SYLLABUS

By comparing buildings from different eras and from different cultures, we shall learn about the diverse traditions of American architecture, from its colonial beginnings to post-modern practices. The result will be the basis for an architectural vocabulary and a greater consciousness of the built environment.

We shall examine what the first colonists found, what they created, and what they brought with them from Europe. Thus, observations on numerous references to roots in European design will bring us to an initial definition of the nature of American architecture. We shall develop an understanding of the vigor and innovations of its building arts. We shall examine not only work of the masters of the discipline, but also architecture without architects. This introductory course will include lecture, discussion, critical written analysis, and oral presentations by each class member. Frequent visits to architectural sites will highlight materials, form, ornamentation, and context.

Meeting times
Tuesday, 6:45-9:15 p.m. (May occasionally run until 9:45 p.m.)
Furst Hall

Instructor
Paul Glassman, M. Arch., M.B.A.
Telephone 917.434.0954 (cell)
Electronic mail paul.glassman@yu.edu

General course requirements
Attendance at all but one class is required; each additional absence will lower your grade by 1/3 (e. g., A- to B+). Three absences will result in a reduction by one full letter (e. g., A- to B-). Four absences will result in a failing grade (F). Please notify the instructor via e-mail in advance of the class you will be missing. You are responsible for obtaining from Angel class handouts you missed.

Punctuality—only two late arrivals are allowed. A third instance of tardiness will count as an absence.

Mid-term presentation: comparative analysis of two buildings, one in New York and the other its European antecedent, with slides and accompanying ten-minute oral presentation, March 4 or 11, 2014

Final project: historical, architectural, and critical analysis of and annotated bibliography on one building, April 29, 2014

Free Help with Your Writing! The Writing Center, in Furst 202, offers individualized tutoring that can support your writing for this course. All writers need feedback, even strong ones. Make an appointment and find out about drop-in hours at www.yu.edu/wilf/writingcenter.
Mid-term examination: comparative analyses and essays, March 18, 2014
Final examination: comparative analyses and essays, TBD
Submission of sketchbook with notes and drawings from site visits (ungraded)

Grade
Mid-term presentation, 25%; final project, 25%; mid-term examination, 25%; final examination, 25%. Tardiness and cell phone use during class will affect your final grade.

Required texts and supplies
Small unlined sketchbook (~9” x 12”) and soft pencils (#1 or HB)

Supplemental texts

Conceptual and stylistic outline
- Experiencing architecture
- Colonial or pre-revolutionary styles
  - 1780-1820
    - The adaptations of classicism--the Adam style & Jeffersonian
  - 1820-1860
    - Ancient revivals--Greek & Egyptian
    - Medieval revivals--Romanesque & Gothic
    - Renaissance revivals
  - 1860-1890
    - High Victorian styles
    - Expressive styles--stick & Queen Anne
    - Richardsonian Romanesque
    - Châteauesque
  - 1890-1915
    - Period revivals--classicism, Georgian or colonial, Gothic
    - Commercial style & the tall office building
    - Art nouveau & proto-modernism
    - Bungalows
  - 1915-1945
    - Modernistic, the vertical style, & streamline modern
    - The international style
  - 1945-present
    - Miesian
    - Brutalism
    - New classicism
    - Post-modernism
    - Deconstructivism

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Schedule (subject to revision)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>January 26</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **February 2** | **Colonial or pre-revolutionary**  
  Reading due: Roth, chapters 2 & 3, pp. 39-105; "All He Surveyed,"  
  "A House Undivided"  
  On site: Morris-Jumel Mansion |
| **February 9** | **Federal or Adam Style; American neo-classicism, traditional phase**  
  Reading due: Roth, chapter 4, pp. 107-149; "Searching for Palladio," *Fort Washington Presbyterian Church*  
  On site: Schottenstein Hall, Wadsworth Avenue Baptist Church,  
  Fort Washington Presbyterian Church |
| **February 16** | **American neo-classicism: idealistic & Greek revival phases**  
  Reading due: Roth, chapter 5, pp. 150-170; Rasmussen  
  On site: Low Library, Columbia University  
  Due: mid-term presentation proposal |
| **February 23** | **Medieval styles**  
  Reading due: Roth, chapter 5, pp. 170-209  
  On site: Ft. George Presbyterian Church, St. Elizabeth’s Church &  
  Zysman Hall  
  Due: essay on elements of architecture |
| **March 1** | **Period revivals**  
  Reading due: Roth, chapter 6, pp. 210-252; "Cleansing  
  'Triumphant Portal' Ceiling," "Restoration Liberates Grand Vistas, and Ideas," "The 23-Story Beaux-Arts 1913 Tower That Wasn't"  
  On site: Grand Central Terminal & The New York Public Library |
| **March 8** | **H. H. Richardson**  
  Reading due: Roth, chapter 6, pp. 252-263; "Stairway to the Stars"  
  Bibliographic instruction |
| **March 15** | **Mid-term presentations**  
  Review & practice test |
| **March 22** | **Mid-term examination** |
| **March 27** | **Sunday—Visit to Metropolitan Museum of Art, American Wing** |
| **March 29** | **Evolution of the skyscraper**  
  Reading due: Roth, chapter 7, pp. 264-300  
  Due: final project proposal  
  On site: American Museum of Natural History |
| **April 5** | **Frank Lloyd Wright**  
  Reading due: Roth, chapter 7, pp. 301-337, 381-391; "Spiralling Upward," "Fifth Avenue Shocker"  
  On site: Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, Whitney Museum  
  Due: essay on American Museum of Natural History |
| **April 12** | **No class—Thursday schedule** |
| **April 19** | **Mies & the moderns; international style**  
  Reading due: Roth, chapter 8, pp. 391-402, 410-473; "A 30-Something Tower Tries Hard for a 90's Look"  
  On site: Rockefeller Guest House, Lescaze House |
| **May 3** | **New classicism, post-modernism, deconstructivism** |
Reading due: Roth, chapter 9, pp. 474-556; "Articulated Library,"
"New Stadiums for the Yankees and Mets"
On site: Pollack Library
Review
**Due:** Final project

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>10</th>
<th>Reading day (review)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Final examination</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>