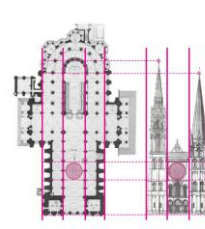
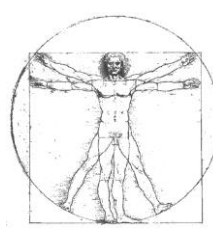
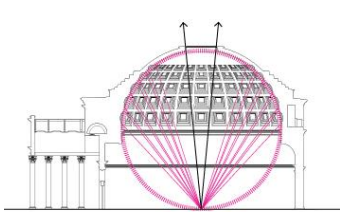


# ARCHITECTURAL THEORY

ARC 4520 | Fall Semester 2023 | CS-712A | T/TH 10:00-11:15am



## COURSE SYLLABUS

Course website via Canvas

---

---

### INSTRUCTOR

**Assistant Prof. Brandon Ro, AIA, NCARB**

Office: CS-719 Phone: 801-863-4695

Email: [brandon.ro@uvu.edu](mailto:brandon.ro@uvu.edu)

Office Hours: As posted outside of office (other times by email appointment only)

---

---

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

#### **ARC 4520 – Architectural Theory (3)**

Surveys several key architectural writings from the past two millennia to identify the interrelationship and tension between theory and practice. Focuses on key figures, movements, and texts. Provides an overview of the principal theories that have informed or undermined architecture of the past four decades. Considers the changing role of theory with respect to practice. Provides a set of questions, techniques, and tools for criticism and self-reflection.

### PREREQUISITES

ARC 3210 with a grade of C- or better and University Advanced Standing

### INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS

This course will be conducted in a seminar format and incorporate traditional methods of teaching architectural theory. Instructional methods will include lecture, student presentations, discussion / debate of readings, etc.

## STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- Students develop a set of questions, techniques, and tools for criticism and self-reflection.
- Analyze how various new planning processes are related to innovation, new materials, construction methods, digital fabrication, and structural components.
- Critique architectural styles in terms of economic status, social hierarchies, religious ideologies, cultural understandings, and political frameworks.
- Ability to consider diverse theoretical points of view, reach well-reasoned conclusions, and test alternative outcomes against relevant criteria and standards.

## PROFESSIONAL NAAB STANDARDS ADDRESSED

Accreditation for the Bachelor of Architecture at Utah Valley University must meet certain educational requirements outlined by the National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB) to be considered a “professional degree” leading to licensure.

In addition to the course objectives and learning outcomes already described above, this course aims at providing students with an understanding or ability in the following Program and Student Performance Criteria outlined in the *2020 NAAB Conditions for Accreditation*:

- **PC.4 History and Theory**—How the program ensures that students understand the histories and theories of architecture and urbanism, framed by diverse social, cultural, economic, and political forces, nationally and globally.
- **PC.5 Research and Innovation**—How the program prepares students to engage and participate in architectural research to test and evaluate innovations in the field.

## REQUIRED SUPPLIES, MATERIALS, AND TEXTS

Supplies can be purchased locally at the campus bookstore, Michaels, Hobby Lobby, Artist Corner, Blick Art Materials, etc.

### Required Supplies and Materials

- Sketchbook, spiral bound, new 8.5”x11” for note taking

### Required Digital Tools and Software

- Laptop or desktop computer capable of running design software.
- **SOFTWARE**
  - Microsoft Office or equivalent (PowerPoint, Word)
  - Adobe Suite (Photoshop, InDesign, Illustrator, etc)
  - Bluebeam Revu (license provided)

### Required Readings from Texts

Selected chapter readings from various theoretical texts will be provided by the instructor and made available on Canvas. The student may desire

to purchase their own copy of these texts for future reference. A full bibliography is organized thematically in the weekly assignment packet.

### Recommended Architectural Theory Texts

Students should consider purchasing several essential theory books for reference throughout their architectural careers. Some of the more comprehensive compilations of architectural theory from which the course's readings are taken include the following:

- Gage, Mark Foster, ed. *Aesthetic Theory: Essential Texts for Architecture and Design*. New York: W. W. Norton, 2011.
- Hays, K. Michael. *Architecture Theory since 1968*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2000.
- Mallgrave, Harry Francis, ed. *Architectural Theory, Volume 1: An Anthology from Vitruvius to 1870*. Vol. 1. Malden, MA: Blackwell, 2006.
- Mallgrave, Harry Francis, and Christina Contandriopoulos, eds. *Architectural Theory, Volume 2: An Anthology from 1871 to 2005*. Malden, MA: Blackwell, 2008.
- Porphyrrios, Demetri. *Classical Architecture*. London: Academy Editions, 1991.
- Salingaros, Nikos. *Unified Architectural Theory: Form, Language, Complexity*. Portland: Sustasis Foundation, 2013.
- Smith, Korydon, ed. *Introducing Architectural Theory: Debating a Discipline*. New York: Routledge, 2013.
- Westfall, Carroll William. *Architecture, Liberty and Civic Order: Architectural Theories from Vitruvius to Jefferson and Beyond*. New York: Ashgate, 2015.

### CLASSROOM POLICIES

- **COMMUNICATION** – Throughout the semester the instructor may contact students via email and/or Canvas. It is your responsibility to check both Canvas and your UVU email regularly and ensure your inbox is not full. I maintain an open-door policy if you need additional assistance beyond class hours.
- **ATTENDANCE** – Attendance is required and will be factored into the final course grade. Class will start promptly at the time listed. I will call roll at the beginning of class. Arriving more than 20 minutes late will be considered an unexcused absence.
- **ABSENCES** – Attendance and participation points will be lost for every unexcused absence. Examples of excused absences include a death or birth in the family, student illness, and collegiate athletic responsibilities. Appropriate documentation must be provided for an absence to be excused. If you accumulate three or more unexcused absences, your grade will be reduced a full letter grade.
- **READINGS** – Assigned course readings are to be completed prior to the date of the lecture that they are assigned in the syllabus.
- **ASSIGNMENTS** – Details for each assignment will be handed out (or posted on Canvas) and reviewed together in class. Projects and assignments must be turned in no later than the time specified in the syllabus or on Canvas to receive full credit. You are responsible for meeting all deadlines. **NO late assignments will be accepted.**

- **FIELD TRIPS** – It is the University and Department’s policy that in no case shall a student drive to or from an assigned field trip without proper auto insurance. Students should make every effort to carpool to all field trips since parking may be difficult and limited.
- **PHONES, LAPTOPS, ELECTRONICS, ETC** – Please silence your cell phones and other electronic devices. During class time cell phones, text messaging, email, and other electronic forms of communication are NOT permitted. If you have an urgent call that you absolutely must take, please leave the room to do so.
- **FOOD AND DRINKS** – Absolutely NO eating or drinking is allowed in the classroom. Too many computers and projects have been ruined due to food and drink related incidents.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Each student’s learning over the course of the semester will be assessed through several assignments and projects as outlined below:

### ACTIVE PARTICIPATION

Students are required to attend and actively participate in each weekly class session. The seminar format for each class will consist of student presentations, discussions of readings, debates, instructor feedback, and short lectures.

### READINGS

All readings assigned for the week are to be completed PRIOR to the class discussion session.

### VIDEOS / LECTURES

All assigned videos and online lectures for the week that will not be viewed during class (see schedule) are to be watched PRIOR to the class discussion session.

### CRITICAL WRITING RESPONSES

Students are required to submit a brief written critical response for each of the fifteen (15) weeks of required readings. Each critical writing response will be submitted to Canvas PRIOR to that week’s discussion session. The critical writing response will be submitted as a one-page PDF (double-spaced, Times New Roman, 12pt font, 1” margins). No late submissions will be accepted.

Each critical writing response will include: 1) a brief summary of the main points in the readings, and 2) your personal reflection as to why you agree or disagree with the arguments. Students will use the questions provided in each weekly topic to guide these efforts.

### EXAMINATION

Each student will test the knowledge gained in the course through a final comprehensive examination. The exam will be based on key concepts, terminology, and case studies found in the assigned readings, videos, and lectures. The exam will consist of both multiple choice, true/false, matching, and fill-in-the-blank questions.

## DISCUSSION LEADER PRESENTATION

Each student will be assigned to lead one weekly discussion session over the course of the semester. Each student will prepare a brief visual and oral presentation that includes images that illustrate the points made by the authors of the assigned readings. The duration of the presentation should be around 20-25 minutes. The remainder of the class time will be dedicated to discussion and debate. Each student leading the discussion will want to summarize the critical arguments made in the readings and raise key questions to stimulate group discussion. This assignment will be graded on four criteria: 1) visual presentation; 2) summary of readings; 3) oral presentation; and 4) discussion / debate with the class.

## ARCHITECTURAL THEORY RESEARCH PROJECT

The Research Project is designed to demonstrate each student's ability to engage in research about an aspect of architectural theory and its relationship to contemporary practice. In this context, architectural research is defined as an inquiry or investigation conducted by a student that makes an original intellectual or creative contribution to the discipline. The ultimate deliverable for the research project will be to compile and synthesize the findings in a visual format as a poster presentation or a creative project.

## ASSESSMENT

The weight of each of the projects and assignments will be broken down as follows:

Attendance / Participation	10%
Critical Writing Responses	15%
Final Exam	15%
Discussion Leader Presentations	20%
Architectural Theory Research Project	40%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>

## GRADING SCALE

A	95% to 100%	C	73% to 76%
A-	90% to 94%	C-	70% to 72%
B+	87% to 89%	D+	67% to 69%
B	83% to 86%	D	60% to 66%
B-	80% to 82%	D-	55% to 59%
C+	77% to 79%	E	00% to 54%

## GRADES AND CREDIT

Your grade for this class will become part of your permanent college transcript and will affect your GPA. A low grade in this course can affect progress within the B.Arch program and scholarship eligibility. Grades are determined by instructors, based upon measures determined by the instructor and department and may include: evaluation of responses, written exercises and examinations, performance exercises and examinations, classroom/laboratory contributions, mastery of pertinent skills, etc. Letter grading is defined as follows:

- “A” is an exceptional grade indicating superior achievement.
- “B” is a grade indicating commendable mastery.
- “C” indicates satisfactory mastery and is considered an average grade.

- “D” indicates substandard progress and insufficient evidence of the ability to succeed in sequential courses.
- “E” (failing) indicates inadequate mastery of pertinent skills or repeated absences from class.
- “UW” indicates an unofficial withdrawal from the class.

## STUDENT RATINGS OF INSTRUCTOR

UVU is dedicated to providing quality academic experiences for students. Help me identify areas where I can improve my teaching by participating in the Student Ratings of Instructor (SRI). Your confidentiality is assured. Your feedback is critical if we are to improve the teaching and learning at UVU. The SRIs will be available online in the latter part of the semester.

## COURSE SCHEDULE

A week-by-week schedule is outlined below. Instructor may adjust the schedule as needed due to department events or other teaching duties. Items in **RED** are major deadlines for deliverables.

WEEK	CLASS: Lecture/ Discussion Topic	HOMEWORK: Readings/Assignments
<b>1</b> (8/21-8/25)	<b>T (8/22)</b> – No Class	
	<b>Th (8/24)</b> – Intro to Class, Syllabus, Lecture, Video <b>INTRO TO THEORY – Discussion</b>	READ: <i>Syllabus</i> , WK 1 required readings WATCH: WK 1 required videos <b>DUE: WK 1 - Critical Writing Response</b>
<b>2</b> (8/28-9/1)	<b>T (8/29)</b> – Research Projects – Work Session / Mentoring	READ: WK 2 required readings WATCH: WK 2 required videos
	<b>Th (8/31)</b> – ARCH EDUCATION – Discussion	<b>DUE: WK 2 - Critical Writing Response</b> <b>DUE: Theory Research Topic Selection</b>
<b>3</b> (9/4-9/8)	<b>T (9/5)</b> – Research Projects – Work Session / Mentoring	READ: WK 3 required readings WATCH: WK 3 required videos
	<b>Th (9/6)</b> – VENUSTAS (Beauty / Judgment) – Discussion	<b>DUE: WK 3 - Critical Writing Response</b>
<b>4</b> (9/11-9/15)	<b>T (9/12)</b> – Research Projects – Work Session / Mentoring	<i>UCUR &amp; NCUR Submissions open (9/11)</i> READ: WK 4 required readings WATCH: WK 4 required videos
	<b>Th (9/14)</b> – VENUSTAS (Proportion / Body) – Discussion	<b>DUE: WK 4 - Critical Writing Response</b> <b>DUE: Annotated Bibliography</b>
<b>5</b> (9/18-9/22)	<b>T (9/19)</b> – Research Projects – Work Session / Mentoring	READ: WK 5 required readings WATCH: WK 5 required videos
	<b>Th (9/21)</b> – FIRMITAS (Tectonics / Structure) – Discussion	<b>DUE: WK 5 - Critical Writing Response</b> <b>DUE: Research Outline</b>
<b>6</b> (9/25-9/29)	<b>T (9/26)</b> – Research Projects – Work Session / Mentoring	READ: WK 6 required readings WATCH: WK 6 required videos
	<b>Th (9/28)</b> – FIRMITAS (Materials / Craft) – Discussion	<b>DUE: WK 6 - Critical Writing Response</b>
<b>7</b> (10/2-10/6)	<b>T (10/3)</b> – Research Projects – Work Session / Mentoring	READ: WK 7 required readings WATCH: WK 7 required videos
	<b>Th (10/5)</b> – UTILITAS (Form / Function) – Discussion	<b>DUE: WK 7 - Critical Writing Response</b> <b>DUE: Research Abstract - Rough Draft</b>
<b>8</b> (10/9-10/13)	<b>T (10/10)</b> – Research Projects – Work Session / Mentoring	READ: WK 8 required readings WATCH: WK 8 required videos
	<b>Th (10/12)</b> – UTILITAS (Use / Typology) – Discussion	<b>DUE: WK 8 - Critical Writing Response</b>
<b>9</b> (10/16-10/20)	<b>T (10/17)</b> – MAKING (Composition / Order) – Discussion	READ: WK 9 required readings WATCH: WK 9 required videos
	<b>Th (10/19)</b> – NO CLASS, Fall Break	<b>DUE: WK 9 - Critical Writing Response</b> <i>Work on Revising Abstract</i>
<b>10</b> (10/23-10/27)	<b>T (10/24)</b> – Research Projects – Work Session / Mentoring	READ: WK 10 required readings WATCH: WK 10 required videos
	<b>Th (10/26)</b> – MAKING (Imitation / Invention) – Discussion	<b>DUE: WK 10 - Critical Writing Response</b> <b>DUE: Submit Final Research Abstract to UCUR; optional submit abstract to NCUR</b>
<b>11</b> (10/30-11/3)	<b>T (10/31)</b> – Research Projects – Work Session / Mentoring	<i>UCUR &amp; NCUR Submissions DUE (11/3)</i> READ: WK 11 required readings WATCH: WK 11 required videos

WEEK	CLASS: Lecture/ Discussion Topic	HOMEWORK: Readings/Assignments
	Th (11/2) – MAKING (Complexity / Simplicity) – Discussion	<b>DUE: WK 11 - Critical Writing Response</b>
<b>12</b> (11/6-11/10)	T (11/7) – Research Projects – Work Session / Mentoring	READ: WK 12 required readings WATCH: WK 12 required videos
	Th (11/9) – PLACE (Context / Environment) – Discussion	<b>DUE: WK 12 - Critical Writing Response</b> <b>DUE: Poster Presentation – Concept Sketches</b>
<b>13</b> (11/13-11/17)	T (11/14) – Research Projects – Work Session / Mentoring	READ: WK 13 required readings WATCH: WK 13 required videos
	Th (11/16) – PLACE (Tradition / Newness) – Discussion	<b>DUE: WK 13 - Critical Writing Response</b>
<b>14</b> (11/20-11/24)	T (11/21) – NO CLASS, Thanksgiving Break	
	Th (11/23) – NO CLASS, Thanksgiving Break	
<b>15</b> (11/27-12/1)	T (11/28) – Research Projects – Work Session / Mentoring	READ: WK 14 required readings WATCH: WK 14 required videos
	Th (11/30) – ETHICS (Authenticity / Deception) –Discussion	<b>DUE: WK 14 - Critical Writing Response</b> <b>DUE: Poster Presentation Rough Draft</b>
<b>16</b> (12/4-12/8)	T (12/5) – TIME (Memory / Zeitgeist) – Discussion	READ: WK 15 required readings WATCH: WK 15 required videos
	Th (12/7) – <b>RESEARCH POSTER PRESENTATIONS</b>	<b>DUE: WK 15 - Critical Writing Response</b> <b>DUE: Final Poster Presentation Submission</b>
<b>17</b> (12/11-12/15)	<b>Th (12/12) – FINAL EXAM</b> <b>9:00am-10:50am (note time change)</b>	

## UNIVERSITY POLICIES

### STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

All Utah Valley University students are expected to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner acceptable at an institution of higher learning. All students are expected to **obey the law**, to **perform contracted obligations**, to **maintain absolute integrity and high standards** of individual honesty in academic work, and to observe a **high standard of conduct for the academic environment**.

The Student Rights and Responsibilities Code, or Code of Conduct, outlines for students what they can expect from the University and what the University expects of them.

Students should review their Rights and Responsibilities. The Code of Conduct also outlines the process for academic appeals, and appeals related to misconduct and sanctions. It can be found at <http://www.uvu.edu/studentconduct/students/>

### ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Utah Valley University expects all students to maintain integrity and high standards of individual honesty in academic work, to obey the law, and to show respect for others. Students of this class are expected to support an environment of academic integrity, have the right to such an environment, and should avoid all aspects of academic dishonesty. Examples of academic dishonesty include plagiarizing, faking of data, sharing information during an exam, discussing an exam with another student who has not taken the exam, sharing unauthorized files, consulting reference material during an exam, submitting a written or design assignment which was authored/created by someone other than you, and/or cheating in any form.

### CHEATING, PLAGIARISM, & FABRICATION DEFINED

The following definitions are taken from the Utah Valley University **Policy 541, The Student Rights and Responsibilities Code 5.4.4**. Each student is expected to maintain academic ethics and honesty in all its forms, including, but not limited to cheating, plagiarism, and fabrication as defined hereafter:

1) **Cheating** is the act of using or attempting to use or providing others with unauthorized information, materials, or study aids in academic work. Cheating includes, but is not limited to, passing examination answers to or taking

examinations for someone else, or preparing or copying another's academic work.

2) **Plagiarism** is the act of appropriating another person's or group's ideas or work (written, computerized, artistic, etc.) or portions thereof and passing them off as the product of one's own work in any academic exercise or activity.

3) **Fabrication** is the use of invented information or the falsification of research or other findings. Examples include but are not limited to:

- a) Citation of information not taken from the source indicated. This may include the incorrect documentation of secondary source materials.
- b) Listing sources in a bibliography not used in the academic exercise.
- c) Submission in a paper, thesis, lab report, or other academic exercise of falsified, invented, or fictitious data or evidence, or deliberate and knowing concealment or distortion of the true nature, origin, or function of such data or evidence.
- d) Submitting as your own any academic exercise (written work, printing, sculpture, design, etc.) prepared totally or in part by another.

## CONSEQUENCES FOR VIOLATIONS

The UVU standards for academic integrity will be strictly enforced. In keeping with policy, evidence of academic dishonesty may result in disciplinary action. Academic dishonesty includes any form of cheating, plagiarism, and/or fabrication as defined above. Additional information on this topic is published in the student handbook and is available on the UVU website. All violations, whether minor or serious, will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct, which keeps a record of all incidents by a student while at the University.

Within the UVU Architecture Program, academic dishonesty violations will also receive the following consequences:

- *1st offense:* Zero on the assignment and/or drop in letter grade in the class
- *2nd offense:* Fail the class and be required to retake the class in a future semester
- *3rd offense:* Removal from the Architecture Program

**Each instructor has autonomy in his/her own classroom to determine the severity of the consequence for specific violations of academic honesty.**

## STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

You are expected to take an active role in the learning process by meeting course requirements as specified in written syllabi. Faculty members have the right to establish classroom standards of behavior and attendance requirements. You are expected to meet these requirements and make contact with faculty members when unable to do so.

## WITHDRAWAL POLICY

If you do not wish to take this course or find that you are unable to continue, you should officially withdraw by the deadline stated in the current semester UVU Student Timetable. You can officially withdraw from a course by dropping it through the online registration system or the campus One Stop desk (BA 106) by the listed date. If you officially withdraw from a course by the "Last Day to Drop and Not Show on Transcript," the course will not appear on your academic transcripts. If you officially withdraw from a course by the "Last Day to Withdraw," a "W" will appear on your transcripts. Although your GPA will not be affected — a "W" will indicate that you chose to withdraw. If you fail to complete the course and do not drop it before the "Last Day to Withdraw," a

"UW" or "E" (a failing grade) will appear on your transcripts. Withdrawing from a course may impact your financial aid status. For more information, see: UVU Financial Aid.

## INCLUSION AT UVU

**“Come as you are. UVU has a place for you.” –President Tuminez.**

UVU is committed to preparing all students for success in an increasingly complex, diverse, and globalized society. We value and promote collegial relationships and mutual respect among students, faculty, staff, and the community. We acknowledge and seek to address the needs of populations who are underserved as well as students with varying levels of academic preparation. Since your experience in this class is important to me, it is my intent to promote civility and respect the voice, dignity, and potential of each individual. I aim for an inclusive learning environment that provides equitable opportunities and fosters the understanding, appreciation, and recognition that diversity and individual differences are a source of strength. I aim for a course that is respectful of diversity including age, culture, disability, ethnicity, gender, nationality, race, religion, sexuality, and socioeconomic status.

Please contact me if you need to talk about any issues you are facing. I value any suggestions on how to improve the effectiveness of this course. If that feels uncomfortable to you, you can contact the [Inclusion and Diversity Committee](#) to ask for help and support.

## STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

**Students who need accommodations because of a disability** may contact the UVU Office of Accessibility Services (OAS), located on the Orem Campus in LC 312. To schedule an appointment or to speak with a counselor, call the OAS office at 801-863-8747. Deaf/Hard of Hearing individuals, email [nicole.hemmingsen@uvu.edu](mailto:nicole.hemmingsen@uvu.edu) or text 385-208-2677.

## RELIGIOUS ACCOMMODATIONS

At the beginning of each semester, you shall promptly review the course syllabus and class schedule and notify faculty to request an accommodation for sincerely held religious beliefs and practices using the *Religious Accommodation Request Form*.

## DANGEROUS BEHAVIOR

The faculty member has the right to demand and secure the immediate removal of any person from the classroom whenever the faculty member determines, to the best of his or her knowledge or belief, that the person's actions are threatening or dangerous to students or themselves. If the faculty member cannot resolve a disruptive situation, the faculty member may request that the disruptive person(s) leave the classroom. If the disruptive person(s) will not leave voluntarily, the faculty member may call University Police for assistance. The incident shall be reported to the Dean of Students and to the Director of Judicial Affairs in accordance with *Policy 541 Student Rights and Responsibilities Code*.

## DISCRIMINATORY, EXCLUSIONARY, OR DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR

Faculty members observing discriminatory, exclusionary, or disruptive behavior follow procedures described in **UVU Policy 541 Student Rights and Responsibilities Code. 5.6**

## POLICIES/REFERENCES

1. Policy 541: Student Rights and Responsibilities Code  
<https://www.uvu.edu/catalog/current/policies-requirements/student-rights-and-responsibilities.html>
2. Policy 601: Classroom Instruction and Management.  
<https://policy.uvu.edu/getDisplayFile/5750ed2697e4c89872d95664>
3. Policy 635: Faculty Rights and Professional Responsibilities.  
<https://policy.uvu.edu/getDisplayFile/563a40bc65db23201153c27d>

## **DEFINITIONS**

**Syllabus:** An agreement between faculty and students that communicates course structure, schedule, student expectations, expected course outcomes, and methods of assessment to students.

**Due dates and this syllabus may change at the instructor's discretion due to the needs of the class members.**