



## COURSE DESCRIPTION HISTORY OF CONTEMPORARY ARCHITECTURE

SSD: STORIA DELL'ARCHITETTURA (ICAR/18)

DEGREE PROGRAMME: ARCHITETTURA (N14)  
ACADEMIC YEAR 2022/2023

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

TEACHER: VISIONE MASSIMO  
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### GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE COURSE

INTEGRATED COURSE: U0730 - STORIA DELL'ARCHITETTURA CONTEMPORANEA-STORIA DELL'ARCHITETTURA E DELL'ARTE  
MODULE: 10671 - STORIA DELL'ARCHITETTURA CONTEMPORANEA  
CHANNEL: 03 Cognome A - Z  
YEAR OF THE DEGREE PROGRAMME: I  
PERIOD IN WHICH THE COURSE IS DELIVERED: SEMESTER I  
CFU: 8

#### REQUIRED PRELIMINARY COURSES

*None*

#### PREREQUISITES

None, but a good cultural curiosity about ancient and modern art history is welcome

#### LEARNING GOALS

The aim of the course is to introduce students to contemporary themes in the history of architecture in Italy, Europe and the main extra-continental realities, with particular attention to the fundamental works that have marked the architectural culture of the last century. The course traces the most emblematic events from the Industrial Revolution to the year 21th century. The course aims to provide interpretative and critical tools to learn how to read the city and architecture from a historical perspective, extending the principle of built heritage to contemporary architecture. Works and ideas that have represented paradigms of reference for generations of architects will be explored, analysed in relation to the historical, social and cultural context and the relationship

between design and execution. Furthermore, basic notions, both historical and methodological, will be transmitted, such as those of: definition, meaning and value of architecture; history and historiography.

## **EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES (DUBLIN DESCRIPTORS)**

### **Knowledge and understanding**

Student has to demonstrated to:

- 1) know and be able to understand the issues related to the recognition of significant events within the complex framework of the birth and development of modern design culture.
- 2) to be able to elaborate even complex discussions concerning the specific language of architecture and art on the basis of the notions learnt concerning the relations between architecture and the visual arts on the one hand, and the urban issues on the other.

### **Applying knowledge and understanding**

You must demonstrate that you are able to acquire the methodology to:

- 1) reconstruct the historical stratification of an artefact with the contextual recognition of the values and meanings considered essential for the purposes of protection and conservation or its eventual transformation.
- 2) know the place, its original features, its history and its relations with the communities that inhabit it on a social and cultural level.

## **COURSE CONTENT/SYLLABUS**

Introduction to the study of the History of modern and contemporary architecture; Sources, methodologies and historiographical outlines of the 20th century; The way to modernity: theories, projects and constructions between the 18th and 19th centuries (France, Great Britain, Germany, Italy and USA); The 19th century city: Paris, London, Vienna, Chicago; Architecture and the city in post-unification Italy; Art Nouveau (Belgium, Spain, France, Holland, Scotland, Austria, Italy); Frank Lloyd Wright: From the beginnings to the Prairie Houses; The artistic avant-gardes in Europe; The season of the modern: manifestos and utopias between the two wars; Words in a vacuum: Adolf Loos; Architecture and industry: Behrens and Gropius; Architecture and concrete: Garnier and Perret; The artistic and aesthetic theories at the end of the 19th century and the figure of Gottfried Semper; The city in the 19th century: Vienna and the Ringstrasse; Le Corbusier: the work up to the Second World War and the post-war phase; German Expressionism: empathy and spiritualism; De Stijl and the Dutch avant-garde; The Bauhaus: didactics and praxis of architecture; Soviet Constructivism and the New Objectivity; Ludwig Mies van der Rohe between Europe and America; The architecture of the twenty-year fascist period in Italy and Naples; Scandinavian architecture from National Romanticism to Alvar Aalto; The work of Wright: the mature phase; The International Style: from the 1932 exhibition to the global phenomenon; The American scene: Kahn, Venturi and the New York Five; English New Brutalism and High Tech; Post-war Italian architecture: from reconstruction to boom; The architecture of utopia between Europe and Japan; Postmodernism; The season of Deconstructivism from 1988 to the present; The Swiss scene: Mario Botta, Herzog & De Meuron, Peter Zumthor; Post-war Neapolitan architecture.

## READINGS/BIBLIOGRAPHY

Kenneth Frampton, *Modern Architecture. A Critical History*, Thames & Hudson, London, 2020  
Elena Dellapiana, Guido Montanari, *Una storia dell'architettura contemporanea*, Torino, Utet, 2015  
Marco Biraghi, *Storia dell'architettura contemporanea*, 2 voll., Einaudi, Torino 2008  
For course participants, ppts articulating the lectures and any bibliographical supplements will be provided.

## TEACHING METHODS OF THE COURSE (OR MODULE)

Professor will conduct all lectures using Power Point presentations, archive footage and field trips. In addition, students may be asked to prepare papers on topics chosen from the syllabus in order to deepen the topics covered.

## EXAMINATION/EVALUATION CRITERIA

### a) Exam type

- Written
- Oral
- Project discussion
- Other

### In case of a written exam, questions refer to

- Multiple choice answers
- Open answers
- Numerical exercises

### b) Evaluation pattern

The course aims to train in the student an ability to read the principles of contemporary architecture in relation to the historical-cultural context. During the examination, which will take the form of an oral test, the student's aptitude for analysing the architectural work and his or her language skills will therefore be assessed, together with the ability to anchor the historical-architectural analysis to precise general historical coordinates and the capacity for critical synthesis.

The oral examination will take place on the same date as the integrated module of History of Architecture and Art and, in order to pass, the student must achieve a pass mark in both modules. The final grade will be weighted according to the CFUs of each course and will be composed as follows: HISTORY OF CONTEMPORARY ARCHITECTURE MODULE (8 CFU); HISTORY OF ARCHITECTURE AND ART MODULE (4 CFU).