

SEMESTER AT SEA COURSE SYLLABUS

Voyage: Spring 2014

Discipline: Architectural History

ARH 3500: Architecture of Asia and Africa

Upper Division

Faculty Name: Yunsheng Huang

Pre-requisites: None

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This class matches the voyage trip of the semester at sea in spring 2014. The architecture of the major countries on the itinerary of the port visits is to be discussed. Lectures are illustrated with image shows of the important and representative buildings of the being-visited countries along the route.

After Hawaii, the voyage goes to East Asia where Chinese and Japanese architecture developed in a way quite different from western forms. Cultural and philosophical background will be introduced to explain why the monumental architecture stands with that shape. Selective gardens and some modern landmarks are also to be included for understanding the port cities.

Southeast Asia survived some world famous monuments. Angkor Wat is an architectural wonder located in Cambodia and it is accessible by traveling through southern Vietnam. The gilded stupa in central Yangon shines at its top rising 320 feet tall from the marble platform. In the later time, the French designers combined the native features in Vietnam, created a hybrid form of colonial architecture. Singapore, a city state, received more influence from UK.

India has its unique tradition. Two types of monuments are especially magnificent. The Taj Mahal in Agra was built by the Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan, it is the best example of Mughal architecture. Scattered in all parts of India, Hindu temples are highly decorative. Many temples are holy spots. The long period of British dominance left modern facility buildings, like museums, banks, etc., in large cities. Before the British, the Portuguese first explored west coastal area like Goa, where some Catholic churches can be dated to 17th century.

African architecture is diverse in forms. The 2014 voyage goes around the south, west, and north of Africa. The indigenous architecture appears mostly in villages. Architecture in urban areas reflects the western influence in many ways, many forms. Some buildings in South Africa had stories of European colonialism, whereas the contemporary architecture follows more in forms from America.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The special way of learning by traveling to Asia and Africa requires geographical and cultural understanding about the countries to be visited. This course aims to provide the necessary knowledge about the cultures by studying their historic monuments and built environment. Beyond the physical and material forms of the architecture, the philosophical meaning also need to

be reviewed.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS:

AUTHOR: Banister Fletcher
TITLE: A History of Architecture
PUBLISHER: Butterworth
ISBN #: 0750622679
DATE/EDITION: 1987 / 20th Edition

TOPICAL OUTLINE OF COURSE

A1- January 16:

Introduction (1) Architecture and Culture
Reading: *A History of Architecture*, pp. xvii-xxv

A2- January 18:

Introduction (2) Philosophy and religions of Asia
Reading: *A History of Architecture*, pp. 641-645, 652-654

January 20-21: Hilo

A3- January 22:

Historic architecture of Japan
Reading: *A History of Architecture*, pp. 721-744

A4- January 24:

Gardens in China and Japan
Reading: *A History of Architecture*, pp. 635-636

A5- January 28:

Historic cities in China and Japan
Reading: *A History of Architecture*, pp. 694-712

A6- January 30:

Modern Architecture of Japan
Reading: *A History of Architecture*, pp. 1468-1480

February 1-5: Yokohama, Transit, Kobe

A7- February 6:

Traditional Architecture of China
Reading: *A History of Architecture*, pp. 693-712

February 8-13: Shanghai, Transit, Hong Kong

A8- February 14:

Historic architecture of Vietnam and Cambodia

Reading: *A History of Architecture*, pp. 792-797

A9- February 16:

French colonial influence for architecture in Vietnam

Reading: *A History of Architecture*, pp. 1280

February 17-22: Ho Chi Minh City

A10- February 24:

Singapore, the diversified city and architecture

Reading: *A History of Architecture*, pp. 1482-1484

February 25-26: Singapore

A11- February 28:

Grand Buddhist Pagodas in Myanmar

Reading: *A History of Architecture*, pp. 788-791

March 2-6: Rangoon

A12- March 7:

Great monuments of India

Reading: *A History of Architecture*, pp. 745-751

A13- March 10:

Hindu Temples

Reading: *A History of Architecture*, pp. 752-761

March 11-16: Cochin

A14- March 18:

Africa, its ecological environment

Reading: *A History of Architecture*, pp. 665-668

A15- March 21:

Africa: the indigenous forms of architecture

Reading: *A History of Architecture*, pp. 668-670

March 23: Port Louis

A16- March 24:

Sea route connecting the Europe and Asia

Reading: *A History of Architecture*, pp. 1173-1175

A17- March 27:

Colonialism and colonial architecture

Reading: *A History of Architecture*, pp. 1184-1188

A18- March 29:

The extension of modern movement in architecture

Reading: *A History of Architecture*, pp. 1384-1389

March 30-April 4: Cape Town

A19- April 6:

Architecture without architects

Reading: *A History of Architecture*, pp. 637

A20- April 9:

Ghana, old and new

Reading: *A History of Architecture*, pp. 1188-1193

April 11-15: Tema

A21- April 16:

North Africa: the great Islamic monuments

Reading: *A History of Architecture*, pp. 533,553,630

A22- April 19:

Conclusions

A23- April 22: A Day Finals

April 23-26: Casablanca

April 30: Arrive in Barcelona

FIELD WORK

FIELD LAB (At least 20 percent of the contact hours for each course, to be led by the instructor.)
Attendance and participation in the Field Lab is MANDATORY.

The project is **the colonial and traditional architecture in Shanghai.**

The port journey is to visit the waterfront (the BUND) area and the old city area in Shanghai. Students are required to write about the comparison of the features of these two areas and the

related history.

FIELD ASSIGNMENTS

This class in art and architecture is heavily related in visual images. The classes match the schedule of the port visits. Students are expected to keep a journal of the port journeys with images of buildings visited. Journal could be in the form of a booklet of photos and short paragraphs indicating the major features and your observations.

The booklet could be in pdf but if printing is available, the bounded booklets are collected and exhibited. Towards the end, we will have discussions and reviews on journals.

METHODS OF EVALUATION / GRADING

1, Journals (30%)

Learn from the port trips. Two reviews will be conducted. The first is about Asian architecture. The second is on African architecture.

2, Discussions (10%)

Topics are based on the assigned readings.

3, Field Lab Assignment (20%)

4, Test and Final Exam (40%)

Before each test and exam, you will be given a guide about its format. You will be responsible to know basic information about works shown in class .

RESERVE LIBRARY LIST

AUTHOR: Ching, Francis D. K.; Jarzombek, Mark M.; Prakash, Vikramaditya

TITLE: A Global History of Architecture

PUBLISHER: Wiley

ISBN #: 9780470402573

DATE/EDITION: 12/14/2010 / 2nd

<http://www.orientalarchitecture.com/index.php>

HONOR CODE

Semester at Sea students enroll in an academic program administered by the University of Virginia, and thus bind themselves to the University's honor code. The code prohibits all acts of lying, cheating, and stealing. Please consult the Voyager's Handbook for further explanation of what constitutes an honor offense.

Each written assignment for this course must be pledged by the student as follows: "On my honor as a student, I pledge that I have neither given nor received aid on this assignment." The pledge

must be signed, or, in the case of an electronic file, signed “[signed].”