

Assignment: a) select and begin to research one of the subjects listed at the end of this handout
 b) develop a specific topic and research question out of that subject
 c) document the status of your research midway (annotated bibliography)
 d) propose a hypothesis which answers the research question (statement of thesis)
 e) write a paper which organizes evidence to demonstrate whether or not your hypothesis is valid

Part 1. Annotated bibliography (typed, double spaced between entries, single spaced within)

DUE: 3/3 at start of class

5 % of course grade

Submit an annotated bibliography of sources of information about the topic you have selected. **IMPORTANT:** The bibliography must have a minimum of 6 scholarly sources, in addition to any others (scholarly or not) that you have found so far. You will receive **ZERO** credit if it does not. Therefore be sure you know what is considered a scholarly source and if you have questions, ask. (The final version of your bibliography, turned in with your paper, need not be annotated and should list only works you have actually cited in the text of the paper.)

- you may use ONE Internet source as one of your minimum of 6 scholarly sources, but **ONLY** if the source provides the information necessary to document it properly in your bibliography (see section B, "Format").
- the following may be consulted and are often useful as starting points, but are **NOT** considered scholarly sources and should not be included in the bibliography:
 - Survey texts (such as your textbooks, Janson's art history, Sir Bannister Fletcher, etc.) Most books with titles like *A History of Architecture* are surveys.
 - Encyclopedias, printed or CD-ROM (unless specialized, such as *Macmillian Encyclopedia of Architects*)
 - Guidebooks or information pamphlets
 - Popular or trade magazines (including *Progressive Architecture* and *Architectural Record*)

A) ANNOTATION :“Annotated” means a bibliography which not only lists your sources but also gives a 3-4 line commentary on each source. The commentary should explain what the sources contains that is of use to you and why this is useful for your research.

B) FORMAT: For your bibliography format use the standard MLA style, as shown in:

Gibaldi, Joseph. *The MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*. New York: Modern Language Association of America, 1995.

BE SURE THAT YOU USE A RECENT EDITION, NO EARLIER THAN 1995. If you do not own one, you can find the *MLA Handbook* in the Reference section of the Architecture library.

Part II. Statement of Thesis (250 words, typed, double spaced)
DUE: 3/24 at start of class 5% of course grade

Perhaps the most difficult part of a research project is developing a good question. You will need to have made a good start on your research in order to be able to do so. Your statement should make clear what the topic is (what issue(s) you are exploring), then should state clearly what question you will be answering in your paper. You should also at this point have an idea as to what your hypothesis will be, i.e., what the answer to your research question is. You do not need to present evidence or make an argument at this stage; **you do need to take a position.**

Part III. Paper (2500 words – about 10 pages – plus bibliography, notes, illustrations, etc.;
typed, double spaced)
DUE: 4/16 at start of class 10% of course grade

Your paper should clearly state your hypothesis (the answer to your research question); set out evidence for and against it; and reach a conclusion on the validity of the hypothesis. The usual apparatus of scholarly writing will be expected: footnotes, list of works cited, etc. Illustrations should be clearly identified (subject and source). You may use both executed works and projects as examples.

The quality of the writing itself will be evaluated as part of the grade you receive, so careful attention should be paid to grammar, syntax, eliminating mechanical errors, etc., as well as careful composition and construction of an argument.

Possible Subject Areas:

For each of the following, refer to specific examples and to appropriate primary and secondary sources in developing evidence to support your hypothesis. Initial bibliography is provided to aid you in beginning your research

1) What was wrong/right with Modern architecture and/or urbanism?

- Vociferous critics of the 70's (such as Peter Blake and Brent Bolin) declared not only that Modern architecture was dead, but that it was practically criminal that the Modern Movement had happened in the first place. Was Modernism as disastrous as they painted it or not? Either way, what were its most significant successes or failures?

Bibliography:

Charles Jencks, "Part One: The Death of Modern Architecture," in The Language of Post-Modern Architecture. 1977 Rizzoli ed. pp.9-38.
Brent C. Brolin, "III. Social Ills and the Environment," in The Failure of Modern Architecture 1976, pp. 60-87.

Peter Blake, "Preface," "Introduction," "The Fantasy of the Open Plan," "The Fantasy of Technology" & "The Fantasy of Architecture," in Form Follows Fiasco: Why Modern Architecture Hasn't Worked. 1974, pp. 7-12, 29-36, 49-66, 145-164.

2) Meaning in 20th-Century Architecture

- What do we mean when we use the term "Modern architecture" in 2009, and what does the work we identify in this way mean to us? Is "meaning" in architecture, Modern and otherwise, inherent? projected? arbitrary? culturally determined?

Bibliography:

Reviews of Modern Architecture: a Critical History in K.Frampton, ed., Modern Architecture and the Critical Present (A.D Profile). 1982, by: Colquhoun, Dunster, Forster, Moneo, Perez Gomez, Porphyrios, Tafuri and Zevi. pp.46-59.

Alois Riegl, "Modern Cult of Monuments," Oppositions 25 (Fall 1982) pp. 21-51.

David Watkin, "Introduction," "Part II.2 The Brave New World," & "Conclusion," in Morality and Architecture. 1975, pp. 1-14, 37-61, & 113-115.

Jiro Kurohata, "Ideology of Architecture," 1933, in Tim & Charlotte Benton, eds., Architecture and Design 1890-1939. pp.208-209.

Christian Norberg-Schulz, "Meaning, Architecture and History," in Meaning in Western Architecture. 1975, pp.427-434.

Gillo Dorfles, "Structuralism & Semiology in Architecture," in C. Jencks and G. Baird, eds., Meaning in Architecture. 1970, pp. 39-50.

3) What is Modern Architecture?

Each of the following definitions of what makes architecture Modern has had its advocates and critics since the 1920's. Select one and argue that it does or does not define the essence of "classic" Modern architecture (i.e., before W.W. II):

A. Modern architecture is architecture shaped by new technologies of construction.

Bibliography:

Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, "Manifestos, Texts and Lectures I. 1922-1927," appendix to Fritz Neumeyer, The Artless Word: Mies van der Rohe on the Building Art. (1986) English edition 1991, pp. 240-263.

Jurgen Joedicke, "The Age of the Pioneers," in A History of Modern Architecture. 1959, pp. 13-65.

Colin Rowe, "Chicago Frame," 1956, in The Mathematics of the Ideal Villa and Other Essays. 1976. pp 90-117.

Walter Gropius, "Programme of the Staatliches Bauhaus in Weimer," 1919, in Conrads, pp. 49-53.

B. Modern architecture is architecture in which form is determined by function and utility.

Bibliography:

- Bruno Taut, "Chapter III. What is Modern Architecture?", in Modern Architecture. 1929, pp. 5-9
& images pp. 10-34.
- Hannes Meyer, "The New World", 1926, in Tim & Charlotte Benton, eds., Architecture and Design 1890-1939. pp. 106-109.
- J.M. Richards, An Introduction to Modern Architecture. 1940 ed., pp. 9-53. (Also look at 1970 revised edition for changes.)
- R. Banham, "Chapter 22: Conclusion: Functionalism and Technology," in Theory and Design in the First Machine Age. 1960, pp. 320-330.

C. Modern architecture is architecture which expresses a radical social or political program.

Bibliography:

- Le Corbusier, "Architecture ou Révolution," in Vers une architecture. 1923 (pp. 225-243 in 1958 expanded edition).
- Barbara Miller Lane, Architecture and Politics in Germany, 1918-1945. (1968). "Introduction" pp. 1-10, & Ch. II "The New Architecture and the Vision of a New Society" pp.41-68.
- Richard Pommer and Christian F. Otto, "Weissenhof and the Politics of the International Style," Chapter 16 of Weissenhof 1927 and the Modern Movement in Architecture. 1991, pp. 158-166.
- Leonardo Benevolo, "Ch. 16, Political compromise and the struggle with the authoritarian regimes, Sections 2-4," in History of Modern Architecture Vol. II: The modern movement. pp. 555-585.

D. Modern architecture is architecture adheres to a designated set of formal principles.

Bibliography:

- Hitchcock and Johnson, The International Style: Architecture Since 1922. 1932. (Also new preface by Hitchcock in 1966 reprinting)
- H.R. Hitchcock, "The International Style Twenty Years After." Architectural Record August 1951: 89-97.
- Terence Riley, The International Style: Exhibition 15 and the Museum of Modern Art. 1992.