

Winter 2021 – ARCH COURSE OUTLINE TEMPLATE for Philosophy in Architecture arch 684-044

Territorial Acknowledgement:

We acknowledge that the School of Architecture is located on the traditional territory of the Neutral, Anishinaabeg and Haudenosaunee peoples. The University is situated on the Haldimand Tract, the land promised to the Six Nations that includes 10 kilometres on each side of the Grand River.

(<https://uwaterloo.ca/engineering/about/territorial-acknowledgement>)

Course title: Philosophy in Architecture

Course Description

This seminar uses the close reading approach to study selected texts by contemporary philosophers. The selection of philosophers is based on their reference to architectural and urban themes. What is meant by close reading? This approach will use small chapters and shorter texts to gain access to the approach. Rather than reading vast quantities of material, the class will look at fragments and discuss the content. This will give students an opportunity to pursue reading in greater depth during thesis. Texts will be selected by students during the first seminar. The second seminar will present several of the philosophers work available as streamed video by UW Kanopy, Tate Modern, ubu.com, etc. for example. The order of the seminars will be determined as a function of student selection of texts. Currently most of the selections are available as digital copies. It may be possible to add additional texts.

see pp 2-3

Learning Objectives : By the end of the course, students will be able to:

Interpret discourse in relation to philosophical discourses, and distinguish philosophical perspectives and pursue research in the domain.

Required Texts see pp 1-3 and UW Learn

Course Requirements and Assessment See pp 1-3

Topics & Schedule see pp 1-3

Remote Course Delivery Platforms & Communication

During remote learning, we will be using additional platforms to deliver, organize and share course content, learning and work. Here is a breakdown of tools we will use in this course:

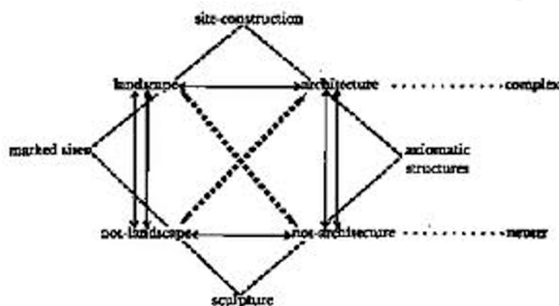
UW Learn, Cisco Webex, Miro, Zoom, Skype, Google meet, MS Teams

Course Time Zone EST All dates and times communicated in the document are expressed in Eastern Time (Local time in Waterloo Ontario, Canada) times are indicated in Eastern Standard Time (EST, UTC–5:00)

Winter 2021 COVID-19 Special Statement Given the continuously evolving situation around COVID-19, students are to refer to the University of Waterloo's developing information resource page (<https://uwaterloo.ca/coronavirus/>) for up-to-date information on academic updates, health services, important dates, co-op, accommodation rules and other university level responses to COVID-19.

Student Notice of Recording The course's official *Notice of Recording* document is found on the course UWLEARN site. This document outlines shared responsibilities for instructors and students around issues of privacy and security. Each student is responsible for reviewing this document. < – see comment above for options/instructions>

Arch 684-347 Winter 2021 **Philosophy in Architecture** University of Waterloo Architecture



Rosalind Krauss, Site specific sculpture diagramme using the Greimas Square. Marshall McLuhan, photo by Yousuf Karsh.

TECHNOLOGY. What strikes the eye of the passerby as a growth or entropy is technology, that is, information. Since cities no longer lie within the panopticon of the cathedral or castle and can no longer be enclosed by walls or fortifications, a network made up of intersecting networks dissects

and connects the city—in particular its fringes, peripheries, and tangents. Regardless of whether these networks transmit information (telephone, radio, television) or energy (water supply, electricity, highway), they all represent forms of information. Friedrich Kittler, *The City as a Medium*

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Texts, and excerpts, by the following contemporary philosophers will be available for close reading.

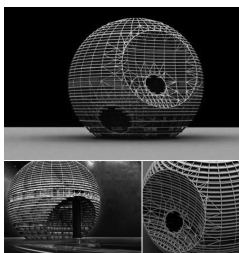
Giorgio Agamben	The Man without Content, What is an Apparatus, Friends, Metropolis
Kwame Anthony Appiah	Examined Life https://uwaterloo.kanopy.com/video/examined-life-0
Hannah Arendt	Rosa Luxembourg; On Totalitarianism, Hannah Arendt: On Walter Benjamin 1968 https://uwaterloo.kanopy.com/video/hannah-arendt-walter-benjamin
Roland Barthes	The Eiffel Tower
Georges Bataille	The Notion of Expenditure 1933
Zygmunt Bauman	The Trouble With Being Human These Days The Life and Work of Professor Zygmunt Bauman liquid modernity filmmaker Bartek Dziadosz with Albert-László Barabási , Andrew Simms , Cezary Wodziński , George Ritzer , Lydia Bauman , Neal Lawson , Zygmunt Bauman 2013 52 min. https://uwaterloo.kanopy.com/video/trouble-being-human-these-days-0
Walter Benjamin	Passages (Excerpt), 'The Work of Art in the Age of Mechanical Reproduction', 'The Author as Producer.' Reflections, Illuminations
Pierre Bourdieu	Distinction (excerpts)
Benjamin Buchloh	The Blade Runner Situation/Option
Judith Butler	What is Critique? An Essay on Foucault's Virtue; Undoing Gender How To Change Everything panel discussion 11 Dec 2020 https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCu6ZVXkM2vrGveabQrTPvew/live
Michel de Certeau	The Practice of Everyday Life
Jonathan Crary	24/7 : Late Capitalism and the Ends of Sleep
Guy Debord	Society of the Spectacle 1967- Spectacle is capital accelerated to the degree it becomes image https://monoskop.org/images/e/e4/Debord_Guy_Society_of_the_Spectacle_1970.pdf
Jacques Derrida	Of Hospitality Derrida 2002 87 min. https://uwaterloo.kanopy.com/video/derrida
Gilles Deleuze	The Logic of Sense Chapters 1,2 https://deleuze.cla.purdue.edu/sites/default/files/pdf/lectures/en/ABC-MsRevised-NotesComplete051820_1.pdf
Frantz Fanon	Frantz Fanon, His Life, His Struggle, His Work filmmaker Cheikh Djemai 2001 53 min. ArtMattan Films https://uwaterloo.kanopy.com/video/frantz-fanon-his-life-his-struggle-his-work
Michel Foucault	Of Other Spaces – Heterotopia
Boris Groys	The Artist as Consumer
Harold Innis	Bias of Communication
bell hooks	Cultural Criticism & Transformation -filmmakers Harriet Hirshorn , Mary Patierno , Sanjay Talreja , Sut Jhally 1997 61 m. https://uwaterloo.kanopy.com/video/bell-hooks-cultural-criticism-transformation

Arch 684 347 Winter 2021 **Philosophy in Architecture, Architecture in Philosophy**

Friedrich Kittler	The City is a Medium, Gramophone, Film, Typewriter, On the Implementation of Knowledge–Toward a Theory of Hardware, There is no Software
Siegfried Kracauer,	Cult of Distraction: On Berlin's Picture Palaces Mass Ornament, Salaried Masses
Jacques Lacan	Seminars, Television
Bruno Latour	A Cautious Prometheus: [...] Philosophy of Design [...] Sloterdijk
Jean -François Lyotard	Libidinal Economy
Marshall McLuhan	The Medium is the Message
Jean-Luc Nancy	The Sublime Offering
Sianne Ngai	Theory of the Gimmick: Aesthetic Judgment and Capitalist Form Sianne Ngai, Excerpt adapted from Harvard University Press. https://www.laphamsquarterly.org/roundtable/one-quick-trick
Jacques Rancière	The Emancipated Spectator. The Ignorant Schoolmaster
Avital Ronell	Examined Life 2008 89 min. https://uwaterloo.kanopy.com/video/examined-life-0
Peter Sloterdijk	Airquakes, from Spheres III Foam, Forward to the Theory of Spheres
Peter Sloterdijk	Geometry in the Colossal: the project of Metaphysical Globalization
	Spheres Theory, Talking to myself about the poetics of space
Cornel West	Cornelwest.com and youtube
Slavoj Zizek	The Thing from Inner Space
Astra Taylor,	The Examined Life, 2008. 90 min. http://www.nfb.ca/film/examined-life-trailer/

Reference to contemporary philosophy is common in many architectural thesis programmes – familiar references to the ‘folds’ or ‘rhizome’ of Deleuze, etc. Texts by Friedrich Kittler that connect the history of technology with current media issues – ‘media theory’ deserve to be more familiar. Kittler disagreed with McLuhans’s notion of media extending human skills. He described technology as having its own logic. Excerpted chapters are available from the 3-volume work *Spheres*, by Peter Sloterdijk, translated from the German. His writing addresses architecture directly, in an idiosyncratic manner. This seminar gives the students access to a broad range of discourses in philosophical texts. Peter Sloterdijk, for example, wrote of the significance of the Crystal Palace by William Paxton, placing an emphasis that may or may not be reflected in contemporary architectural discourse.

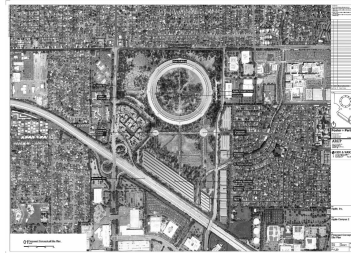
End of Term Submission: Because contemporary ‘media philosophy’ relies on visuals, students may choose to create a set of diagrammes, graphs, and schemas in their final project. The final submission may include a proportion of such images accompanying a series of short essays, preferably a concise set of 5 graphic diagrammes along with approximately 1000 words of short texts with titles –a sample format might be 5 diagrammes captioned with 200 word paragraphs, with additional submission elements required for graduate students.



1 OMA RAK



2 Jonathan Schipper



3 Foster, Apple Campus, Cupertino



Outline of weekly events: Readings will be posted digitally

Week 1 Introduction and discussion

Week 2 Seminar: Media Philosophy Video Excerpt and Seminar

Week 3 Video Excerpt- Foucault, Lacan, Sloterdijk, and Seminar presentations

Week 4 Seminar Kittler, Sloterdijk, McLuhan, Innis Seminar presentations

Week 5 Seminar presentations

Week 6 Possibilities for Projects Presentations Seminar

Week 7 Seminar presentations

Week 8 Seminar presentations

Week 9 Seminar presentations

Week 10 Seminar presentations

Week 11, 12 Preliminary Project Presentation Seminar

COURSE EVALUATION Scheme for graduate level: Late submissions may have marks deducted if submitted after the deadline.

20% Lead seminar, seminar 1 before mid term - presentation of selected readings.

20% seminar 2 after mid term - presentation of selected readings. Consultation on specially selected reading material to be customized to advance thesis topic. Post mid-term: Presentation of issues addressed in Final Project, relating to thesis topic, to include abstract, detailed table of contents, selected research and authored images: diagrammes, word clouds, graphs, photocollage, text outline, annotated bibliography.

10% Class participation in weekly seminar discussion. Questions prepared ahead for weekly hand-in.

50% Final Presentation and Project Submission, including overarching theme to be related to thesis topic material. Presentation of issues addressed in Final Project, relating to thesis topic, to include abstract, detailed table of contents, selected research and authored images: diagrammes, word clouds, graphs, photocollage, text outline, annotated bibliography.

COURSE EVALUATION Scheme for undergraduate level: Late submissions may have marks deducted if submitted after the deadline.

20% seminar 1 before mid term - presentation of selected readings.

20% seminar 2 after mid term presentation of selected readings.

10% Class participation in weekly seminar discussion, questions prepared ahead of Weekly Reading recommended: post midterm Presentation including: issues addressed in Final Project, relating to thesis and design topic, to include abstract, table of contents, selected research, authored images: diagrammes, keywords, graphs, text outline, annotated bibliography.

50% Final Presentation and Project Submission

Additional Reference Texts, available as PDF on Learn

see also- monoskop website <https://monoskop.org/Monoskop>

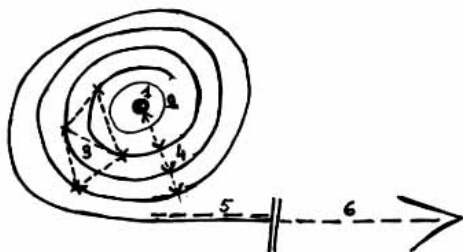
Leach, Neil. *Rethinking Architecture, A Reader in Cultural Theory*. Routledge 1997.

Barry, Peter, *Beginning Theory*. Manchester University Press, 1995, 2002.

Recommended course text: Nicolas Bourriaud, *The Exform*, London: Verso Books 2016.

Friedrich A. Kittler, "The City as a Medium", in *The Truth of the Technological World Essays on Genealogy of Presence*, (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2013), 138 - 151.

3



(1) The Center or the Signifier; the faciality of the god or despot. (2) The Temple or Palace, with priests and bureaucrats. (3) The organization in circles and the sign referring to other signs on the same circle or on different circles. (4) The interpretive development of signifier into signified, which then reimparts signifier. (5) The expiatory animal; the blocking of the line of flight. (6) The scapegoat, or the negative sign of the line of flight.

Gilles Deleuze and Félix Guattari

diagrammes illustrating the centre or Signifier, and

587 B.C.-AD. 70: ON SEVERAL REGIMES OF SIGNS □ 137



(1) The point of subjectification, replacing the center of signification. (2) The two faces turned away from each other. (3) The subject of enunciation resulting from the point of subjectification and the turning away. (4) The subject of the statement, into which the subject of enunciation recoils. (5) The succession of finite linear proceedings accompanied by a new form of priest and a new bureaucracy. (6) The line of flight, which is freed but still segmented, remaining negative and blocked.

the point of subjectification, in *A Thousand Plateaus*. 3

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Online Academic Integrity

All students are expected to work individually and submit their own original work. Under Policy 71, the instructor may have follow-up conversations with individual students to ensure that the work submitted was completed on their own. Any follow up will be conducted remotely (e.g., MS Teams, Skype, phone), as the University of Waterloo has suspended all in-person meetings until further notice.

Grievance: A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of his/her university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances, Section 4, www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy70.htm. When in doubt please be certain to contact the department's administrative assistant who will provide further assistance.

Discipline: A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity [check www.uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity/ to avoid committing an academic offense, and to take responsibility for his/her actions. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offense, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offenses (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about "rules" for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course instructor, academic advisor, or the undergraduate Associate Dean. For information on categories of offences and types of penalties, students should refer to Policy 71 Student Discipline, www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy71.htm. For typical penalties check Guidelines for the Assessment of Penalties, www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/guidelines/penaltyguidelines.htm.

Appeals: A decision made or penalty imposed under Policy 70 (Student Petitions and Grievances) (other than regarding a petition) or Policy 71 (Student Discipline) may be appealed if there is a ground. A student who believes he/she has a ground for or an appeal should refer to Policy 72 (Student Appeals) www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy72.htm

Penalty: No extensions will be given on presentations scheduled in class, and students who fail to present will be given a grade of 0%. There will be a penalty for papers handed in after the deadline. Papers submitted after term ends will be given a grade of 0%.

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Late Work Only in the case of a justified medical or personal reason will penalties be waived, and only if these have been officially submitted to the Undergraduate Student Services Co-Ordinator and accepted by the Undergraduate Office. Students seeking accommodations due to COVID-19, are to follow Covid-19-related accommodations as outlined by the university here: (<https://uwaterloo.ca/coronavirus/academic-information#accommodations>).

Mental Health Support All of us need a support system. We encourage you to seek out mental health supports when they are needed. Please reach out to Campus Wellness (<https://uwaterloo.ca/campus-wellness/>) and Counselling Services (<https://uwaterloo.ca/campus-wellness/counselling-services>).

We understand that these circumstances can be troubling, and you may need to speak with someone for emotional support. Good2Talk (<https://good2talk.ca/>) is a post-secondary student helpline based in Ontario, Canada that is available to all students.

Wellness Support and Contact Information. University can be a challenging environment and it is normal to need support from time-to-time. Campus Wellness services are available to students through counselling and health services. If you are struggling or need someone to talk to you, please reach out. To book an appointment or learn more about the services, call 519-888-4567 x 32655 or explore www.uwaterloo.ca/campus-wellness. If you're experiencing a crisis and feel unable to cope and Campus Wellness is closed, contact any of these after-hours supports: EmpowerMe (1-833-628-5589), Good2Talk (1-866-925-5454) or Here 24/7 (1-844-437-3247). They are available at any time of the day or night to help.

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Commitment At the School of Architecture, we are committed to foster and support equity, diversity and inclusion. We recognize however, that discrimination does occur, sometimes through an isolated act, but also through practices and policies that must be changed. If you experience discrimination, micro-aggression, or other forms of racism, sexism, discrimination against LGBTQ2S+, or disability, there are different pathways to report them:

A) If you feel comfortable bringing this up directly with the faculty, staff or student who has said or done something offensive, we invite you, or a friend, to speak directly with this person. People make mistakes and dealing them directly in the present may be the most effective means of addressing the issue.

B) you can reach out to either the [Undergraduate office](#), [Graduate office](#), or Director ([Anne Bordeleau](#)). If you contact any of these people in confidence, they are bound to preserve your anonymity and follow up on your report. C) You may also choose to report centrally to the Equity Office. The Equity Office can be reached by emailing equity@uwaterloo.ca. More information on the functions and services of the equity office can be found here: <https://uwaterloo.ca/human-rights-equity-inclusion/about/equity-office>.

Academic integrity, grievance, discipline, appeals and note for students with disabilities:

Academic integrity: In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo community are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility. [Check the Office of Academic Integrity for more information.]

Grievance: A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of his/her university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read Policy 70, Student Petitions and Grievances, Section 4. When in doubt, please be certain to contact the department's administrative assistant who will provide further assistance.

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Note for students with disabilities: [AccessAbility Services](#), located in Needles Hall, Room 1401, collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with [AccessAbility Services](#) at the beginning of each academic term.

Turnitin.com: Text matching software (Turnitin®) may be used to screen assignments in this course. Turnitin® is used to verify that all materials and sources in assignments are documented. Students' submissions are stored on a U.S. server, therefore students must be given an alternative (e.g., scaffolded assignment or annotated bibliography), if they are concerned about their privacy and/or security. Students will be given due notice, in the first week of the term and/or at the time assignment details are provided, about arrangements and alternatives for the use of Turnitin in this course. It is the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor if they, in the first week of term or at the time assignment details are provided, wish to submit the alternate assignment.

Fair Contingencies for Emergency Remote Teaching We are facing unusual and challenging times. To provide contingency for unforeseen circumstances, the instructor reserves the right to modify course topics and/or assessments and/or weight and/or deadlines with due notice to students. In the event of further challenges, the instructor will work with the Department/Faculty to find reasonable and fair solutions that respect rights and workloads of students, staff, and faculty.