Department: Art and Art History

Course No: 191

Credits: 3

Title: Introduction to Architecture

Contact: Jean A. Givens

Content Area: CA1-Arts and Humanities

Catalog Copy: An introduction to the history of architecture considered in its social, technological and urban context.

Course Information: A. Students in ARTH 191 acquire an active understanding of the historical language of architectural form from both a symbolic and a technical perspective.

B. Course requirements include two to three exams as well as a choice of three 2-3 page written exercises chosen from a slate of 9 assignments.
--The exams are composed of short answer questions as well as identifications and responses to individual and paired images--the latter worth approximately two thirds of the points. There are no multiple choice or other computer-graded questions.
--The written exercises require two to three pages of writing and occasionally, drawings of photographs. They focus on key concepts using examples of architecture on campus as demonstrations. They are graded pass or fail. Completion of three exercises is required; completion of six exercises counts toward an extra credit bonus.
--Readings are include a standard architectural survey such as Trachtenburg, Architecture from Prehistory to Postmodernity; Total reading for the semester = 650 pages.

Meets Goals of Gen Ed: Art History 191—Introduction to Architecture meets at least two of the goals of UCONN’s revised General Education program:
--It increases the student’s awareness of their era and society by probing the origins of modern visual culture.
--It highlights the diversity of human culture and experience by demonstrating a range of ways in which cultures have restated deeply held social values by means of architectural form.

CA1_Criteria: Art History 191 engages the comprehension and appreciation of the graphic art forms—specifically the historical study of architecture as produced between antiquity and the modern era.

Role of Grad Students: Graduate students provide study-skills assistance in office hours, and they mark the examinations. They are supervised by the instructor of record.

Supplemental Information: The teaching methods in this class have been highlighted by the Institute for Teaching and Learning's television series: Focus on Teaching and Learning and it
was published in the School of Education’s access to teaching resources website available at http://www.facultyware.uconn.edu under instructional “freeware.”
A website of review images was created with the support of a major instructional grant from the Institute of Teaching and Learning.