

Faculty: Architecture

Course Code & Number: ARCH 121

Type of Course: Compulsory

Course Credit Hours: (3+0+0) 3 / 5 ECTS

Language of Instruction: English

Department: Architecture

Course Title: Introduction to Architecture

Semester: Fall

Pre-requisite: None

Mode of Delivery: Face-to-face

INSTRUCTOR

Asst. Prof. Dr. Bilge İmamoğlu

Room No: D04 Tel: 585 0022 email: bilge.imamoglu@tedu.edu.tr

Office hours: Thursdays 13.00-14.00

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The course aims to introduce the **vocabulary** of architectural thought and development of **design concepts** in their relation to the urban, social and historical context.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course dwells on the relations between art and architecture and their social and historical context. It introduces some of the basic themes and concepts in relation to visual, formal, functional and organizational qualities in design and fine arts and focuses on their appearance and development in history. It involves introduction of global examples of architectural products throughout time and evaluation of their relation to the themes and concepts in question, in order to develop **an awareness of the vocabulary** of architectural thought and **a familiarity to its concepts**. The city in history and the urban context correlated to architectural concepts and theories are also over-arching themes for the course.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Having successfully completed this course, students are expected to:

1. Obtain familiarity with the basic recurrent themes, concepts and ideas in the history of art, architecture and urbanism.
2. Identify and comprehend the vocabulary of the architectural discipline.
3. Understand and interpret the relation of architectural products to their historical context.
4. Develop a sense for the relation of the development of architectural ideas to the history of arts and sciences.
5. Use the knowledge on history of arts and architecture to begin to develop an individual and critical evaluation of the contemporary built environment.

WORK LOAD

In The European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS), a 5 ECTS credit course assumes that each student will devote 5 X (25-30) = 125-150 hours of their time for this course.

Instructor's assessment for the course is: Lectures (13X2) 26 hours; mid-terms (10X2) 20 hours; final assignment 20 hours; readings and assignments (13X4) 52 hours = 118 hours.

Please be ready to provide the instructor with your own personal assessment at the end of the semester, for further improvements in the course design.

LECTURES

Lectures will be on Wednesdays, 11.00-13.00. Please be aware that there are no sections for them. There will be no attendance recording for the lectures. *Two mid-term examinations will be based on these lectures.* The instructor will share the visual presentation material with the students, after each lecture.

INTRODUCTION (1 Week) vocabulary; words; definitions; concepts; terminology...

I. THE STUDIO (2 Weeks) design education; studio;

design; architectural education; studio practices; critics; juries;
visual communication; graphic communication;
drawings; models; posters; craftsmanship...

II. THE ACT (3 Weeks) abstraction; perception; composition; structure;

geometry; visual relations; gestalts; order; units; unity; elements;
groups; figure; background; hierarchy; balance; grid; scale; proportion; rhythm;
repetition; variation; differentiation; change; pattern; integrity; symmetry; asymmetry;
dimensions; rupture; building; synthesis; assembly; grammar...

III. ELEMENTS (4 Weeks) line; plane; volume; form; space; surface; light; character; function;

point; mass; shape; void; spatial; spacious; texture; tectonics; transparency; density;
smooth; gritty; density; character; linear; central; planar; operations; archetype;
character; reason; rationality; texture; material; color; shade; shadow; climate...

IV. IDEAS (3 Weeks) strategy; tactics; concept; context;

design decisions; theme; scenario; good; beautiful; sublime; reason; rationality; theme;
motif; transparency; multiplicity; diversity; simplicity; complexity; familiarity; legibility;
flexibility; interpretations; observations; inputs; principles; rules; forces; response;
operations; actions; originality; invention; discovery; exploration; style; expression;
tradition; collectivity; time; memory...

DISCUSSION HOURS

There will be 1-hour discussion sessions on Thursdays in two sections at 15.00 and 16.00. While the lectures follow a thematic outline, the discussion hours will be based on assignments and other activities and may follow a different track. The reading material to be discussed in the classroom will be announced online weekly and is expected to be complementary in the objectives of the course. Students are also welcome to propose any discussion topic in these hours that are related to the lectures themes, studio discussions or anything related to architectural education or architecture in general.

The attendance to the discussion hour will be recorded but not graded, *yet non-attendance over 40% (5 hours) will directly result in FX; even with a reasonable excuse.*

EVALUATION

Mid-Term Examinations: 40% (MT1; tent. 8th Week, 20%. MT2; tent. 13th Week, 20%)

The mid-term examinations will be based on the lectures. The mid-terms are “open notes” examinations, where you are allowed to use *your own notes* that you have taken during the lectures openly in the exam. Additionally you are allowed to bring a hard copy dictionary, but nothing else. (Photocopies and digital devices are not allowed).

Final Assignment: 25%

The final assignment will be a “take-home” examination, which will tentatively be assigned a week before its submission in the finals week.

Assignments and Activities: 25%

All sort of assignments will be announced online through Moodle, as well as other types of activities; *therefore the students are obliged to check their student e-mails regularly*. Besides reading assignments to be discussed in the discussion hours, the instructor may assign other tasks to be submitted via the weblog or performed within the class hours. Some of these assignments and activities will involve group work. All will be included in the “Assignments and Activities” grade. All assignments are due at the time indicated. Late submissions will not be accepted without an officially documented excuse and even at that case they will be punished with a late penalty. Blog posts that are produced on students’ own accord (without being assigned to) and that well suit the objectives of the course will be awarded by the instructor with a bonus up to 10% of the final grade. Each assignment will also include some bonus points as specified within each assignment.

Class Contribution: 10%

Contribution to the discussions in the discussion hours (and *not* attendance) will be graded with 10% of the final grade. The instructor may award regular and productive contribution with a bonus up to 5% of the final grade.

COURSE ASSESSMENTS & LEARNING OUTCOMES MATRIX	
Assessment Methods	Course Learning Outcomes
Weblog and Reading Assignments	1, 2, 5
Class Contribution	1, 2
Mid-terms	2, 3, 4
Final Exam	1, 2, 3, 4, 5

LANGUAGE

This course is mainly about reading, observing, thinking, talking and writing about design and architecture; therefore the language skills are of the utmost importance. Students are expected to put an ingenious effort into developing their English skills, both oral and written, for the benefit of an efficient and productive study, as well as a proper use of terminology in self-expression. The course requirements relate to the proficiency in the English language; nevertheless the students are reminded that it is their own responsibility to obtain a parallel competence in architectural terminology in their own native language.

COURSE METHODS

Students are recommended to take notes during the lectures, since they will be allowed to bring them in and refer them during the mid-term exams. It is also highly recommended that these notes include sketches, keeping in mind that the course experience will dominantly be visual. Therefore, a drawing notebook (a sketch book of min. 20 cm.) would be much handier than regular notebooks. Laptops and other electronic media are allowed (including mobile phones, as long as they are not used for irrelevant personal communication), in addition to the sketchbooks, yet classroom privacy dictates that audio-visual recording should not be attempted (the PowerPoint presentations will be uploaded on Moodle after each lecture).

There is no single textbook for the course. Assigned readings will be provided by the instructor in advance. There is also a recommended book list below.

Many of the assignments will be submitted and presented via the personal weblog which will also be used for ARCH101 and ARCH111.

Weblog (Blog): noun \ˈblɒg, ˈblæg\ A Web site that contains an online personal journal with reflections, comments, and often hyperlinks provided by the writer; also: the contents of such a site.

Each student is expected to prepare and maintain a weblog, the content of which may include (but not limited to):

Short weekly assignments related to the readings assigned for the course ARCH 121 or results or progress of other assignments and activities for the course.

Personal records/reflections/comments/evaluation/interpretation/criticism on the personal experience of the weekly experience of the course ARCH 121.

Similar records and commentary on other courses, and especially on ARCH 101 and ARCH 111. Recorded progress of the student's personal projects in ARCH 101 with commentary, including self-evaluation.

Annotated bibliography of the student's personal reading experience with comments and criticism, to include both fiction and non-fiction, which may or may not be related to architecture, arts, or history.

Notes and commentary on extracurricular cultural and scholar activities that the students have attended, such as; seminars, symposiums, lectures, talks, forums, all forms of artistic performances, exhibitions, museums... etc. (The more varied these are, the more the Weblog will be appreciated.)

Other sorts of study or exercise that will be assigned by the instructor.

Any form of audio-visual material either produced by the student or referred, and hyper-links as long as they are supporting the personal content and are not just a casual habit of re-blogging, are welcome, and indeed encouraged. Regular updates of the weblog content other than the weekly homework assignments will be rewarded with some handsome bonus for the final grade.

Besides your personal weblogs, you will be regularly using Moodle, so get accustomed to it and its tools. You may start by uploading a profile picture, so that your instructors learn your names quicker.

ETHICAL CONDUCT

Good academic conduct requires respect for the rights of others in the collective experience of learning, either in the class or elsewhere; responsibility towards others and sincere and honest engagement in collaborative and cooperative work; avoidance of cheating; **and last but not the least, avoidance of plagiarism, which is using others' works, ideas, findings or products as if one's own.** Plagiarism is cheating and requires disciplinary punishment as specified in school regulations, besides penalties on the grade.

INSTRUCTOR'S ABSENCE

As faculty are involved in research, teaching other courses, university service etc., they may be absent from time to time during the semester. Every effort will be made to make up any time missed by the instructor. Students will be informed, whenever possible, of expected absence from the class.

RECOMMENDED BIBLIOGRAPHY (Present in TEDU Library – Please be aware that library grows every day and many new books may have arrived after this list was prepared)

Alexander, Christopher. *A Pattern Language*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1977.

Balmer, J. *Diagramming the Big Idea : Methods for Architectural Composition*, Routledge, 2012.

Ching, F.D. Jarzombek, M.M. Prakash, V. *A Global History of Architecture*. John Wiley & Sons, 2006.

Ching, F. *Mimarlık, Biçim, Mekân ve Düzen*, YEM, 2002.

Ching, F. *Architecture: Form, Space, & Order*, John Wiley & Sons, 2007.

Conrads, U. (Ed.) *Programs and Manifestoes on 20th Century Architecture*, Cambridge, Mass: MIT Press, 1971.

Curtis, W. J. R. *Modern Architecture since 1900*. Phaidon Press, 1996.

Farrelly, L. *The Fundamentals of Architecture*, London: AVA Publishing, 2007.

Frampton, K. *Modern Architecture: A Critical History*. Thames and Hudson, 1980.

Frederick, M. *Mimarlık Okulunda Öğrendiğim 101 Şey. 101 Things I Learned in Architecture School*, YEM, 2009.

- Giedion, S. *Space, Time and Architecture*. Harvard University Press, 2009.
- Gombrich, E. *The Story of Art*, Phaidon, 1966.
- Hertzberger, H. *Lessons for Students in Architecture*, Rotterdam: 010 Publishers, 2009.
- Kostof, S. *A History of Architecture: Settings and Rituals*. New York, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1985.
- Krupinska, J. What an Architecture Student Should Know,
- Le Corbusier. *Towards a New Architecture*. New York: Dover Publication, 1986.
- Le Corbusier. *Mimarlık Öğrencileriyle Söyleşi*, YKY, 1993.
- Rasmussen, S. E. *Experiencing Architecture*, Chapman & Hall, 1959.
- Roth, L. M. *Understanding Architecture: Its Elements, History, and Meaning*. Westview Press, 2006.
- Smith, K. (ed.) *Introducing Architectural Theory: Debating a Discipline*, Routledge, 2012.
- Unwin, S. *Analysing Architecture*, London and New York: Routledge, 1997.
- Unwin, S. *Exercises in Architecture: Learning to Think as an Architect*, Routledge, 2012.
- Unwin, S. *Twenty Buildings Every Architect Should Understand*, Routledge, 2010.
- Venturi, R. *Complexity and Contradiction in Architecture*. New York: The Museum of Modern Art, 1966.
- Watkin, D. *A History of Western Architecture*. Watson-Guptill Publications, 2000.
- Werner, M. *Model Making*, Princeton Architectural Press, 2011.

JOURNALS (Regularly coming to TEDU Library)

Architectural Design
Domus
El Croquis
The Architectural Review
Architectural Digest
Arredamento Mimarlık
XXI
Betonart
Mimarlık
Yapı

In the course of the semester, studio instructors may require to make changes in the terms that are declared in this Syllabus. They will declare and discuss such changes with the studio students before applying them and will make sure that such changes are always in the favor of students. Similarly, students may come up with demands/suggestions on changes to be discussed in the studio.