

**College of San Mateo  
Official Course Outline**

1. **COURSE ID:** ARCH 100    **TITLE:** Survey of Modern Architecture  
**Units:** 3.0 units    **Hours/Semester:** 48.0-54.0 Lecture hours; and 96.0-108.0 Homework hours  
**Method of Grading:** Letter Grade Only
  
2. **COURSE DESIGNATION:**  
**Degree Credit**  
**Transfer credit:** CSU; UC  
**AA/AS Degree Requirements:**  
    CSM - GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS: E5c. Humanities  
**CSU GE:**  
    CSU GE Area C: ARTS AND HUMANITIES: C1 - Arts (Arts, Cinema, Dance, Music, Theater)  
**IGETC:**  
    IGETC Area 3: ARTS AND HUMANITIES: A: Arts
  
3. **COURSE DESCRIPTIONS:**  
**Catalog Description:**  
    Basic values and concepts in contemporary architecture as a synthesis of art and science. A study of the significant design work, principles, and visions of influential architects, planners, and designers from the end of the 19th century into the 21st century. Explores the critical relationships between architecture and environmental design and human experience, societal needs, building technique and community. Slides, films, lecture and individual research.
  
4. **STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOME(S) (SLO'S):**  
    Upon successful completion of this course, a student will meet the following outcomes:
  1. Discuss visual and social elements embodied in 20th century movements in contemporary architecture.
  2. Discuss and identify critical relationships between architecture or environmental design and human experience and functional needs.
  3. Identify and describe the significant design work, concepts and principles of influential architects and environmental designers from the end of the 19th century to the 21st century.
  
5. **SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONAL OBJECTIVES:**  
    Upon successful completion of this course, a student will be able to:
  1. Discuss visual and social elements embodied in 20th century movements in contemporary architecture.
  2. Discuss and identify critical relationships between architecture or environmental design and human experience and functional needs.
  3. Identify and describe the significant design work, concepts and principles of influential architects and environmental designers from the end of the 19th century to the 21st century.
  
6. **COURSE CONTENT:**  
**Lecture Content:**
  1. Confronting the 20th Century: Defining a Contemporary Architecture:
    - A. Introduction, the realm of architecture and environmental design in society as a unity & synthesis of scientific and artistic sensibilities; "Design" as a creative problem solving process and as a response to human and social needs; "contemporary architecture" through history and indigenous societies; Firmness, commodity, delight;
    - B. Architecture in the 19th c, eclecticism & historicism, ecole de beaux arts; Developments in late 19th art forms, photography;
    - C. The Industrial Revolution;
    - D. Growth of cities, new urban social needs, housing, environmental health & safety;
    - E. New construction technologies, steel framing, reinforced concrete, glass, elevators
    - F. Search for new expression: Art Nouveau, Regionalism, Arts & Crafts
    - G. Early Modern Architects, concepts & work: Gaudi, Eliel Saarinen, Greene & Greene, Morgan, Maybeck, Organic Architecture, Sullivan, Frank Lloyd Wright, Le Corbusier, Walter Gropius, The Bauhaus, Mies van der Rohe, CIAM, The Sarraz Declaration , The Athens Charter
  2. Mid-Century Contemporary: Theory into the Mainstream:
    - A. The International Style & Post War Reconstruction, Corbusier, Mies & Wright build;

- B. Structure & the engineering aesthetic, Functionalism & the legacy of Mies, Philip Johnson & Marcel Breuer; Steel frame to space frame: Buckminster Fuller: Geodesic + doing more with less;
  - C. Concrete & shells : Torroja, Candella, Pier Luigi Nervi
  - D. Form & Expression : Eero Saarinen, Kenzo Tange, Jorn Utzon
  - E. Modern Humanism & Expression: Alvar Aalto
  - F. The corporate practice: SOM
  - G. New models for habitation: Solari, Safdie, Eames, Case Study Houses
  - H. Bay Area regionalism: William Wurster, Eichler Development
    - I. City I Urban planning: rise of government intervention, urban renewal, zoning, redevelopment, 50's & 60's interventions; Loss of Place; Lessons learned.
3. Late 20th Century Contemporary; Pluralism, Learning from the Past & Envisioning New Design Solutions for the next Century.
- A. End of CIAM, Questioning Et Abandoning Modern Orthodoxy;
  - B. The Image of the City-Lynch 1960, Life & Death of Great American Cities-Jacobs, 1961; Complexity and Contradiction in Architecture- Venturi, 1965
  - C. Recognizing complexity, context, problem definition & the lessons of history, the vernacular, regional identity; Identification of place, "sense of place"; Sustainability; The impact of digital technologies;
  - D. Architects, concepts & work: Kahn, Venturi, Moore / ML TW, Graves, Piano & Rogers, Foster, Legorreta, Gehry, Maya Lin, Herzog & de Meurion, Zumthor, Joy; Regionalism: Esherick & Turnbull; post modernism, deconstructivism, phenomenology, regionalism, sustainability, parametric design, design & social responsibility;
  - E. Late 20th C. urban issues & recent concepts in City Planning; Rediscovery of the City, New Urbanism; Sustainability, Community & Place;

## 7. REPRESENTATIVE METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

Typical methods of instruction may include:

- A. Lecture
- B. Field Trips
- C. Other (Specify): Lecture presentations supplemented by appropriate slides and video/films. May also include field trips to local buildings and areas of interest.

## 8. REPRESENTATIVE ASSIGNMENTS

Representative assignments in this course may include, but are not limited to the following:

### Writing Assignments:

- A. Write brief statements on each chapter assigned discussing one significant Architect, Building, and Concept.
- B. Write a 3-4 page report on any book about 20th C architecture (recommended list provided) and Architecture Periodicals (less than 5 years old).
- C. Term paper/project: From a list of selected significant local works of architecture, students select a single building to research the building & architect(s), visit, explore and write about the architecture and their experience of the architecture in a 7-8 page report.

### Reading Assignments:

- A. Assigned textbook chapters and specific outside reading that reinforce and support lecture content.
- B. Any book about 20th C architecture (recommended list provided) and Architecture Periodicals (less than 5 years old).

## 9. REPRESENTATIVE METHODS OF EVALUATION

Representative methods of evaluation may include:

- A. Exams/Tests
- B. Projects
- C. Book reports (book selected from list relevant to course content) Textbook reading summaries. Midterm and final examinations (including slide identification) Term paper / research project

## 10. REPRESENTATIVE TEXT(S):

Possible textbooks include:

- A. Grabow, S., K. Spreckelmeyer. *The Architecture of Use: Aesthetics and Function in Architectural Design*, 1st ed. Taylor and Francis Group, 2014
- B. Kenneth Frampton. *Modern Architecture*, 5th ed. Thames & Hudson, 2020
- C. Diane Ghirardo. *Architecture After Modernism*, ed. Thames & Hudson, 1996

D. Paul Goldberger. *Why Architecture Matters*, ed. Yale University Press, 2011

**Origination Date:** September 2020  
**Curriculum Committee Approval Date:** September 2020  
**Effective Term:** Fall 2021  
**Course Originator:** Alena Reyes