



UNSW
SYDNEY

Australia's
Global
University

Built Environment

ARCH7227
A History of Housing



Course Outline – Term 2, 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

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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

Rich housing types embody all manner of forms, customs and styles, which vary in cultures in pre-modern times, and are likely to vary even in individuals in our time. But when viewed as a formal configuration, beyond shapes and dimensions, housing throughout human history, surprisingly, can be classified into a few limited patterns. They include, specifically, the courtyard pattern, the inter-connected room matrix pattern, and the pattern of terminal rooms opening to a common corridor. This course examines the human relations that are not only cemented but also animated through the human occupation of these patterns, which leads to an understanding of modern housing against such historical background.

This course introduces to students various interpretive and analytical approaches drawn from the humanist tradition and historical studies, as well as nineteenth-century development of the Ecole des Beaux-Arts and modern anthropology, which will enable them to gain an overview of housing history in both Europe and Asia from antiquity to the present. By offering focused and in-depth studies of selected themes and cases in housing history, this course uses the house as a vehicle to enable students to reflect on, and enhance, their prior studies of architectural history and housing design.

Aims

Houses come in all kinds of manners and styles, which vary in cultures in pre-modern times, and are likely to vary even in individuals in our time. But when viewed as a formal configuration, beyond the shapes and dimensions, housing throughout human history, surprisingly, can be classified in a few limited patterns. They include, namely, the courtyard pattern, the inter-connected room matrix pattern, and the pattern of terminal rooms opening to a common corridor. This course explores the human relations that are materialized, and indeed animated through these patterns, and the ways in which modern housing is understood against such historical background.

This course introduces various analytical and interpretive approaches drawn from the nineteenth-century development of the Ecole des Beaux-Arts, modern anthropology as well as historical studies to enable students to gain an overview of housing history in both Europe and Asia from antiquity to the twenty-first century. By offering focused and in-depth studies of selected cases in housing history, it complements the courses in architectural history and housing design studios that have been previously taught in the degree of B. Arch Studies.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs)

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

1. To establish a conceptual framework in order to distinguish housing patterns from myriads of housing types in history.
2. To test the introduced interpretive tools to analyze and understand the workings of housing configuration and its inhabitation as a pattern.
3. To gain historical overview of housing history, and grasp a reasonable multidisciplinary literature coverage relevant to it.
4. To be able to extend the distinction between type and pattern, as well as relevant analytical approaches beyond housing in other buildings.
5. To be able to discern the pattern and meaning of a diverse range of housing throughout the history.

3. ASSESSMENT

Assessment task	Weight	CLOs Assessed
1. Report - Assessments 1 to 8	35%	
2. Presentation - Assessment 9	20%	
3. Essay - Assessment 10	45%	

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.