

MODULE TITLE: Cultural Context of Architecture CCVI – Society and Culture

MODULE CODE: ARC711

MODULE LEVEL: 4

CREDIT POINTS: 10

MODULE STATUS: Compulsory for MArch

LOCATION: Belfast Campus

ELEARNING On Web

PREREQUISITES:

CO REQUISITES:

MODULE CO-ORDINATOR: Dr Bill (William J) Thompson RIBA

TEACHING STAFF Bill Thompson

HOURS:

Lecture	11 hours
Seminar	13 hours
Independent learning, typically	76 hours

Total 100 hours

ACADEMIC SUBJECT: Architectural Theory and History

RATIONALE:

Students must develop a personal understanding of theoretical issues in architecture that will inform debates about social and historical values and beliefs in the studio

AIMS:

- To develop and question the student's understanding of theory.
- To relate theory to architecture
- To assist the student to explore this subject using several media including the www
- To assist the student to articulate their own position within this subject

INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES:

100% of the assessment will be by written examination.

A Successful student will be able to show that he/she can:

Knowledge and Understanding

- K3 To develop an appropriate philosophical approach which reveals an understanding of theory in a cultural context (RIBA/ARB **CC2**)
- K7 To research the histories and theories of architecture and urban design, the history of ideas, and the related disciplines of art, cultural studies and landscape studies and its application in critical debate (RIBA/ARB **D4, CC2**)
- K8 To critically examine the inter-relationship between people, buildings and the environment and an understanding of the need to relate buildings and the spaces between them to human needs and scale (RIBA/ARB **D5**)
- K9 To conduct research into the contribution of other professionals in the design process showing an appropriate use of team working skills, recognising the importance of current methods in the construction industry (RIBA/ARB **CC2**)

Intellectual Qualities

- I2 To demonstrate, within coherent architectural designs and academic portfolio, the ability to integrate knowledge of The principles and theories associated with visual, thermal and acoustic environments Climatic design and the relationship between climate, built form construction, life style, energy consumption and human well-being
- I4 To critically appraise and form considered judgements about the spatial, aesthetic, technical and social qualities of a design within the scope and scale of a wider environment

Professional/Practical Skills

- P5 To critically review the professional duties and responsibilities of architects, as defined and described in the Codes and Standards relating to their professional practice

CONTENT:

This module will increase the student's ability to describe, name, articulate and explain historical, social, cultural and ecological issues that are typically referred to as 'theoretical', when participating in studio discourse and architectural practice.

Seminars x 12 as listed

TEACHING AND LEARNING METHODS:

Students will be encouraged to use the library and e-learning resources.

Student attention will be directed toward specific texts and references within a given range of texts and illustrative material as a resource in contemporary architectural discourse.

Seminars will encourage interactive debate and exploration by tutors and fellow students.

Students will be encouraged to give feedback

ASSESSMENT:

The assessment of this module will be 100% exam, marked against assessment criteria.

One examination of two hours

Question 1	K3, K7, I4	1/3% of mark
Question 2	K8, K9	1/3% of mark
Question 3	I2, P5	1/3% of mark

RIBA/ARB Criteria:

CC2

The histories and theories of architecture and urban design, the history of ideas, and the related disciplines of art, cultural studies and landscape studies and its application in critical debate

D4

Generate and systematically test, analyse and appraise design options, and draw conclusions which display methodological and theoretical rigour

D5

Work as part of a team

READING LIST:

Reading specific to the module: students will also be referred to texts in seminars and lectures.

Essential reading:

Baird G. The Space of Appearance. Cambridge Ma. London. MIT Press. 2003

Inglis D. Hughson J. Confronting Culture. Cambridge. Polity. 2003

Marcuse H, Towards a Critical Theory of Society, London, Routledge, 2001

Arendt H, The Human Condition, Chicago, University of Chicago Press, 1969

Heynen H, Architecture and Modernity, Cambridge ma, MIT Press, 1999

Recommended reading:

Perez-Gomez A, Architecture and the Crisis in Modern Science, Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, 1984

Perez-Gomez A, Built Upon Love, MIT Press, Cambridge Ma and London, 2006

Pevsner N, Some architectural writers of the nineteenth century, Oxford, Clarendon Press, 1972

Heckscher A, The Public Happiness, Atheneum, New York, 1962

The Heckscher book seems to be the philosophical basis for Complexity and Contradiction by Venturi, Venturi R, Complexity and Contradiction in Architecture, London, Architectural Press, 1977

Arendt H, On Revolution, New York, Viking Press, 1963

CCVI 2008_9 Revision E Copy

Schedule of lectures/seminars

Week	Lecture/seminar
1	Hermeneutics
2	Word
3	Language
4	Thought Word and Deed
5	The Visible Hand
6	The Four Interpersonal Conditions
7	Cultural Hegemony
8	Culture
9	Epistemic Shifts
10	Paradigm Shifts
11	Hermeneutics
12	Revision

Handouts will be added during the semester to provide information on assessments and alterations etc.

Summary ARC CCVI

This module explains the way interpretation, understanding and application work in thought word and deed relating to architecture as a social project rather than a building project.

The student will begin to acquire practical skills of interpretation (architectural hermeneutics) that will be useful additions to the skills s/he will expect to learn (drawing and models and calculations for example) in order to gain purchase on differences between what it means for 'this person' to be an architect and to engage with society productively and poetically in the knowledge of architecture as a phenomenon of humanity itself.