

AAE 453/653 Visionary & Utopian Architecture: Plato to Blade Runner

CALENDAR OF TOPICS AND READINGS

Jan 23 Introduction: Visionary or Utopian? Why should architects care?

Jan 30 The Ideal City in Europe through the Renaissance

Readings: "Book 2" of More, Sir Thomas. *Utopia: a revised translation, backgrounds, criticism*. Trans. and ed. Robert M. Adams. New York: Norton, 1992.

Giordano, Luisa. "Ch. Two. On Filarete's *Libro Architettura*" in Hart, Vaughan, with Peter Hicks, eds. *Paper Palaces: The Rise of the Renaissance Architectural Treatise*. New York and London: Yale UP, 1998. Pp. 51-65.

Due in class: Drawing assignment on More's Utopia

Feb 6 Visionary Architecture of the Enlightenment and the Industrial Revolution

Readings: Pp.255-285 of Vidler, Anthony. *Claude-Nicolas Ledoux: Architecture and Social Reform at the end of the Ancien Regime*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 1990. Pp. xi-xv & Plates 108-151

Ledoux, Claude Nicolas. *Architecture de C.N. Ledoux*. Princeton: Princeton Architectural Press, 1983. Pp. 27-32, 97-110 and accompanying figure

Choay, Françoise. *The Modern City: Planning in the 19th Century*. NY: G. Braziller, 1969.

Due in class: Reading Response

Feb 13 Utopian Built Environments in the "New World"

Readings: Chapters 1 & 2 of Hayden, Dolores. *Seven American Utopias: The Architecture of Communitarian Socialism*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 1976.

"Chapter 16, Cities of Zion: The Planning of Utopian and Religious Communities."

Reps, John W. *The Making of Urban America*. Princeton: Princeton UP, 1965. Pp. 439-74

White, Janet. "The Ephrata Cloister: Intersections of Architecture and Culture in an 18th-century Utopian Community." *Utopian Studies* 11.2 (Fall 2000) 57-76.

Due in class: Reading Response

Feb 20 Female Utopias

Readings: Charlotte Perkins Gilman, *Herland*. 1915. Mineola, NY; Dover Publications, Inc., 1998.

"Frances Wright at Nashoba." Pp. 154-169 in Woloch, Nancy. *Women and the*

American experience. New York : McGraw-Hill, c1994.

Due in class: Reading Response
Annotated Bibliography

Feb 27 Modernism and the City of the Future

Readings: "Part 2: Laboratory Work: An Inquiry into Theory." Pp. 159-247. of Le Corbusier. *The City of Tomorrow and its Planning*. (*Urbanisme*. 1929.) trans. Frederick Etchells. NY: Dover Publications, Inc. 1987.

Guiton, Jacques, ed. *The ideas of Le Corbusier on architecture and urban planning*. trans. Margaret Guiton. New York : G. Braziller, 1981. Pp.93-112

Due in class: Reading Response

Mar 5 Megastructures and Post-Modern Visions

Readings: Pp. 2-51 of Cooke, Peter, et. al. *Archigram*. 1972. NY: Princeton UP, 1999.

In *The Changing of the Avant-Garde: Visionary Architecture Drawings from the Howard Gilman Collection*. NY: MOMA, 2002.:

Deyong, Sarah. "Memories of the Urban Future: The Rise and Fall of the Megastructure." Pp. 23-35 and following plates.

De Michelis, Marco. "Aldo Rossi and Autonomous Architecture." Pp. 89-98 and following plates.

Due in class: Reading Response

Mar 12 The Architecture of the Future in Film: Utopia and Distopia

Readings and Viewings (videos are on reserve in Arch. Lib.):

View: "Blade Runner." Director, Ridley Scott

"Playtime." Director, Jacques Tati

In A.D. Profile #112 Architecture and Film:

Dear, Michael. "Between Architecture and Film." Pp. 8-15.

Benjamin, Andrew. "At Home with Replicants." Pp. 22-25.

Due in class: Reading (and viewing) Response
Thesis Statement

Mar 19 NO CLASS -SPRING BREAK

Mar 26 N.B.: From this point on, weekly reading assignments will be selected by the students presenting each week, who will turn in a reading (which I will then put on reserve) one week before their presentation date.

Presentations and discussion of research by students (2)
Due in class: Reading Response

Apr 2 Presentations and discussion of research by students (2)
Due in class: Reading Response

Apr 9 Presentations and discussion of research by students (2)
Due in class: Reading Response

Apr 16 Presentations and discussion of research by students (2)
Due in class: Reading Response

Apr 23 Presentations and discussion of research by students (2)
Due in class: Reading Response

April 30 Presentations and discussion of research by students (2)
Due in class: Reading Response

May 6 Utopian Thought in the Design Process
Due in class: Research paper