



UNSW
SYDNEY

Australia's
Global
University

Built Environment

ARCH7214
Architecture and Politics



Course Outline – Term 1, 2020

Disclaimer

Information within this document is subject to change. The full and most accurate course outline will be available in Moodle closer to the start of the term in which the course is offered.

1. COURSE STAFF

Course Contact	Jayde Roberts
Email	j.roberts@unsw.edu.au

2. COURSE DETAILS

Credit Points	6 units of credit (uoc)
Workload	Approx. 150 hours including class contact hours, weekly individual and group online learning activities, readings, class preparation, and assessment activities.
Teaching Times and Location	Find details in timetable http://www.timetable.unsw.edu.au

Description

The course introduces students to the philosophies that have both generated architectural designs since the early 20th century, as well as those which allowed criticism of prevailing work. These will be placed in the context of wider social, political and economic concerns that marked the 20th Century, and the start of the 21st. Lectures will introduce the main trends of thought of the period, which include evolutionism, Marxism, existentialism, structuralism and environmentalism. Case studies of the works of key architectural writers are undertaken in seminars. The course will enable students to categorize architectural works from the period according to the philosophy or ideas they embody, and to critically appreciate the strengths and limitations of those ideas.

Aims

The Course examines recent and contemporary theories in architecture. Select examples will be emphasised, and their relationship to both theory and architecture discussed. At the conclusion students will be familiar with these key debates in theory, and will understand their terms and their relationship to architecture. Particular emphasis will be placed on theory related to modernity and to contemporary practice.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs)

At the successful completion of this course, you will be able to:

List your CLOs here exactly as they appear in Academic Information Management System (AIMS).

1. Develop a familiarity with select examples of political theory, and an understanding of the references and terms used as expressed in the student's words in written or seminar format.
2. Critique architectural theory and its relationship to the built form.
3. Demonstrate understanding of the conventions of academic cultural criticism and its referencing in essay form.

3. ASSESSMENT

Assessment task	Weight	CLOs Assessed
1. Assessment 1 - Group Presentation of Selected Reading	30%	1, 2
2. Assessment 2 - Essay	60%	1, 2, 3
3. Participation	10%	1, 2

4. COURSE IMPROVEMENT AND FEEDBACK

Feedback from students is an integral part of improving courses and teaching approaches. One of the primary mechanisms of feedback is myExperience, which we strongly urge all students to complete at the end of term. Course convenors use the feedback to make ongoing improvements to the course. This is communicated in Moodle in the myFeedback Matters page.