study areas in architectural history and theory and conduct case studies or special studies of the subject matter.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

CILOs	Weighting (if app.)	DEC-A1	DEC-A2	DEC-A3
1 Analyze and interpret architectural styles, theories, and historical contexts to develop a comprehensive understanding of architectural evolution.		x		
2 Critically evaluate the impact of architectural theories on the built environment, considering socio-cultural, environmental, and technological factors.		x		
3 Apply theoretical frameworks to analyze and assess contemporary architectural practices, addressing issues of sustainability, urbanism, and design innovation.		x	x	
4 Conduct independent research and present findings effectively, demonstrating a deep understanding of advanced architectural history and theory.		x	x	

A1: Attitude

Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.

A2: Ability

Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to real-life problems.

A3: Accomplishments

Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.

Learning and Teaching Activities (LTAs)

LTAs	Brief Description	CILO No.	Hours/week (if applicable)
1 Lectures	Students will engage in lectures on topics related to architectural history and theory in various cultural contexts.	1, 2, 3, 4	
2 Tutorials	Students will engage in activities, discussions, and presentations on the selected topics of study in history and theory.	1, 2, 3, 4	

Additional Information for LTAs

Semester Hours: 3 hours per week

Lecture/Tutorial/Laboratory Mix: Lecture (-); Tutorial (-); Laboratory (-)

Mixed lecture and tutorial sessions

Assessment Tasks / Activities (ATs)

	ATs	CILO No.	Weighting (%)	Remarks ("- " for nil entry)	Allow Use of GenAI?
1	Assignments	1, 2, 3, 4	70		No

Continuous Assessment (%)

70

Examination (%)

30

Examination Duration (Hours)

2

Minimum Continuous Assessment Passing Requirement (%)

30

Minimum Examination Passing Requirement (%)

30

Additional Information for ATs

To pass a course, a student must obtain minimum marks of 30% in both coursework and examination components, and an overall mark of at least 40%

Assessment Rubrics (AR)**Assessment Task**

Assignments (for students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

Criterion

- DEMONSTRATE the ability to understand, analyze, and discuss architectural theories and trends, both in history and in the modern era.
- DEMONSTRATE the ability of critical thinking towards various theories of architecture, and the writing skill to communicate thought systematically through text.
- DEMONSTRATE the ability to understand and apply the history and theories learned in class to analyze the built environment.
- ABILITY to UNDERSTAND and APPLY theories and knowledge to topics related to urban design and planning.

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) High

Good

(B+, B, B-) Significant

Fair

(C+, C, C-) Moderate

Marginal

(D) Basic

Failure

(F) Not even reaching marginal levels

Assessment Task

Examination (for students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

Criterion

ABILITY to UNDERSTAND and APPLY theories and knowledge to topics related to architecture, urban design and planning

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) High

Good

(B+, B, B-) Significant

Fair

(C+, C, C-) Moderate

Marginal

(D) Basic

Failure

(F) Not even reaching marginal levels

Part III Other Information**Keyword Syllabus**

Architectural history, architectural theory, architectural discourses, philosophy, politics, aesthetics, culture, critical interpretation; architecture and spectacle.

Reading List**Compulsory Readings**

Title	
1	Nil

Additional Readings

Title	
1	Crysler G, S. Cairns, and H. Heynen, eds. (2012) <i>The SAGE Handbook of Architectural Theory</i> . London: SAGE Publications Ltd.
2	Davies, C. (2017) <i>A New History of Modern Architecture</i> . London: Laurence King Publishing.
3	Curtis, W. (1996) <i>Modern architecture since 1900</i> . 3rd ed., London: Phaidon Press.
4	Frampton, K. (2007) <i>Modern architecture: a critical history</i> . 4th ed., London; New York: Thames & Hudson.
5	Hays, K. M. (ed.) (2000) <i>Architectural Theory Since 1968</i> . Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press.
6	Mallgrave, H. and Christina Contandriouopoulos, C. (2008) <i>Architectural Theory, Volume II, An Anthology from 1871-2005</i> . Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishing.
7	Fraser, M. (ed.) (2000) <i>Sir Banister Fletcher's Global History of Architecture</i> . 21st edition. London: Bloomsbury.
8	Hartoonian, G. (2012) <i>Architecture and Spectacle: a critique</i> . London: Ashgate.

9	Stanek, L. (2020). <i>Architecture in global socialism: Eastern Europe, West African, and the Middle East in the Cold War</i> . New York: Princeton University Press.
10	Charley, J. (2018). <i>The Routledge Companion of Architecture, Literature and the City</i> . London and New York: Routledge.