



Module Specification

Theories of Architecture and Design

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Part 1: Information

Module title: Theories of Architecture and Design

Module code: UBLMYV-15-3

Level: Level 6

For implementation from: 2023-24

UWE credit rating: 15

ECTS credit rating: 7.5

Faculty: Faculty of Environment & Technology

Department: FET Dept of Architecture & Built Environ

Partner institutions: None

Field: Architecture and the Built Environment

Module type: Module

Pre-requisites: History of Architecture 2023-24

Excluded combinations: None

Co-requisites: None

Continuing professional development: No

Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements: None

Part 2: Description

Overview: This module covers aspects of architectural and art theory that are appropriate knowledge for architectural students (including RIBA Part 1 students), and which can enhance their ability to develop designs which embody and reflect this knowledge.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: Through formal lectures the module summarises key contemporary theoretical positions in architecture, and draws links with parallel movements in art and cultural theory.

It builds on this understanding with student-led presentations.

It places the students' own work within the context of contemporary good practice.

In addition the module may explore, develop, and practise but not formally discretely assess the following:

The application of appropriate theoretical concepts to the students' own design practice, demonstrating a reflective and critical approach in terms of their conceptualisation and representation of their own architectural designs.

Outline syllabus: This module contributes to students' knowledge and understanding of:

The cultural, social and intellectual histories, theories and technologies that influence the design of buildings;

The influence of history and theory on the spatial, social, and technological aspects of architecture;

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;

The evaluation of evidence, arguments and assumptions in order to make and present sound judgments within a structured discourse relating to architectural culture, theory and design;

The ability to understand design proposals using a body of knowledge, at the current boundaries of professional practice and the academic discipline of architecture.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: The module is discursive of the wider research capacities of the school of architecture in Bristol and encourages interaction with the most recent publications that come from the research active members of staff at the department.

The module strives to attain the right balance between formal lectures, and informal discussion in dealing with a subject area that is constantly changing. The weighting of the following aspects of delivery will necessarily vary on an annual basis, as the size and makeup of cohorts change, but teaching will incorporate a balance of the following approaches:

Formal lectures that present architectural theories and principles; their chronological development, and parallel movements in art and culture; access to and making use of architectural scholarship; architectural terminology and its application in advancing theoretical positions, and the use of precedent and the diagram in developing designs.

Formal teaching is especially appropriate in giving students a historical overview of architectural theory, and in demonstrating how to access, read and use architectural scholarship. Sessions are also structured to allow for questions and informal discussion, should a particular topic be of interest.

Students will commonly be enrolled on this module in parallel with their graduating year design studio, which allows them to make connections between these two modules should they wish to. However an explicit connection between studio and this module will not be expected or assessed. Students may be asked to reflect how theory informs design in the assessed essay and by extension may be asked to discuss this in the context of their own design work.

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

MO1 Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of key theories of architecture

MO2 Contextualise contested positions within architectural discourse

MO3 Identify, access and read relevant scholarly material, and use such material in forming a piece of written work

MO4 Demonstrate an understanding of the importance of precedent in developing architectural designs

MO5 Understand how theory can underpin and inform design strategies

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](https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/ublmyv-15-3.html) via the following link <https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/ublmyv-15-3.html>

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: In summary, the module requires students to research and debate theoretical ideas and relate these to architectural design propositions – both as architectural precedents and in the development of their own individual design work.

Written Assignment (essay plus illustrations)

This module's marks for this essay will be awarded for:

Appropriateness and justification of choice of cited theory

Analysis of theories used

Intelligent use of, and proper citation of, published or researched information

Demonstration of how theory has informed design work, be this the

student's own or by historical and/or contemporary practitioners
The ability to explain design work and the ideas that inform design decisions

Assessment tasks:**Written Assignment (First Sit)**

Description: Essay (2000 words plus illustrations)

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5

Written Assignment (Resit)

Description: Resubmission of essay 2000 words plus illustrations

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Architecture [Sep][FT][Frenchay][3yrs] BSc (Hons) 2021-22

Interior Architecture [Sep] [FT] [Frenchay] [3yrs] BA (Hons) 2021-22

Architecture and Environmental Engineering [Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] BEng (Hons)
2021-22

Architecture and Environmental Engineering [Sep][SW][Frenchay][5yrs] BEng (Hons)
2021-22

Architecture [Sep][FT][Frenchay][3yrs] BSc (Hons) 2020-21

Architecture and Planning [Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] BA (Hons) 2020-21

Architecture {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] BSc (Hons) 2020-21

Interior Architecture {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] BA (Hons) 2020-21

Interior Architecture (International) [Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] BA (Hons) 2020-21

Interior Architecture [Sep][SW][Frenchay][4yrs] BA (Hons) 2020-21

Architecture and Environmental Engineering {Foundation} [Sep][SW][Frenchay][6yrs]
BEng (Hons) 2020-21

Architecture and Environmental Engineering {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][5yrs]
BEng (Hons) 2020-21

Architecture and Planning {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][5yrs] BA (Hons) 2019-
20

Interior Architecture (International) [Sep][SW][Frenchay][5yrs] BA (Hons) 2019-20

Interior Architecture {Foundation} [Sep][SW][Frenchay][5yrs] BA (Hons) 2019-20

Interior Architecture (International) {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][5yrs] BA (Hons)
2019-20

Interior Architecture (International) {Foundation} [Sep][SW][Frenchay][6yrs] BA
(Hons) 2018-19