

**ARCHITECTURE 603**  
**NATION-BUILDING AND CITY-BUILDING: HISTORIES OF NATIONALISM AND**  
**ARCHITECTURE**

**Instructor: David Scobey**  
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**Class Hours: Tuesdays 7-10**  
**Class Meetings: 2227 A&A**  
**Office Hours: Tuesdays 2-4**

This seminar will study the relationship among nationalism, city-building, and architecture from pre-Revolutionary Europe to the reconstruction of Ground Zero. Using case studies from many different national histories, we will explore such issues as the design of capital cities; gender and family values in ideal citizen's homes; the symbolic meaning of civic spaces like war memorials; and the use of architecture in ideological struggles like the Cold War or post-colonial independence movements. The course is aimed at an interdisciplinary community of students interested in design, history, and culture; assignments will bring together visual and design materials like 19<sup>th</sup>-century plan-books for American homes, historical events like the creation of the Viennese Ringstrasse, and social theorists like Benedict Anderson.

We will meet once a week, with reading assignments keyed to each class meeting. Students will be expected to come to class ready to talk about the readings and the visual materials presented in class. The readings will be available to you in three different ways. The following books are purchasable at Shaman Drum Bookstore:

Leora Auslander, Taste and Power: Furnishing Modern France  
Kristin Hass, Carried To the Wall  
James Holston, The Modernist City  
Barbara Miller Lane, Architecture and Politics in Germany, 1918-1945  
David Schuyler, Apostle of Taste: Andrew Jackson Downing, 1815-1852  
David Scobey, Empire City: The Making and Meaning of the New York City Landscape  
Michael Z. Wise, Capital Dilemma: Germany's Search For a New Architecture of Democracy

Most other readings will be available in reading packet that I will leave outside my office (3126 Art and Architecture) for photocopying. Finally several readings are available on the World Wide Web.

You will be expected to produce three papers during the semester: 1) a 2-3 response paper to one of the assigned readings; 2) a 6-page interpretive essay applying the interpretive methods of the course to a design artifact of your own choosing; and 3) a 10-12-page research paper on a project of your own choosing. Doctoral students and other interested students also have the option of combining the second and third paper assignments into a longer research-based term project. All students will be expected to make an oral presentation on their research project in the final two weeks of the semester. If you need a brief extension of a day or two to complete an assignment, I will be happy to grant one as long as we discuss it in advance; otherwise late work will be graded down one notch for each day that it is overdue. I will decide grades according to the following criteria: classroom attendance and participation (40%), response paper (10%), interpretive essay (20%), final project (30%).

## WEEKLY SYLLABUS

Readings marked (SD) are available for purchase at Shaman Drum Bookstore.

Readings marked (X) are available in a photocopy packet.

Readings marked (W) are available on the World Wide Web.

### January 7: Introduction

#### I. FRAMES

#### January 14: Theories of Nationhood: Ethnic Myths, Civic Creeds

Anthony Smith, "The Origin of Nations," in Geoff Eley and Ronald Suny (eds.), Becoming National: A Reader, 105-30 (X)

Zeynep Kezer, "The Making of a Nationalist Capital: Socio-Spatial Practices in Early Republican Ankara," Built Environment 22:2, 124-37 (X)

Benedict Anderson, Imagined Communities: Reflections On the Origins and Spread of Nationalism, 1-46 (X)

Partha Chatterjee, "Whose Imagined Community," The Nation and Its Fragments, 3-13 (X)

#### January 21: The Politics of Design: America At the Wall

Kristin Hass, Carried To the Wall (SD)

Scott Sandage, "A Marble House Divided: The Lincoln Memorial, the Civil Rights Movement, and the Politics of Memory, 1939-1963," Journal of American History (1993) 135-67 (X)

#### II. DESIGN REGIMES: STATE-BUILDING, CITY-BUILDING, AND TASTE-MAKING IN 18<sup>TH</sup> AND 19<sup>TH</sup>-CENTURY EUROPE

#### January 28: Urban Design, Interior Design, and the Absolutist State

Lewis Mumford, The City In History, 344-409 (X)

Leora Auslander, Taste and Power: Furnishing Modern France, 1-74 (SD)

#### February 4: Urban Design, Interior Design, and the Liberal State

Auslander, Taste and Power, 141-224 (SD)

Carl Schorske, "The Ringstrasse, Its Critics, and the Birth of Urban Modernism," Fin-De-Siecle Vienna, 24-115 (X)

#### FIRST RESPONSE PAPER DUE IN CLASS

#### III. WE THE PEOPLE: CONSTITUTING CIVIL SOCIETY IN 19<sup>TH</sup>-CENTURY AMERICA

#### February 11: Domesticity, Taste-Making, and Class Uplift

David Schuyler, Apostle of Taste: Andrew Jackson Downing, 1815-1852 (SD)

A.J. Downing, The Architecture of Country Houses (1850), xix-xx, 1-48, 257-70 (X)

David Scobey, "What Shall We Do With Our Walls? The Philadelphia Centennial and the Meaning of Household Design," in Robert Rydell and Nancy Gwinn (eds.), Fair Representations: World's Fairs and the Modern World, 87-120 (X)

**February 18: Schools, Republican Citizenship, and Racial Uplift**

Dell Upton, "Lancasterian Schools, Republican Citizenship, and the Spatial Imagination Early Nineteenth-Century America," Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians, 55 (September, 1996), 238-53 (X)

C. Thurston Chase, A Manual On School-Houses and Cottages For the People of the South (1868) (X)

**February 25: Vacation**

**March 4: City-Building and Nation-Building In the Age of Capital**

David Scobey, Empire City: The Making and Meaning of the New York City Landscape (SD)

**SECOND INTERPRETIVE ESSAY DUE IN CLASS**

**IV. MODERNISM AND MASS POLITICS IN THE 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY**

**March 11: City-Building and Civilization**

Daniel H. Burnham and Edward H. Bennett, Plan For Chicago, Chapters, 1, 2, 3, 8 (X)

Peter Hall, "The City of Monuments," Cities of Tomorrow, 174-202 (X)

Eric Hobsbawm, "Mass-Producing Traditions: Europe, 1870-1914," in Hobsbawm and Ranger (eds.), The Invention of Tradition, 263-307 (X)

**March 11: Nation-Building and the Politics of Modernism**

Barbara Miller Lane, Architecture and Politics In Germany, 1918-1945 (SD)

**March 18: City-Building and Nation-Building In the Third World**

James Holston, The Modernist City (SD)

**March 25: City-Building and Nation-Building In a Transnational Age**

Michael Z. Wise, Capital Dilemma: Germany's Search For a New Architecture of Democracy (SD)

David Scobey, "The Specter of Citizenship," Citizenship Studies 5:1 (2001), 11-26 (X)

**April 1: City-Building and Nation-Building In a Time of Catastrophe**

Eyal Weizman, "The Politics of Verticality," openDemocracy.net (W)

Andrew Herscher, "Warchitecture," Assemblage 41 (2001) (X)

Plans for Ground Zero, Lower Manhattan Development Corporation, [www.nycrenew.com](http://www.nycrenew.com) (W)

**April 8: Research project presentations**

**Apr 15: Research project presentations**

**RESEARCH PROJECTS DUE APRIL 22**