

MEF University

Faculty of Arts, Design and Architecture

Introduction to Art and Architecture - section 1

ARC 141.01: Th 10.30-12.20

SYLLABUS

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Office Hours: A Inceođlu W 10:30 - 12:00; A H Ugurlu T 13.30 - 14.30

This is an introductory course into the understanding and appreciation of arts and architecture. The main purpose of the course is to familiarize the students with the universe of arts and architecture through the discussion of major works and concepts, critical ideas and influential creators both as individuals and groups. The main framework of the course is the understanding that all artistic creation can only be understood and evaluated within their social, political, cultural and economic contexts of societies in which they are created. The course is not chronologically organized in the sense to offer a timeline of art/architectural history. The course is ordered as a set of lectures and related discussions around a number of topics cutting through history and modes of creation. The topics and the related discussion will cover vast number of cultures, geographies and times. There a second layer that is about the ‘discovery’ of the concepts and ideas that are discussed in the lectures in the city we are living in. These discoveries are organized as field trips in various areas of Istanbul.

The course will have presentations by the instructors as well as extensive discussion by the class. It follows the ‘Flipped classroom’ model, with all presentations pre-recorded and available to the students prior to class. The students are responsible for watching the presentations in advance, as well as follow the instructions in each presentation and come prepared to class. Most of the class time will be allocated to discussion of concepts, ideas, approaches as well as individual works. Thus, student participation is essential for the success of the course.

Calendar - Section 01

Sec 01	Classes	Reading	Activity
19 Sep	Introduction: What is art?		In-class activity
26 Sep	How to read art? - 1	<i>The Story of Art: 133-141</i>	In-class activity
3 Oct	How to read art? - 2		In-class activity
10 Oct	Introduction: What is architecture?		First assignment due: October 9th
17 Oct	Field Trip: Naval Museum, Beşiktaş * We will meet in front of the Naval Museum at 9.15. ** Entrance to the museum is FREE for students so please don't forget to bring your student IDs.	Please briefly research the buildings that are located in the close vicinity of the Naval Museum. Please use scholarly sources, one example might be Dünden Bugüne İstanbul Ansiklopedisi.	
24 Oct	Presentations & Discussion	https://xxi.com.tr/i/tersaneyeyokunen-muze-binasi	
31 Oct	WORKSHOP WEEK	No class	
7 Nov	Field Trip: Covered Bazaar * We will meet in front of the Nur-u Osmaniye Gate of the Covered Market at 9.15. Since we only have two hours for this field trip, we won't have time to wait for the late comers, so don't be late! 😊 * Please print out the map of Covered Market before you come. (For the map see: BB > course files > week 11 > c.m.map) * Also, don't forget to bring your sketchbooks.	John Reid, Turkey and the Turks: being the present state of the Ottoman empire, (London: R. Tyas, 1840), 242-47. You can find the book online: https://archive.org/details/turkeyandturksb00reidgoog/page/n269 Please read the text and answer the questions related to it on BB, before the field trip.	Second assignment due: November 6th
14 Nov	Field Trip: Zeyrek - SSK Building - İMÇ * We will meet in front of the Zeyrek Mosque (Pantokrator Monastery) at 9.15. Since we only have two hours for this field trip, we won't have time to wait for the late comers, so don't be late! 😊 * Don't forget to bring your sketchbooks and cameras.	Before the field trip please check the surroundings of İMÇ from google maps (in satellite view). Try to locate at least 10 significant historic buildings close to İMC. Make a brief research on these buildings. Bring your notes with you to the fieldtrip cause there will be an onsite quiz 😊.	
21 Nov	Presentations & Discussion		
28 Nov	Artist or Artisan?		
5 Dec	Realistic or not?	<i>The Story of Art: 223-245</i>	In-class activity
12 Dec	Writing on the wall		In-class activity
19 Dec	Process	<i>Small Scale Big Change: 83-92.</i>	In-class activity
26 Dec	Classes end on December 19 th		Final assignment due: December 26th

First assignment:

Please re-visit your assignment from ‘How to read Art?’ Develop it with the discussion we made in class and submit it through BlackBoard.

Second assignment:

Make a poster combining photographs and sketches with the information you gathered during (and after) our fieldtrip to the Naval museum. Try to answer one of the following questions in your poster using a graphic / architectural language (and a few sentences if necessary).

- What is the relationship of the museum with its physical environment?
- How was it located within the urban context?
- How does it communicate with other buildings and significant natural elements?
- What kinds of user experiences can you describe that were created by the architecture of the building?
- What kinds of materials were used in this museum and why? What do you think was the reasoning behind these choices?

Final assignment:

Part 1: Please visit Istanbul Bienale. Choose one venue. Choose two works from this venue.

Analyze them using the methodology we have used in ‘How to read Art?’

Part 2: Analyze and compare Kapalı Çarşı and İMÇ. Make a poster demonstrating your analysis and comparison. Some of the themes that you should take into consideration might be:

- similarities and differences in architectural sensibilities, spatial qualities, materials, functions, etc.
- how both interact with their surroundings

You can use maximum of 100 words in your poster including your names. *(Please show great care to the fonts you select and their sizes. If you directly write on the poster, I expect in a meticulous hand writing.)*

However, number of drawings, graphics, collages or any visual expression are not limited.

Students will work in groups of 2.

Attendance policy:

Students are expected to attend every class, seminar, trip, workshop related to the course. As the instructors are obliged to attend all the classes, we expect the students to do the same. No student has a ‘right’ to miss any of the classes.

FADA has a unique workshop week where all faculty courses are suspended in order to create a special informal learning environment which benefits the students. It is compulsory to participate in all workshop week activities. Attendance will be taken and it will be counted towards the attendance in all your courses. In all courses, failure to fully participate in the workshop week will result in losing 10% of the total grade.

Assessment:

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| 1. BB questions: | 20 points |
| 2. In-class activities: | 20 points |
| 3. 1 st and 2 nd Assignments: | 30 points |
| 4. Final Assignment: | 30 points |
| 5. Failing to attend FADA Workshop: | -10 points |

References:

- Gombrich, E H (1995) The Story of Art. Phaidon Press, London.
- MacGregor, N (2012) The History of the World in 100 Objects. Penguin Books, London.
- Lepik, A (2010) Small Scale Big Change. The Museum of Modern Art, New York

Additional readings for each week will be posted on Blackboard.