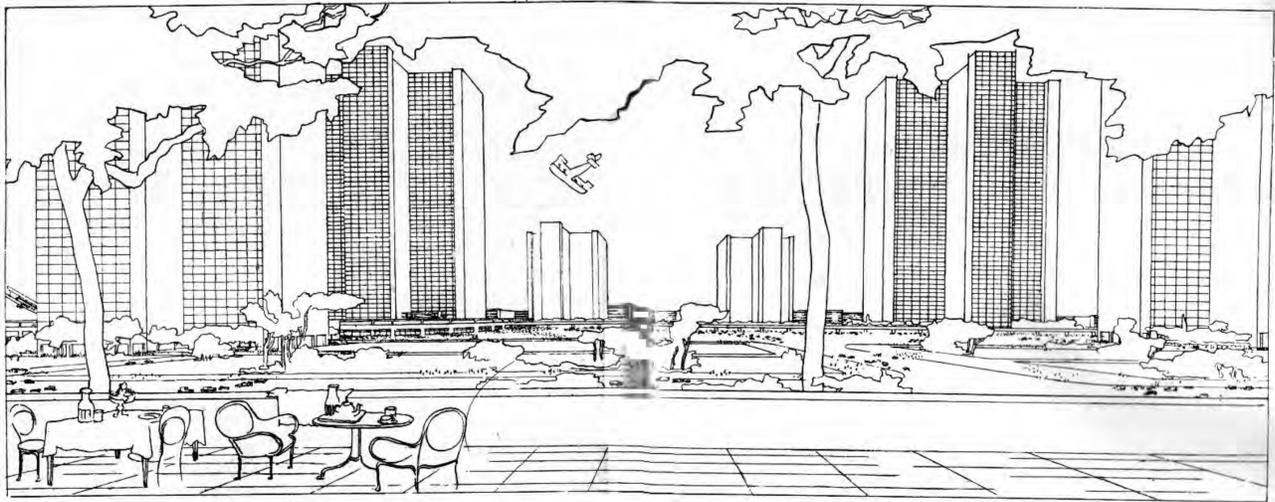


THE MODERN CITY: THEORIES AND FORMS

Le Corbusier, View from the Rooftop Café in *Ville Contemporaine*

Hours M/W/F, 10:10-11:00am (3 credit hours / 3 contact hours per week)
Classroom CCB 1001
Instructor Jeffrey Balmer (jdbalmer@uncc.edu)

Objectives: Urbanism in the 19th and the 20th century was characterized by the development and criticism of the modern city, resulting in the emergence of modern urban planning. Cities expanded and transformed themselves under the influence of modern industries, new means of transportation, and revolutionary technologies, as well as changing ideologies. A series of paradigms of urban design, including modernist city, monumental city, garden city, and ecological city, led to a variety of urban forms and influenced the architectural, urbanistic, and social movement across the world. The criticism of modernism after the Second World War continued to generate other important theories of urban forms such as megastructure, new urbanism, and landscape urbanism. This seminar serves as a historical survey of urban design from the mid-19th century to the end of the 20th century, focusing on various ideas of urbanism and their impact on the contemporary practice of urban design and development. It investigates both the cities, built urban areas, and large-scale urban projects resulting from revolutionary ideas of urban design and important theories of urbanism.

Content: The seminar will study essential literature of urbanism as well as urban projects emblematic of the transformation of cities in the 19th and the 20th century. The course is organized with topical discussions on the emergence of modern city planning, monumental city, garden city, suburbanization, new urbanism, ecological urbanism, and global city among other paradigms of modern city.

Method: Class will be held once a week. Each session consists of three modules: two lectures and a student presentation, along with classroom discussion. A paper is required at the end of the semester. Readings will be drawn from the essential texts on urbanism. Each of them should be viewed as a portal into further elaboration, and are supplemented by other important historical and theoretical literature. Buildings and projects that illuminate the urban concepts will be studied.

General Readings: Barnett, Jonathan. *City Design: Modernist, Traditional, Green and Systems Perspectives*. London and New York: Routledge, 2011.
 Hall, Peter. *Cities of Tomorrow*. Hoboken, NJ: Wiley-Blackwell, 2002.