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Course title: Architecture in Berlin. A Walk through History

Track: A-Track

Language of instruction: English

Contact hours: 48 (6 per day)

ECTS-Credits: 4

Course description

This course gives a wide overview of the development of public and private architecture in Berlin during the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries. Following an introduction to the urban development and architectural history of the Modern era, the Neo-Classical period will be surveyed with special reference to the works of Schinkel. This will be followed by sessions on architecture of the German Reich after 1871, which was characterized by both modern and conservative tendencies, and the manifold activities during the time of the Weimar Republic in the 1920s such as the Housing Revolution. The architecture of the Nazi period will be examined, followed by the developments in East and West Berlin after the Second World War. The course concludes with a detailed review of the city's contemporary and future architectural profiles, including an analysis of the conflicts concerning the re-design of Berlin after the Cold War.

Seven walking tours to historically significant buildings and sites are included (Unter den Linden, Gendarmenmarkt, Potsdam, Chancellory, Potsdamer Platz, Holocaust Memorial etc.). The course aims to offer a deeper understanding of the interdependence of Berlin's architecture and the city's social and political structures. It considers Berlin as a model for the highways and by-ways of a European capital in modern times.

Student profile

The course addresses students of any subject, especially History of Art, Architecture and related subjects, such as History, Design or Fine Arts. An elementary knowledge of architecture and architectural history is welcome but not necessary. More advanced students or those interested in a particular field can, on request, be given special assistance and further material for self-study.

Prerequisites

none

Course Requirements

Regular and active participation, Midterm exam, Final exam

Grading

Attendance and participation: 20%

Midterm exam: 20%

Final exam: 60%

Literature

A course reader will be provided.

Course schedule

Date	Program
Monday, July 19, 2010	<p>Introduction Urban History of Berlin Architectural Terminology</p> <p>1st Study Trip: Berlin-Mitte Old center of Berlin, Gendarmenmarkt, Forum Fridericianum, Neue Wache, Zeughaus (armory), Werdersche Kirche, Museum Island</p>
Thursday, July 22, 2010	<p>19th-Century and German Empire (1871-1918) From Schinkel (Neoclassicism) and Historicism to the beginnings of Modernity</p> <p>2nd Study Trip: Industrial Architecture: P. Behrens' AEG factories</p>
Monday, July 26, 2010	<p>Modern Architecture of the "Golden Twenties" Weimar Republic I, 1918-1933</p> <p>3rd Study Trip: Residential Architecture, Berlin-Zehlendorf, settlement „Uncle Tom's Cabin“ (Bruno Taut)</p>
Thursday, July 29, 2010	<p>Midterm Exam</p> <p>Official Architecture of the 1920s and 1930s Weimar Republic II, 1918-1933, and 3rd Reich, 1933-1945</p> <p>4th Study Trip: Architecture and Politics Embassies, new governmental buildings, Chancellory</p>
Monday, August 2, 2010	<p>Architecture after the war: 1940s to the present East/West: Two German States, the divided Berlin</p> <p>5th Study Trip: East –West: Former Stalinallee/East Berlin, Hansaviertel (International Building Exhibition 1957 in West-Berlin)</p>
Thursday, August 5, 2010	<p>6th Study Trip (all day): Potsdam: City of Palaces and Gardens: Sanssouci Palace, Orangery Palace, Neues Palais; Historical City Center</p>
Monday, August 9, 2010	<p>7th Study Trip (all day): Architecture after the reunification From Postmodernism to new Simplicity – a new capital:</p>

	Pariser Platz, US Embassy, Holocaust-Memorial, Kulturforum, Philharmonic hall, Potsdamer Platz
Thursday, August 12, 2010	Final Exam