PREMISE & CONTENT:
This course will provide an overview of various methodological approaches to interpreting the built environment. We will analyze a range of approaches, such as formalism, structuralism, poststructuralism, semiotics, Marxism, gender, postcolonialism, and Actor Network Theory, among others. This course is reading and writing intensive.

Course Objectives:
(a) to acquire knowledge of the concepts, discussions, readings, and authors crucial for different methodological approaches to architecture history as well as to be able to situate them within the broader context of developments in the humanities;
(b) to be able to critically apply concepts learned in class to one’s own analyses of buildings and urban forms;
(c) to clearly communicate ideas and arguments about architecture and cities orally and in writing using appropriate language and terminology.

Method: This course is organized as a combination of short lectures, discussions, and presentations. A significant part of the course is devoted to in-class group discussions of assigned readings.