

**DEREE COLLEGE SYLLABUS FOR: SO 3127 SOCIOLOGY OF ARCHITECTURE**

(Previously SOX 2127 Sociology of Architecture)

(Updated Spring 2022)

**UK LEVEL 5**  
**UK CREDITS: 15**  
**US CREDITS: 3/0/3**

**PREREQUISITES:**

SO 1000 Introduction to Sociology **OR**  
SO 1001 Sociology of Modern Life

**CATALOG DESCRIPTION:**

Introduction to sociological responses to modern metropolitan architecture and urban planning in key texts, from classical social theory, the Chicago School and the Frankfurt Institute for Social Research, to post-modern and post-structuralist explorations of a sociology of architecture.

**RATIONALE:**

This course introduces students to a critical interpretation of modern Western architecture and urban planning in key sociological texts. In engaging with the works of sociologists interested in architecture, such as Georg Simmel and sociologists with architectural training, such as Siegfried Kracauer and David Frisby, the course invites students to identify and to understand how architecture and urban planning structure social life, social interactions, social organization and society at large. The course may also be of special interest to other social sciences, humanities and arts' students, including study abroad students.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

As a result of taking this course, the students should be able to:

1. Identify the ways in which architecture and urban planning define private and public spaces.
2. Analyze the ways in which architecture and urban planning give form to social institutions, structures, and relationships.
3. Demonstrate awareness of the relationship between architectural styles and city-plans with specific political ideologies and power relations.
4. Engage in a critical examination of the role of architecture and urban planning in the dialectics between the past and the present, collective memory and collective forgetting.

**METHOD OF TEACHING AND LEARNING:**

In congruence with the teaching and learning strategy of the college, the following tools are used:

- Textual analysis, class discussions, and group work during class meetings.
- Individual student presentations.
- Extensive instructor feedback on presentations and essays.
- Use of blackboard course-blog and additional resources.
- Office hours: students are encouraged to make full use of the office hours of their lecturer, where they can address issues pertinent to the course material, ask questions and seek guidance on their reading and research paper.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Other relevant educational material placed on reserve in the library.</li> </ul>						
<p><b>ASSESSMENT:</b></p>	<p><b>Summative:</b></p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td><b>First Assessment:</b> Midterm Examination Essay-type questions combination (with choice included).</td> <td><b>40%</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Second Assessment:</b> Portfolio and individual presentation of the research paper (a collection of images of, and brief commentary on a building, city plan, or street.)</td> <td><b>10%</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Final Assessment:</b> Research Paper A 2,200-2,500-word research paper based on informative, critical and evaluative presentation/analysis of a topic using both primary and secondary sources.</td> <td><b>50%</b></td> </tr> </table> <p>The first assessment (Midterm Examination) tests Learning Outcomes 3 and 4.</p> <p>The second assessment (Research paper) tests Learning Outcomes 1 and 2.</p> <p>The final assessment (portfolio and presentation) tests Learning Outcomes 1, 2, 3, and 4.</p> <p><i>The final grade for this module will be determined by averaging all summative assessment grades, based on the predetermined weights for each assessment. If students pass the comprehensive assessment that tests all Learning Outcomes for this module and the average grade for the module is 40 or higher, students are not required to resit any failed assessments.</i></p>	<b>First Assessment:</b> Midterm Examination Essay-type questions combination (with choice included).	<b>40%</b>	<b>Second Assessment:</b> Portfolio and individual presentation of the research paper (a collection of images of, and brief commentary on a building, city plan, or street.)	<b>10%</b>	<b>Final Assessment:</b> Research Paper A 2,200-2,500-word research paper based on informative, critical and evaluative presentation/analysis of a topic using both primary and secondary sources.	<b>50%</b>
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<p><b>INDICATIVE READING:</b></p>	<p><b>REQUIRED READING:</b> Jones, Paul — (2009) <i>The Sociology of Architecture: Constructing Identities</i>. Liverpool University Press.</p> <p><b>Selections of readings from (Required):</b> Boyd-Whyte, I. (2003). — <i>Modernism and the Spirit of the City</i>. N.Y., Routledge. Frisby, D. and Featherstone, M. — (1997). <i>Simmel on Culture</i>. London, Sage. Giannakopoulou G. and Gilloch G. (Eds) (2021) <i>The Detective of Modernity: Essays on the Work of David Frisby</i>. London, Routledge. Leach, N. (Ed.) — (2003). <i>Rethinking Architecture</i>. London, Routledge. — (2002). <i>Hieroglyphics of Space</i>. London, Spon. Sonne, W. — (2003). <i>Representing the State, Capital City Planning in the Early Twentieth Century</i>. London, Prestel, (Introduction and Conclusion, pp.29-49 and pp.286-315).</p>						

**On Library Reserve (Required):**

Addams, J.

- (1912). "Recreation as a Public Function in Urban Communities." American Journal of Sociology, 17(5): 615-619.
- (1908). "Public Recreation." The Journal of Education, 67(17): 454.

Baudrillard, J.

- (1982). "The Beaubourg-Effect: Implosion and Deterrence" October, 3-13

Benjamin, W.

- (1985). "Moscow Diary." October, 35: 4+9-135.

Burgess, E.W.

- (1928). "Residential Segregation in American Cities." The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science, Special issue: *The American Negro*, 140: 105-115

Blau, J.

- (1991). "The Context and Content of Collaboration: Architecture and Sociology." Journal of Architectural Education, 45(1): 36-40.

Bourdieu, P.

- "Social Space and Symbolic Power." Sociological Theory, 7(1): 14-25.

Cixous, E.

- (2002). "The Towers." Signs, 28(1): 431-433.

Deleuze, G.

- (1991). "The Fold." Yale French Studies, 80: 227-247.

Gieryn, T.

- (2002). "What Buildings Do." Theory and Society, 31(1):35-74.
- (2000). "A Space for Place in Sociology." Annual Review of Sociology, 26: 463-496.

Goodchild, B.

- (1990). "Planning and the Modern/Postmodern Debate." The Town Planning Review, 61(2): 119-137.

Gutenschwager, G.

- (1996). Architecture in a Changing World: The New Rhetoric of Form." Journal of Architectural Education, 49(4): 246-258.

Harvey, D.

- (1979). "Monument and Myth." Annals of the Association of American Geographers. 69(3): (362- 381).

Jencks, C.

- (1987). "Postmodern and Late Modern: The Essential Definitions," Chicago Review, 35(4): 31-58.

Kracauer, S.

- (1995). "Analysis of a City Map," in *The Mass Ornament*. Thomas Y. Levin (Ed.). Cambridge, Harvard University Press.

Lefebvre, H.

- (1987). "The Everyday and Everydayness." Yale French Studies, 73: 7-11.

Merriam, C.E.

- (1940). "Urbanism." American Journal of Sociology, 45(5): 720-730.

Mumford, L.

- (1954). "The Neighborhood and the Neighborhood Unit." The Town Planning Review, 24(4): 256-270.

- (1929). "Form in Modern Architecture." The Sociological Review. Reprint from Architecture, LX(3).
- Park, R.E.
- (1915). "The City: Suggestions for the Investigation of Human Behavior in the City Environment." American Journal of Sociology, 20(5): 577-612.
- Wirth, L.
- (1947). "Housing as a Field of Sociological Research." American Sociological Review, Special Issue: *The American Family and its Housing*, 12(2): 137-143.
  - (1927). "The Ghetto." American Journal of Sociology, 33(1): 57-71.

**SYMPOSIUM NOTES:**

- Spring 1948: "What Is Happening to Modern Architecture? Alfred H. Barr, Jr., Henry-Russell Hitchcock, Walter Gropius, George Nelson, Ralph T. Walker, Christopher Tunnard, Frederick Gutheim, Marcel Breuer, Peter Blake, Gerhard Kallmann, Talbot Hamlin, Lewis Mumford and Carl Koch The Bulletin of the Museum of Modern Art, 15(3): 4-20.

**OPTIONAL READING:**

- Baudrillard, J.
- (1982) "The Beaubourg-Effect: Implosion and Deterrence." October, 3-13.
- Benjamin, W.
- (1985) "Moscow Diary." October, 35:4+9-135.
- Cixous, E.
- (2002) "The Towers." Signs, 28(1): 431-433.
- Frisby, D.
- (2001) *Cityscapes of Modernity*. Cambridge, Polity.
- Giannakopoulou, G.
- (2015) "Modern Athens: Illuminating the 'Shadows of the Ancestors'." Journal of Modern Greek Studies, 33(1): 73-103.
- Gutenschwager, G.
- (1996) Architecture in a Changing World: The New Rhetoric of Form." Journal of Architectural Education, 49(4): 246-258.
- Jencks, C.
- (1987) "Postmodern and Late Modern: The Essential Definitions," Chicago Review, 35(4): 31-58.
- Merriam, C.E.
- (1940) "Urbanism." American Journal of Sociology, 45(5): 720-730.
- Park, R.E.
- (1915) "The City: Suggestions for the Investigation of Human Behavior in the City Environment." American Journal of Sociology, 20(5): 577-612.

**INDICATIVE MATERIAL:**  
(e.g. audiovisual, digital material, etc.)

**REQUIRED MATERIAL**

- Films:**  
*Berlin: Symphony of a Metropolis*, Walter Ruttmann (1927)  
*Metropolis*, Fritz Lang (1927)  
*Dark City*, Alex Proyas (1998)  
*Equilibrium*, Kurt Wimmer (2001)

<b>COMMUNICATION REQUIREMENTS:</b>	Verbal skills using academic/professional English
<b>SOFTWARE REQUIREMENTS:</b>	Microsoft Office Word and PowerPoint. All written work must be word-processed on Word.
<b>WWW RESOURCES:</b>	<p><b><u><a href="#">www.Resources</a></u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— “BRIDGES OF NEW YORK CITY” <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wMCuo_Dwllk">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wMCuo_Dwllk</a></li> <li>— “Megacities - London Full Documentary” <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mCIH5s3tvZU">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mCIH5s3tvZU</a></li> <li>— “Megacities - Paris Full Documentary” <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qjG_VlyzT4">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qjG_VlyzT4</a></li> <li>— “Eugène Atget - nineteenth-century Paris” <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9vGCHf8TF-s">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9vGCHf8TF-s</a></li> <li>— “Urban Housing Developments: The City - 1939 Educational Film” <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TTi7t5k8UeQ">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TTi7t5k8UeQ</a></li> <li>— “Dreiser's Cities: Chicago and New York in the late 19th century” <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IPFGqKpscm4">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IPFGqKpscm4</a></li> <li>— “Frank Lloyd Wright, Architecture, &amp; Environment” <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5L4_d1rX4cA">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5L4_d1rX4cA</a></li> <li>— “Lecture by Barry Bergdoll about three great architects of European architecture in the 19th Century” <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pXcuy9bO7zQ">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pXcuy9bO7zQ</a></li> <li>— “CLEAN LINES, OPEN SPACES: A VIEW OF MID-CENTURY MODERN ARCHITECTURE” <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yqB_sl3xnmM">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yqB_sl3xnmM</a></li> <li>— “Bauhaus - The Face Of The 20th Century” <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=leCLLe72LgQ">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=leCLLe72LgQ</a></li> <li>— “People's Palaces - The Golden Age of Civic Architecture: Neo Classical – BBC” <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vgKpw-vAL88">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vgKpw-vAL88</a></li> <li>— “Architectural Futurism of the 1920s” <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rw8LNJ8gBq4">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rw8LNJ8gBq4</a></li> <li>— “Getty Research Institute – Le Corbusier's Toward an Architecture: From the Bildungsroman to the Manifesto” <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s_TTuOpGMzo&amp;list=PLNV_MSSyJrPnFfNpV0fVFngD4YhLSlIfFE">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s_TTuOpGMzo&amp;list=PLNV_MSSyJrPnFfNpV0fVFngD4YhLSlIfFE</a></li> <li>— “Yale School of Architecture: ‘Le Corbusier after Le Corbusier’” <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1vXt2uex6r4&amp;index=11&amp;list=PLNVMSSyJrPnFfNpV0fVFngD4YhLSlIfFE">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1vXt2uex6r4&amp;index=11&amp;list=PLNVMSSyJrPnFfNpV0fVFngD4YhLSlIfFE</a></li> <li>— “Expressionist architecture Top # 15 Facts” <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sb1FRLKXXp4">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sb1FRLKXXp4</a></li> <li>— “The City (1939 Documentary) – American planning Association” <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7nuvcpnysjU">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7nuvcpnysjU</a></li> <li>— “The City (1939)” <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OaTn36YjLf8">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OaTn36YjLf8</a></li> </ul>
<b>INDICATIVE CONTENT:</b>	<p><b><i>1. Introduction to the Sociological Study of Modern Architecture and Urban Planning</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— The Sociological Functions of Buildings and City-Plans.</li> <li>— The Sociological Symbolisms of Buildings and City-Plans.</li> </ul>

**2. The Social Stratification of Modern Architecture and Urban Planning**

- The Sociological Significance of the City-Centre.
- The Sociological Significance of the Suburbs.
- The Sociological Significance of the Periphery.
- The Sociological Significance of Parks and Public Spaces.

**3. The Politics of Modern Architecture and Urban Planning**

- Neoclassical Architecture and Historicism
- Traditional Architecture Revival and Nationalism
- Futurist Architecture and Functionalism
- Expressionist Architecture and Radicalism
- Modernist Architecture and Structuralism
- (Post) Modernist Architecture and Globalization.

**4. The Collective Memory and Collective Forgetting of Modern Architecture and Urban Planning**

- The Sociological Significance of the House.
- The Sociological Significance of the Monument.
- The Sociological Significance of the “Streetscape.”

**5. The Future of Sociology of Architecture and Urban Planning**

- The Sociologist as Architectural Critic.
- The Sociologist, the Architect and the Urban Planner.
- The Sociologist as Architect and Urban Planner.