Module Specification

History of Architecture

Version: 2023-24, v2.0, 07 Aug 2023

Contents

Part 1: Information

Module title: History of Architecture

Module code: UBLMTE-15-2

Level: Level 5

For implementation from: 2023-24

UWE credit rating: 15

ECTS credit rating: 7.5

College: Faculty of Environment & Technology

School: FET Dept of Architecture & Built Environ

Partner institutions: None

Field: Architecture and the Built Environment

Module type: Module

Pre-requisites: None

Excluded combinations: None

Co-requisites: None

Continuing professional development: No

Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements: None

Part 2: Description

Overview: Co-requisites: Any undergraduate design studio module within the following degrees:

BEng (Hons) Architecture and Environmental Engineering

BA (Hons) Architecture and Planning, BA (Hons) Interior Architecture

BSc (Hons) Architecture, BSc(Hons) Architecture Technology and Design

MDes Architecture and Planning, MEng Architecture and Environmental Engineering

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: See Learning Outcomes

Outline syllabus: The module will contribute to students' knowledge and understanding of:

the cultural, social and intellectual histories, theories and technologies that influence the design of buildings; the histories and theories of architecture and the related arts, technologies and human sciences; how the theories, practices and technologies of the arts influence architectural design; the creative application of the fine arts and their relevance and impact on architecture; and the module will develop an ability to evaluate evidence, arguments and assumptions in order to make and present sound judgements within a structured discourse relating to architectural culture, theory and design.

The module is structured chronologically. Broadly, each lecture in the first semester will be devoted to a key architectural movement up until the end of the 19th century, and those in semester 2 to later key architectural movements. This structure means that more emphasis is placed on more recent movements, with particular emphasis on the emergence of modernism.

Students are required to provide themselves with a sketchbook for exclusive use in this module. Great emphasis is placed on attendance at lectures so that students can learn the discipline of recording visual information (sketching) from the pace of projected slides and commentaries. Sketchbooks will be collected at the end of semester 1 and returned with formative feedback. They will be collected again at the final session for summative feedback.

It is emphasised throughout that this is not an assessment in sketching ability, but in understanding and recording visual information.

The written element of 1,500 words (with illustrations) will give students experience in making a piece of properly referenced academic writing that engages with the discipline of architectural history, and which reflects on this discipline's relevance to design today

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: The module's learning outcomes can be achieved through attendance at the lectures, and recommended background reading. Attendance at lectures is actively encouraged so that students can be part of a learning discourse. Lectures are not published in their entirety in order to encourage attendance, but students who are unable to attend specific lectures are given guidance of what to read to catch up.

The activity of recording visual notes (sketching) during the lectures is regarded as a key method for attaining a knowledge and understanding of the material. It is hoped that the module will encourage students' independent interest in this key subject area, which will be manifested through independent visits to buildings and wider scholarship, although neither of these activities will be expected or assessed.

Students will be given guidance on how their final piece of writing can be of relevance to this module, and their design studio. This guidance will, where possible, also be given during formative studio assessments.

Contact time: (40hrs)

Assimilation and development of knowledge: (60hrs)

Essay preparation (50hrs)

Total: (150hrs)

Module Learning outcomes: On successful completion of this module students will achieve the following learning outcomes.

MO1 Visually identify key movements and buildings in the history of western architecture, as defined in the key texts listed below

MO2 Record principal buildings as representatives of movements visually through rapidly executed sketches (this outcome is intended to reinforce the importance of the sketch as a form of note taking and communication in design-based study)

MO3 Demonstrate an understanding of the chronological and thematic relationships between these key movements and buildings

MO4 Demonstrate an understanding of significant parallels between architecture and wider cultural movements in, principally, politics and the fine arts

MO5 The ability to understand and record visual information

MO6 Understand and demonstrate the relevance of historical precedent to the process of designing architecture.

MO7 Gain experience of producing a piece of academic writing within a humanities discipline.

Hours to be allocated: 150

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 110 hours

Face-to-face learning = 40 hours

Total = 150

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at readinglists.uwe.ac.uk via the following link https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/ublmte-15-2.html

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: It is stated above that the process of making visual notes (sketches) is important in learning and understanding visual material. The individual sketch book has been chosen as an appropriate vehicle for developing this skill, and the completed sketchbooks are formally assessed as an element of the overall module assessment.

The criteria for marking these sketchbooks are:

-evidence of engaging at the lectures and understanding of the material presented.

-ability to understand and analyse the image that has been presented, rather than copying an image photographically (for example, to attempt to draw a section through a cathedral, after being presented with a series of photographs).

-care in presentation and development of technique.

The essay forms an essential part of each award's development of skills in academic writing and scholarship. It is concerned with demonstrating an understanding of how architectural history and the use of historical precedent is a vital tool in the design process, and that reading works of historical stature is an essential skill for designers today. Students are not assessed on their ability to design in this module, but they are given credit for demonstrating their understanding of the relevance of historical precedent, and expressing this relevance with clarity through annotated diagrams.

Assessment tasks:

Written Assignment (First Sit)
Description: Essay (1500 words with illustrations)
Weighting: 50 %
Final assessment: Yes
Group work: No
Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO7

Portfolio (First Sit)
Description: Sketchbook
Weighting: 50 %
Final assessment: No
Group work: No
Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO3, MO4, MO5, MO6

Written Assignment (Resit)

Description: Essay (1500 words with illustrations)

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO7

Portfolio (Resit)

Description: Sketchbook

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO3, MO4, MO5, MO6

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Interior Architecture (International) {Foundation} [Sep][SW][Frenchay][6yrs] - Withdrawn BA (Hons) 2021-22

Interior Architecture (International) {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][5yrs] - Withdrawn BA (Hons) 2021-22

Architectural Technology and Design {Foundation} [Oct][FT][GCET][4yrs] BSc (Hons) 2021-22

Architectural Technology and Design {Foundation} [Feb][FT][GCET][4yrs] BSc (Hons) 2021-22