02053401

Theory and History of Architecture (2)

BS Architecture Level 2 / Year 4

2024-2025, Fall Semester

Credits: 2

Credit hours: 34

Teacher in charge: Professor JIANG Jiawei

Teaching team: Professor LU Yongyi, Professor QIAN Feng, Professor ZHOU Minghao, Professor MO Wanli

Teaching assistant: CHEN Lin

Time: 13:30-15:05pm, Wednesday (17 weeks)

Venue: Classroom 310, South Building, Siping Campus

Overview:

Theory and History of Architecture (2) is a core course for senior international undergraduate students enrolled in the Architecture and Historic Architecture Preservation and Engineering programs (taught in English) at the College of Architecture and Urban Planning, Tongji University. Additionally, it is offered as an elective for senior students majoring in Urban Planning and Landscape Architecture. Complementing Theory and History of Architecture (1)—which focuses on Chinese architectural history—this course offers a comprehensive study of architectural history and building theory. It is designed to provide students with in-depth knowledge of architectural history and theoretical frameworks in practice, while also fostering their humanistic awareness and critical thinking skills.

This course is typically delivered during the first semester of the fourth year in the undergraduate Architecture program. Each teaching week comprises two class hours, with the course spanning 17 weeks, totaling 34 class hours and earning 2 credits. Additionally, students are required to complete extracurricular assignments equivalent to 34 class hours and to take a final examination. Enrolled students should have already completed foundational courses in architectural history, design principles, and architectural design, and should be proficient in reading and comprehending professional literature in English.

Teaching the history of architecture and building theory has long been a cornerstone of professional training for undergraduate students at the Department of Architecture at Tongji University. Since its inception, the course has undergone several phases of reform, evolving from a focus on description of history to an emphasis on concepts and theories, from chronological narratives to thematic organization, and from knowledge acquisition to the development of practical skills and critical understanding. These pedagogical approaches and methods are not only integrated into the teaching process and objectives but also serve as fundamental criteria for admission to Tongji University's postgraduate programs in Architecture.

Introduction:

This course focuses on historical knowledge and theories in architecture and building industry. Divided into three main sections, it gives an overall introduction from the domain of architecture as an art and philosophy to the practice of building activities within a real urban context. The section of "Pre-modern Architectural History" introduces Antiquity, Romanesque, Gothic, Renaissance, Baroque architecture and revivalism, adopting perspectives and methodologies mainly from archaeology and history of art. The section of "Architectural History: The Modern and After-modernism", spanning from the mid-18th century to the late 1980s, intended to understand the achievements, characteristics, thoughts, methods and their historical significance in the formation and development process of modern architecture, with topics ranging from industrial art, spatial design, « tectonic poetics », organic architecture, vernacular, modern, and memorial architecture as well as modern urban planning. The section of "Building Industry and Its Theories (from Urbanism to Manufacturing Buildings)" introduces the formation of new theories in urban development and building industry, ranging from basic knowledge in real estate and land development to strategies in urban design. Knowledge from the new age of information and the cutting-edge knowledge from artificial intelligence is combined for a better understanding of the circumstance of architecture and building industry.

This course serves as a further learning following the architectural history course of junior undergraduate students, preparing for the architectural history and theory course for the postgraduate level.

Objectives:

- (1) Expand Disciplinary Knowledge: This course provides students with a comprehensive understanding of architectural achievements across various historical periods. It explores architectural concepts and theories while examining the interplay between architectural evolution and related developments in science, technology, society, and culture. By doing so, the course aims to enrich students' professional knowledge and broaden their disciplinary perspective within the field of architecture.
- (2) Enhance Professional Competence: The course is designed to help students accumulate knowledge and broaden their horizons through the history of construction and building theory. It seeks to cultivate students' ability to appreciate architectural forms, develop their professional competence by integrating rational thinking, social responsibility, and humanistic care, and guide them in understanding the complex relationships between theory and practice. Additionally, the course introduces the multidisciplinary methodologies and skills that have shaped the development of building industry.
- (3) **Develop Critical Thinking Skills:** Emphasizing the exploration of architectural concepts and ideas embedded in historical phenomena, the course encourages students to compare and observe the continuity and changes in historical evolution. This approach aims to enhance students' abilities to discern, analyze, and critically evaluate architectural developments, thereby fostering a deeper understanding of the discipline.
- (4) Foster Cultural Awareness: The course integrates the perspective of cultural history into the study of architectural history, emphasizing the customs, beliefs, symbolic meanings, and traditional continuities associated with historical buildings. It seeks to develop students' awareness of architectural cultural diversity while strengthening their cultural self-awareness and confidence in international exchanges.

Methods:

1. Class Lecture

Lectures serve as the primary mode of instruction. Each session focuses on a specific topic, presented by the course teachers using a combination of visual and textual materials. Interaction with students is encouraged to deepen understanding and engagement with the content.

2. Extracurricular Learning and Assignments

To extend classroom learning, extracurricular activities are divided into two components:

- Field Study Tours: Under the guideline of course teachers, students participate in on-site investigations, where they observe, document, and analyze historical buildings' design languages, materials, spaces, and surrounding environments. These activities enhance students' knowledge of architectural history and theoretical topics. Examples include visits to early 20th-century Western-influenced historical buildings in Shanghai or other Chinese cities, or specific researches on cases of contemporary buildings in China showcasing integration of technology and culture.
- Literature Reading: Students are assigned reading materials selected by the course teachers. Through group discussions, Q&A sessions, and writing, students engage in comparative analysis and discussions about historical buildings or architectural figures, deepening their understanding of the course content.
- Assignments: Students are obliged to submit two assignments, whose requirements can be seen in the scoring criteria.

Outcomes:

- Comprehensive Understanding of Architectural History: Students will gain a systematic
 understanding of the development of architectural history and theory. They will become familiar with
 the significant architectural achievements across various historical periods, grasp the contextual
 relationships between these achievements, and master the fundamental methods for analyzing historical
 figures, architectural schools, and their design philosophies. This knowledge will enhance their
 professional expertise and capabilities.
- 2. Mastery of Building Theories: Students will develop a deep understanding of the background, ideological implications, historical roles, and practical applications of various building theories and doctrines. They will learn the essential methods for theoretical inquiry, establish connections with core issues in the architectural discipline, and cultivate a basic understanding of the interdisciplinary approaches in architecture.
- 3. **Critical Awareness and Professional Responsibility:** Through the study of history and theory, students will establish a historical awareness that strengthens their ability to critically assess architectural developments. They will also develop a professional sense of social responsibility, enabling them to contribute thoughtfully to the field of architecture.
- 4. Cultural Sensitivity and Global Perspective: The course will enhance students' cultural awareness, helping them to appreciate the diversity of architectural cultures across different regions. Students will also build cultural self-awareness and confidence, particularly in the context of global exchanges and interactions.

5. **Development of Independent Learning and Critical Thinking:** Students will cultivate the ability to engage in autonomous learning, fostering critical thinking skills that enable them to continuously advance their understanding of current architectural issues through a historical lens.

Information of teacher in charge:

Name: JIANG Jiawei

Email: jiaweijiang@tongji.edu.cn

Cellphone: 17317810614

Office: C504, College of Architecture and Urban Planning, Tongji University

Office hours: 12:20-13:20, Tuesday

Preferred contact methods: email, telephone or in-person meeting by appointment

Teaching framework

Section	Teaching theme/content/objective	Teaching mode
Section I:	Introduction	Lecture
Week 1	Architectural History & Building Theory, Research Scopes and Methodologies	
Section II:	Pre-modern Architectural History Lecture	
Week 2 to Week 6	Antiquity: Architecture and Urbanism in Ancient Greece and Roman Empire	
	2. The Middle Age: Art and Architecture in the Religious and Secular Realm	
	3. Renaissance: The Canon of Classicism and Its Design Principles	
	4. The Broadened Baroque: Illusions in Architecture and the Thoroughfare of Urbanism	
Section III:	Architectural History: The Modern and After-	Lecture
Week 7 to Week 12	modernism	
	1. Industrial Age: Revolution in Architecture and Urbanism	
	2. Modern Architecture 1890-1918: Electrification, Art Nouveau, Industry-Art	

	 Modern Architecture 1918-1945: Modern Movement and Abstraction Topics in Post-war History and Theory The Built-environment Turn 	
	6. New Tendencies in After-modernism	
Section IV:	Building Industry and Its Theories (from Urbanism	Lecture
Week 13 to Week 16	to Manufacturing Buildings)	
	1. Urban Studies and New Theories in Urban Design	
	2. Theory and Practice in Real-Estate: Land Value and Spatial Management	
	3. Building Industry in the New Age of Information	
	4. Computation and Digital Age in Architecture	
Section V:	Final Examination	Exam
Week 17		

Scoring criteria:

Scoring item	Weight	Scoring essentials
Attendance	10%	Attendance rate, level of classroom participation
Assignment 1	20%	Subject of investigation is appropriately selected and recorded on-site, needs unique observation perspectives, and the investigation analysis has to respond to the classroom lectures.
Assignment 2	20%	Reflect intensive reading and understanding as well as a critical perspective, extended learning materials have academic quality, concepts are clear, elaborations logical and academics normative. Assignment must be submitted in a version of an essay.
Final exam	50%	Mastery of systematic knowledge, able to discern epochal and artistic characteristics of historical forms, able to associate, compare and analyze historical phenomena as well as technology, able to understand theoretical concepts and their connotations and to express through plotting. Selected knowledge points will be checked in the final exam.

Teaching calendar:

Week 1:

Date: Sept 4, 2024

Lecture: Course Introduction: Architectural History & Building Theory, Research Scopes and

Methodologies

Speaker: JIANG Jiawei

Keywords: Ars Magna, Archaeology, History of Art, Building Theory, Built Environment

This class (Section I) gives a general introduction to the course "Theory and History of Architecture (2)." Methodologies from the domains of archaeology and history of art are introduced to assist students in learning the pre-modern architectural history (Section II). A clear distinction between "Architectural theory" and "building theory" is made, which demarcates the border between Section III and Section IV. Basic knowledge from relevant disciplines such as civil engineering, building technology, urban planning, real-estate, environmental design is integrated in understanding the development of Architecture as an art and building industry as a modern product.

Week 2:

Date: Sept 11, 2024

Lecture: Antiquity: Architecture and Urbanism in Ancient Greece and Roman Empire

Speaker: JIANG Jiawei

Keywords: Polytheism, Orders, Trabeation, Temple, Agora, Acropolis, Roman Campus

Architectural principles such as harmonious ratio, proportions, Orders, trabeated system are rooted in ancient Greece and the Roman Empire. This class discusses the religious and civic structures that defined these civilizations, including temples, agoras, acropolises, gymnasium, etc. The Greeks' development of trabeation, or the post-and-lintel system, laid the groundwork for architectural stability and aesthetic harmony. The Romans' adaptation and expansion of Greek ideas led to the creation of iconic urban forms that served both public and private functions. Through an understanding of polytheism's impact on architecture, this class provides a comprehensive overview of how ancient Greece and Rome laid the groundwork for Western tradition.

Week 3:

Date: Sept 18, 2024

Lecture: The Middle Age: Art and Architecture in the Religious and Secular Realm

Speaker: JIANG Jiawei

Keywords: Romanesque, Gothic, Christianity, Ritual, Iconography, Liturgy

This class introduces European medieval art and architecture by chronological divisions of three periods: pre-Romanesque $(475-c.900 \, \text{AD})$, Romanesque $(c.900-1150 \, \text{AD})$, Gothic $(c.1150-1450 \, \text{AD})$. The vicissitudes of almost a thousand years witness the transformations of urban morphology, art form in religious architecture, feudal system and endless theological debates. Five topics are included: 1. Social structure of feudalism in

Western Europe; 2. Transforming Catholic liturgies and spatial responses; 3. Evolution of building technology and structural rationalism; 4. Decoration motifs and relevant iconographical meanings; 5. Summum opus of gothic arts.

Week 4:

Date: Sept 25, 2024

Lecture: Renaissance: The Canon of Classicism and Its Design Principles

Speaker: JIANG Jiawei

Keywords: Humanism, Harmonious Proportion, Personification, Perspective, Analogy

Renaissance, the most recognized revival of the Antiquity, rediscovers and enhances the ideas and principles of Humanism. Central to this era was the pursuit of harmonious proportion, inspired by the mathematical ratios found in nature and ancient architecture, which architects believed could bring a divine order to their designs. Renaissance architects developed new techniques and principles, such as the use of perspective in architectural drawings to create the illusion of depth and space. This period also saw the personification of architecture, where buildings were conceived as living entities with a clear articulation of parts, much like the human body. Analogy played a key role in Renaissance design, where architects drew parallels between buildings and the human body, ensuring that every element was proportionate and aesthetically pleasing.

Week 5:

Date: Oct 2, 2024

National Day Holiday, No Class

Week 6:

Date: Oct 9, 2024

Lecture: The Broadened Baroque: Illusions in Architecture and the Thoroughfare of Urbanism

Speaker: JIANG Jiawei

Keywords: Movement, Ornamentation, Early Modern Science, Baroque Urban Planning, Ideal City

This class explores the dynamic and transformative period of Baroque architecture and urban planning that began in the early 17th century. Originating in Rome, the Baroque style quickly spread across Europe, influencing the design of cities and buildings from Paris to Vienna. This period is characterized by its emphasis on movement, drama, and sensory impact, achieved through the use of elaborate ornamentation, complex spatial arrangements, and innovative urban planning concepts. This era saw the design of grand avenues and thoroughfares that connected key urban spaces, facilitating both ceremonial processions and everyday movement. We will explore key examples of Baroque urban planning, where the integration of architecture and public space created a cohesive and dramatic urban experience.

Week 7:

Date: Oct 16, 2024

Lecture: Industrial Age: Revolution in Architecture and Urbanism

Speaker: JIANG Jiawei

Keywords: Industrialization, Neo-Classicism, Revivalism, Heritage Protection, Railway, Haussmann's

Renovation

This class focuses on the profound transformations in architecture and urban planning during the Industrial Revolution. Spanning from the late 18th century into the 19th century, this period was marked by rapid industrialization and the emergence of new building materials and construction techniques, such as iron and glass, which allowed for the creation of innovative architectural forms and structures like railway stations and factories. It also discusses the influence of Neo-Classicism and Revivalism during this era, where architects looked back to classical antiquity for inspiration. Heritage protection became a critical issue as older buildings and urban areas were threatened by the rapid pace of industrial development. This class also covers key urban planning innovations, particularly Haussmann's renovation of Paris, which exemplified the era's approach to modernizing cities.

Week 8:

Date: Oct 23, 2024

Lecture: Modern Architecture 1890-1918: Electrification, Art Nouveau, Industry-Art

Speaker: JIANG Jiawei

Keywords: Arts and Crafts, Deutsche Werkbund, Garden City

The rapid spread of electrification revolutionized not only daily life but also architectural design and urban planning. This class examines the emergence of Art Nouveau, an artistic movement characterized by its organic forms, intricate details, and the integration of natural elements into design. This movement was a response to the industrialization of society, seeking to create beauty in everyday objects and spaces. It also delves into the rise of the Deutsche Werkbund, an association of artists, architects, designers, and industrialists that aimed to reconcile the fine arts with industrial mass production, laying the groundwork for the Bauhaus movement. The Garden City movement and other new ideas about urban planning are also introduced.

Week 9:

Date: Oct 30, 2024

Lecture: Modern Architecture 1918-1945: Modern Movement, Abstraction and Social Revolutions

Speaker: JIANG Jiawei

Keywords: Modern Movement, Avant-garde, Machine Age, Abstract Painting, Bauhaus, Le Corbusier

This class explores the pivotal period between the two World Wars when architecture was profoundly influenced by sweeping social changes, technological advancements, and radical artistic movements. This era, known as the Modern Movement, was characterized by a break from traditional architectural styles and the embrace of new forms, materials, and philosophies. Architects and artists of this time were heavily influenced by Abstract Painting, which emphasized form, color, and composition over representational accuracy. It also introduces the Machine Age, a time when industrialization and mechanization reshaped societies and cities. Key figures such as Le Corbusier and institutions like the Bauhaus played crucial roles in this transformation.

These ideas not only revolutionized architectural design but also had a profound impact on urban planning and social housing, reflecting the broader social revolutions of the time.

Week 10:

Date: Nov 6, 2024

Lecture: Topics in Post-war History and Theory

Speaker: MO Wanli

Keywords: Hight Modernism, Post-modernism, Urban Sprawl, CIAM, Team 10,

This class examines the significant architectural and urban developments that emerged in the aftermath of World War II. The post-war era was a period of intense rebuilding and rethinking, where new ideas and movements came to define the built environment of the 20th century. It discusses the impact of influential groups such as CIAM (Congrès Internationaux d'Architecture Moderne), and Team 10, a group of younger architects who broke away from CIAM to propose more humanistic and context-sensitive approaches to architecture and urbanism. The reactions against High Modernism, particularly through the rise of Post-modernism, critiqued the perceived coldness and rigidity of modernist architecture, instead embracing complexity, contradiction, and a return to historical references and ornamentation. Besides, this class analyzes the challenges and consequences of this decentralized, automobile-dependent form of urban growth.

Week 11:

Date: Nov 13, 2024

Lecture: The Built-environment Turn

Speaker: JIANG Jiawei

Keywords: Buit-environment, Service Space, Sustainability, Insulation, Green Architecture

The built-environment turn marks a pivotal shift from the theory of Architecture as an art to building theory. This class explores the focus towards the integration of environmental considerations within the built environment, which reflects a growing awareness of the need to design spaces that are not only functional but also sustainable and responsive to ecological concerns. Efficiency and functionality of infrastructure within buildings, and insulation, a critical component, and the later conceptions of green architecture, constitute the concerns of the environmental impact of buildings. Theorist such Reyner Banham and works from his contemporary architects and designers are introduced.

Week 12:

Date: Nov 20, 2024

Lecture: New Tendencies in After-modernism

Speaker: MO Wanli

Keywords: High-Tech, Post-structuralism, Metabolism, Deconstructivism, Regionalism

This class delves into the diverse and innovative architectural movements that emerged following the decline of modernism in the middle of the 20th century. These new tendencies represent a break from the rigid formalism of modernism, embracing complexity, technology, and a renewed interest in cultural and regional specificity. It introduces: High-Tech architecture, emphasizing the use of advanced technology and industrial materials; Post-structuralism, an intellectual movement challenging the idea of fixed; Metabolism, discussed as an example of a utopia and futuristic approach to urban design; Deconstructivism, embracing dislocation, chaos, and unpredictability in design; Regionalism, a movement that seeks to integrate architecture more closely with local contexts. Together, these tendencies illustrate the rich diversity of architectural thought and practice in the section of After-modernism of this course.

Week 13:

Date: Nov 27, 2024

Lecture: Urban Studies and New Theories in Urban Design

Speaker: JIANG Jiawei

Keywords: New Urbanism, Smart Growth, Urban Regeneration, Compact City

This class explores contemporary approaches to urban design from the perspective of reshaping the built environment in response to pressing challenges such as urban sprawl, environmental sustainability, and social equity. It focuses on key concepts like New Urbanism, which advocates for walkable neighborhoods, mixed-use development, and a return to human-scaled urban forms that foster community interaction. Smart Growth and the Compact City model, a strategy that promotes sustainable urban development by prioritizing public transportation, reducing reliance on automobiles, will be discussed. The concept of Urban Regeneration will be explored through case studies of cities that have successfully revitalized decaying urban areas, transforming them into vibrant, livable spaces that respect both historical context and future needs.

Week 14:

Date: Dec 4, 2024

Lecture: Theory and Practice in Real-Estate: Land Value and Spatial Management

Speaker: JIANG Jiawei

Keywords: Land Subdivision, Land Use Planning, Zoning, REITs, Property Valuation, Development Rights

This class explores the fundamental concepts and practical applications in the field of real estate, with a particular focus on how land value is determined and managed through zoning and spatial management strategies. It begins by examining the concept of land subdivision, whose process is closely tied to zoning regulations. Zoning not only influences property values but also shapes the character and growth of neighborhoods and cities. It also delves into the role of Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs) in the modern real estate market, and discusses how zoning laws and spatial management techniques, such as Transferable Development Rights (TDRs) and land banking, are employed to balance development pressures with the need for sustainable urban growth. Students will gain a deeper understanding of how theoretical principles in real estate are applied in practice, shaping the built environment and influencing land value.

Week 15:

Date: Dec 11, 2024

Lecture: Building Industry in the New Age of Information

Speaker: JIANG Jiawei

Keywords: BIM, Building Semantics,

This class explores the profound impact that information technology has on the construction and building sectors. One of the central topics is Building Information Modeling (BIM), a digital tool that facilitates collaboration among architects, engineers, and contractors by providing a shared digital environment can be managed and optimized. Building Semantics, which involves the use of data and metadata to enhance the understanding of building components, allows for more precise analysis, better decision-making. Additionally, this class will cover the broader implications of these technologies on the industry, such as the role of lifecycle assessment (LCA) and how digital tools are being used to assess and reduce the environmental impact of buildings. Students will gain insights into how the building industry is evolving in response to the information age.

Week 16:

Date: Dec 18, 2024

Lecture: Computation and Digital Age in Architecture

Speaker: JIANG Jiawei

Keywords: Computability, Artificial Intelligence, Design Problem, Form-finding

This class explores the transformative role of computation and digital technologies in contemporary architectural practice. Computability in architecture refers to the application of computational methods to solve complex design problems, enabling architects to explore a vast array of possibilities that were previously unattainable. Through the use of algorithms, parametric design, and digital modeling tools, architects can now generate, analyze, and optimize intricate forms and structures with unprecedented precision and efficiency. This class also delves into the integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in architecture. AI-driven tools and platforms are increasingly being used to automate routine tasks, predict performance outcomes, and even generate innovative design solutions that push the boundaries of traditional architecture.

Week 17:

Date: Dec 25, 2024

Final Examination

References:

Compulsory:

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