ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY + CRITICISM

Dr. Emily Makaš
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Storrs 223

ARCH 4600 / 4204 / 5204
Tuesdays / Thursdays 2:30 – 3:45
Storrs 276

Premise + Objectives

This course explores historical and contemporary approaches to the history of art and architecture. Historical-based approaches to exhibition curation as well as criticism of the built environment will also be explored.

This course has three main objectives:

- understand the multiplicity of past and present historiographical approaches to art and architecture;
- critically engage in the history and criticism of the built environment;
- improve abilities to organize and conduct research-oriented investigations about the built environment and to express ideas and arguments about buildings and cities in presentations and in writing.

Methods + Content

This course will employ a comparative method to investigate historiographical approaches to the built environment’s past and present. These will include examinations of approaches based on form, authors, subjects, meanings, contexts, and critical theories. Material will be presented through short lectures and informal discussions based on secondary and primary source readings. In addition, the course will include guest lectures by historians and critics addressing the methods and approaches of their work. This course is reading intensive.

Required Texts

The following two books are required:


Assessment

Students will be evaluated based on a series of written submissions and oral presentations. Written submissions will include analyses of the historiography and criticism of iconic buildings and an independent research paper. Drafts and preliminary statements will be required for each written assignment. Students will be asked to present their work orally as well as to give presentations on assigned readings.