UCLouvain

larcb1333

2026

Architectural Theories: Texts

5.00 credits	50.0 h	Q1

Teacher(s)	Claeys Damien ;
Language :	French
Place of the course	Bruxelles Saint-Gilles
Learning outcomes	**At the end of this learning unit, the student is able to :** · Understand major texts in architectural theory and apply their concepts appropriately, · Date and contextualize the production and reception of the texts discussed, · Compare texts with one another and with architectural projects influenced by them, · Draw insights from historical texts to enhance understanding of contemporary issues, · Develop a personal critical perspective by synthesizing the methodological and epistemological approaches proposed by the authors of the studied texts. **General Learning Outcomes** In line with the program's learning outcomes (LOs), this course contributes to the development and acquisition of the following LOs: · LO1.1 Identify the parameters and issues of a given situation. · LO1.2 State the intentions and choices of an architectural project at different intervention scales. · LO2.1 Acquire and proficiently apply the conventions of representation in two and three dimensions. · LO3.1 Acquire and explain the physical and physiological principles related to architecture. · LO3.2 Acquire and explain the construction and technical processes related to architecture. · LO3.4 Acquire and explain the environmental, social, and economic consequences of construction and technical choices. · LO4.1 Learn and explain the concepts and methods of scientific disciplines. · LO4.4 Learn and explain the environmental, social, and economic consequences of architectural choices. · LO6.1 Acquire knowledge of disciplinary methods in scientific research. · LO6.2 Adopt a critical attitude free from any preconceptions.
Evaluation methods	A written exam including: 1. multiple-choice questions: general assessment of passive knowledge acquisition 2. matching questions: assessing the ability to link building plans, texts, references, periods and sites 3. an open-ended question: assessment of active understanding of knowledge
Teaching methods	Lectures of 4 hours, each week.
Content	· Introduction · Prehistory: The Origins of Art · Antiquity: 1. Order and Continuity. 2. Hellenistic Culture and Self-Knowledge. 2/3. The Hellenistic Culture of Wonder. 3. Latin Culture and Monumental Pragmatism · Middle Ages (5th–15th centuries): 1. The Static Vision of a Closed World. 2. The Spiritualization of Architecture · Renaissance (14th–16th centuries): 1. Neoplatonism, Naturalism, and Vitalism. 2. The Invention of Perspective. 3. The Papacy and Mannerism. 4. The Fall of the Giants and the *Theatrum Mundi* · Age of Reason (17th century): 1. Reformation and Baroque Unreason. 2. The Birth of Modern Science · Enlightenment (18th century): 1. Between Historicism and Rationalism. 2. Revivals and the Rise of Engineers · Age of Progress (19th century): 1. Evolutionism, Industry, and Eclecticism. 2. *Zeitgeist* , the Avant-Garde, and the Idea of Movement · Modernism (20th century): 1. The Mechanization of Architecture. 2. The Barcelona Pavilion. 3. Mechanization, the Machine for Living, and First-Order Cybernetics · Postmodernism (20th century): 1. The Architecture of the Fun Palace. 2. From Tree to Network: Ecology and Second-Order Cybernetics. 3. Hybridization and Digitalization · Our Century (21st century): 1. The Digitalization of Architecture. 2. Autopoiesis and Sustainability
Inline resources	All course materials are available on Moodle

Bibliography	· Alberti, L.B., *L'art d'édifier* , Caye, P. & Choay, F. (trad.), Paris : Seuil, 2004. · Belting, H., *Florence et Bagdad. Une histoire du regard entre Orient et Occident* , Ghermani, N. & Rieber, A. (trad.), Paris : Gallimard, 2012. · Callebat, L. (dir.), *Histoire de l'architecte* , Paris : Flammarion, 1998. · Castex, J., *Renaissance, baroque et classicisme#: histoire de l'architecture 1420-1720*, Paris : La Villette, 2004. · Conrads, U., *Programmes et manifestes de l'architecture du xxe siècle* , Paris : La Villette, 1996. · Davies, C., *Thinking about Architecture. An Introduction to Architectural Theory* , London : Laurence King Publishing, 2011. · Denès, M., *Forms follows fiction. Écrits d'architecture fin de siècle* , Paris : La Villette, 1996. · Evers, B. (dir.), *Théorie de l'architecture. De la Renaissance à nos jours* , Taschen, 2006. · Filarète, *Trattato dell architettura* , Florence, 1465. · Hopkins, O., *Les styles en architecture. Guide visuel* , Clauzier, J.-L. & Coutrot, L. (trad.), Paris : Dunod, 2014. · Johnson, P.-A., *The Theory of Architecture. Concepts Themes & Practices* , New York, NY : John Wiley & Sons, 1994. · L'Orme, P. (de), *Premier tome de l'Architecture* , Paris : Frédéric Morel, 1567. · Mallgrave, H.F., *The Architect's Brain: Neuroscience, Creativity, and Architecture* , Chichester, UK : Wiley-Blackwell, 2011. · Mallgrave, H.F., *Architectural Theory. Volume I: An Anthology from Vitruvius to 1870* , Malden, MA : Blackwell, 2006. · Mallgrave, H.F., *Architectural Theory. Volume II: An Anthology from 1871 to 2005* , Malden, MA : Blackwell, 2006. · Mallgrave, H.F. & Goodman, D.J., *An Introduction to Architectural Theory: 1968 to the Present* , Malden, MA : Wiley-Blackwell, 2011. · Menges, A. & Ahlquist, S. (dir.), *Computational Design Thinking* , Chichester : Wiley, 2011. · Norberg-Schulz, C., *La signification dans l'architecture occidentale* , Mardaga, P. (trad.), Bruxelles : Mardaga, 1977. · Nuttgens, P., *Histoire de l'architecture* , Voline, M. (trad.), Paris : Phaidon, 2002. · Oxman, R.E. & Oxman, R.M. (dir.), *Theories of the Digital in Architecture* , London#; New York : Routledge, Taylor & Francis Group, 2014. · Palladio, A., *I quattro libri dell'architettura* , Venise : D. De Franceschi, 1570. · Smith, K. (dir.), *Introducing Architectural Theory. Debating a Discipline* , New York, NY : Routledge, 2012. · Summerson, J., *Le langage classique de l'architecture* , Bonne, B. & Bonne, J.-C. (trad.), Paris : Thames & Hudson, 1991. · Vitruve, *De architectura* , Cesariano, C. (trad.), Côme : Gottardo Da Ponte, 1521. · Vitruve, *Les dix livres d'architecture* , Perrault, C. (trad.), Paris : Jean Baptiste Coignard, 1684. · Vitruve, *De l'architecture [De architectura]* , Gros, P. (trad.), Paris : Belles Lettres, 2015.
Faculty or entity in charge	LOCI

Programmes containing this learning unit (UE)				
Program title	Acronym	Credits	Prerequisite	Learning outcomes
Bachelor in Architecture (Bruxelles)	ARCB1BA	5		