

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

CALENDAR OF TOPICS AND READINGS

Aug 27 Introduction: Visionary or Utopian? Why should designers care?

Sept 3 The Ideal City in Europe though 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.(E)
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. (E)

Due in class: Drawing assignment on More’s Utopia

Spt 10 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. (E)
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

Sept 17 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. (E)
“Chapter 16, Cities of Zion: The Planning of Utopian and Religious Communities.” in Reps, John W. *The Making of Urban America*. Princeton: Princeton UP, 1965. Pp. 439-74. (E)
White, Janet. “The Ephrata Cloister: Intersections of Architecture and Culture in an 18th-century Utopian Community.” *Utopian Studies* 11.2 (Fall 2000) 57-76. (E)

Due in class: Reading Response

Sept 24

Female Utopias

Readings:

Charlotte Perkins Gilman, *Herland*. 1915. Mineola, NY; Dover Publications, Inc., 1998. (E)

“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

Oct 1

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. (E)

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

Due in class: Reading Response

Oct 8

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

Oct 15

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.

In *Film architecture from Metropolis to Bladerunner*:
“Playtime” & “Blade Runner”, pp.140-159.

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

Oct 22 Contemporary Utopias: New Urbanism

Article on Ladera Ranch in *Psychology Today* Oct 2005. Pp.66-72.(E)
Excerpts from Brooke, Steven. *Seaside*. Pp. 14-21, 30-36, 51-56. (E)
Katz, Peter, ed. *The New Urbanism: Towards an Architecture of
Community*. Pp. xi-xxiv, 2-17.

Oct 29 World Trade Center Proposals

Goldberger, Paul. “Designing Downtown.” *The New Yorker*, Jan 6, 2003 pp 62-
69.
Architectural Record, Feb. 2003. “Editorial.” pp. 21-22, “Critique.” pp. 75-76,
and “Rebuilding Lower Manhattan.” pp. 31-48.
http://www.renewnyc.com/plan_des_dev/wtc_site/new_design_plans

Due in class: Reading Response

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

Nov 5 Presentations and discussion of research by student
Due in class: Reading Response

Nov 12 Presentations and discussion of research by student
Due in class: Reading Response

Nov 19 Presentations and discussion of research by student
Due in class: Reading Response

Nov 26 Presentations and discussion of research by student
Due in class: Reading Response

Dec 3 Utopian Thought in the Design Process
Due in class: Research paper