

Architectural Theory 1 (E080111)

Course size (nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)

Credits 5.0 Study time 150 h Contact hrs 45.0 h

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2018-2019

A (semester 1)	Dutch	lecture	30.0 h
		seminar	7.5 h
		group work	3.75 h
		self-reliant study activities	3.75 h

Lecturers in academic year 2018-2019

Liefooghe, Maarten TW01 lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2018-2019

	crdts	offering
Bachelor of Arts in Art History, Musicology and Theatre Studies	5	A
Bachelor of Science in Engineering: Architecture	5	A
Preparatory Course Master of Science in Engineering: Architecture (main subject Architectural Design and Construction Techniques)	5	A
Preparatory Course Master of Science in Engineering: Architecture (main subject Urban Design and Architecture)	5	A
Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Art History, Musicology and Theatre Studies	5	A

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

Architectural theory: definition, history and key concepts in the European tradition

Position of the course

The course is part of a larger pillar of architecture historical and theoretical courses in the bachelor in engineering sciences: architecture, and in the bachelor art history. It offers insight into the theoretical, discursive construction of architecture as a discipline and as a cultural-societal practice. It offers a thorough introduction into key concepts of architectural theory and offers an overview of the historical development of architectural theory, both as a specific discipline (i.e. the tradition of treatises in the vitruvian tradition) and as a more general field of enquiry (such as theoretical design projects, architectural exhibitions).

Contents

- Introduction: About architectural theory; Problem: 'Architecture, in the world, and in realms of theory'.
- Theme 1: The discipline of Architecture (with a focus on the early modern period): Architecture and the other arts; Theory as rules of art (norm); The architect as artist-author.
- Theme 2: Theoretical objects in the (diffuse) architecture museum (with a focus on 1770-1968): Imaginary architecture museum; The paradox of exhibiting architecture; Historical monuments as theoretical objects; Heritage values and tensions; Architectural reconstructions: object and discourse.
- Theme 3: Forms of theory in a contemporary world of architecture (focus on post-1968): From architectural theory to theory; Theoretical projects; 'Curating' as theoretical production?
- Conclusions
- Exercise: Literature research/Bibliography

- Seminar: Reading and discussing Vitruvius, Alberti, Perrault, Quatremère-de-Quincy, Viollet-le-Duc, Venturi, Koolhaas

Initial competences

History of Architecture 1

Final competences

- 1 Knowing and understanding basic notions of early modern, modern, and contemporary architectural theory.
- 2 Identify a selection of key themes in early modern, modern, and contemporary architectural theory: the body metaphor, the meaning attributed to architecture, representation and architecture, the relation of architectural theory with the classical examples, the position of architecture among the arts, instrumentality or autonomy of architecture, legitimacy of architecture.
- 3 Knowing the outline of the historical development of architectural history from the fifteenth Century.
- 4 Explaining what the discipline of architectural theory consists of: to identify characteristics and limitations of the discipline in a historical perspective.
- 5 Recognizing the polymorphy of the reflection on architecture and of the (institutional) environments in which this reflection takes place.
- 6 Being able to read source texts on architectural history.
- 7 Being able to place architectural historical notions in their own tradition and historical context.
- 8 Being able to perform elementary literature research on an architectural theoretical problem.
- 9 Being able to write a short paper on an architectural theoretical problem.
- 10 Being able to apply the acquired insights to evaluate contemporary architectural theory and criticism.
- 11 Being able to evaluate critically the presuppositions about architecture that exist inside and outside the programme.
- 12 Being attentive to aspects of meaning of one's own projects.

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is determined after successful competences assessment

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Group work, lecture, seminar, self-reliant study activities

Extra information on the teaching methods

Classroom lectures; Classroom problem solving sessions; Seminars/tutorials; Assignment (paper) involving group work and individual work

Learning materials and price

Syllabus (Dutch) with Reader (Dutch, English, French)

References

- See bibliography of the syllabus

Course content-related study coaching

classroom lectures - seminar - individual assistance with paper assignment

Evaluation methods

end-of-term evaluation

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the first examination period

Oral examination, assignment

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the second examination period

Oral examination, assignment

Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation

not applicable

Extra information on the examination methods

During examination period: oral closed-book exam, written preparation. Evaluation paper.

Calculation of the examination mark

(Approved)

The final mark is calculated according to the following weighing: exam (3/4); assignment (1/4), that is if the student has not obtained for any of both components a significant failure (less than 7/20).

If a student does not participate in one or more components, or has obtained a partial mark of less than 7/20, the student can not pass for the course. If a calculation of the final mark would yield a figure of ten or more (/20), this will be reduced to the highest mark with which one does not pass the course (i.e. 9/20).