

**Understanding Western Architecture**  
**Course Syllabus & Class Schedule**

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## FEBRUARY

| Tuesday |                               | Thursday |                               | Week |
|---------|-------------------------------|----------|-------------------------------|------|
| 8       | Introduction and Chronology   | 10       | Terminology                   | 1    |
| 15      | Classical Architecture: Greek | 17       | Classical Architecture: Greek | 2    |
| 22      | Classical Architecture: Roman | 24       | Classical Architecture: Roman | 3    |

## MARCH

| Tuesday   |   | Thursday |                         | Week |
|-----------|---|----------|-------------------------|------|
| 1         | Early Christian Churches                | 3        | Byzantine Architecture  | 4    |
| 8         | Carolingian and Romanesque Architecture | 10       | Romanesque Architecture | 5    |
| 15        | Gothic Architecture                     | 17       | Gothic Architecture     | 6    |
| 22        | Renaissance                             | 24       | Renaissance             | 7    |
| <b>29</b> | <b>MID-TERM EXAM</b>                    | 31       | Renaissance             | 8    |

## APRIL

| Tuesday  |  | Thursday  |                          | Week |
|----------|--|-----------|--------------------------|------|
| <b>5</b> | <b>HOLIDAY</b>                         | 7         | Baroque                  | 8    |
| 12       | Baroque & Rococo                       | <b>14</b> | <b>MID-TERM BREAK</b>    | 9    |
| 19       | Classical Revival Styles               | 21        | Classical Revival Styles | 10   |
| 26       | New Trends in 19 <sup>th</sup> Century | 28        | Modern Architecture      | 11   |

## MAY

| Tuesday |   | Thursday |                           | Week |
|---------|---|----------|---------------------------|------|
| 3       | Modern Architecture   | 5        | Contemporary Architecture | 12   |
| 10      | Contemporary Architecture<br><b>Conclusion &amp; Revision</b> |          |                           | 13   |

Study break: 12-16 May, 2022

Exam period: 17-28 May, 2022

**Course description**

This course gives students fundamental knowledge of the masterpieces of Western architecture and the variation in styles in different epochs and cultures, from ancient Greece to the 21st century.

**Intended Learning Outcomes**

Students taking this course will

- a) acquire a general understanding of the basic terminology of the subject
- b) know the chronology and typology of Western architecture from ancient Greece to the 21<sup>st</sup> century
- c) be able to identify the stylistic characteristics of different epochs in different Western countries and relate them to structural/tectonic systems, architectural theories and socio-economic and cultural conditions of their emergence

**Assessment of students' performance**

- |    |                       |     |
|----|-----------------------|-----|
| 1. | 2 Take-home exercises | 20% |
| 2. | Mid-term exam         | 20% |
| 3. | Final exam            | 50% |
| 4. | Attendance            | 10% |
- to be checked 10 times randomly, 1% will be deducted for each absence

**CANVAS website**

Web link: <https://canvas.ust.hk/courses/41011>

**Reading materials**

1. Basic literature  
**Sutton**, Ian. *Western Architecture: From Ancient Greece to the Present*. Thames and Hudson, 1999.
2. Further readings  
**Glancey**, Jonathan. *The Story of Architecture*. Dorling Kindersley, 2003.  
**Norwich**, John Julius (Ed.). *Great Architecture of the World*. Da Capo Press, 1991 (reprinted 2003).

**Weekly reading list**

Students are expected to do weekly readings according to the following plan so as to deepen their knowledge of each topic covered in the syllabus. You should read the chapters in *Sutton* and one of the further readings, i.e. *either Glancey or Norwich*. The readings are required assignments of the course and must be followed closely.

**Online materials**

Khan Academy, Arts and Humanities, Art History.

<https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/art-history>

**Week 1 - 13**

Terminology-Spring22.pdf

**Week 2-3**

Greek and Roman architecture

Sutton, chapter 1, pp. 10-23 (strongly recommended)

Glancey, pp. 24-35

Norwich, pp. 56-76

**Week 4-5**

Early Christian and Byzantine architecture

Sutton, chapter 2, pp. 24-35 (strongly recommended)

Glancey, pp. 36-41

Norwich, pp. 78-87, 89-91

Carolingian and Romanesque architecture

Sutton, chapter 3, pp. 38-67 (strongly recommended)

Glancey, pp. 42-45

Norwich, pp. 92-105, 107

**Week 6**

Gothic architecture

Sutton, chapter 4, pp. 74-99, 105-107 (strongly recommended)

Glancey, pp. 52-59, 64-65

Norwich, pp. 114-124

**Week 7-8**

Renaissance architecture

Sutton, chapter 5, pp. 126-139, 143-151, 157-163 (strongly recommended)

Glancey, pp. 66-77

Norwich, pp. 142-161, 168-171

**Week 8-9**

Italian Baroque architecture

Sutton, chapter 6, pp. 168-179 (strongly recommended)

Glancey, pp. 78-81

Norwich, pp. 172-177

French Baroque architecture

Sutton, chapter 6, pp. 205-209 (strongly recommended)

Glancey, pp. 87

Norwich, pp. 178-181

English Baroque & Neoclassic architecture

Sutton, chapter 6, pp. 215-223 (strongly recommended)

Glancey, pp. 84-85  
Norwich, pp. 188-195

### **Week 9**

#### **Rococo architecture**

Glancey, pp. 88-89  
Norwich, pp. 184-185

### **Week 10**

#### **Classical Revival Styles**

Sutton, ch. 7, pp. 229-234, 246-250, 255-264; ch. 8, pp. 268-274 (strongly recommended)  
Glancey, pp. 118-131, 146-149  
Norwich, pp. 200, 210-213

### **Week 11**

#### **New trends in the 19th century**

Sutton, ch. 8, pp. 290-295, 298-299; ch. 9, pp. 304-315 (strongly recommended)  
Glancey, pp. 134-143, 156-159, 166-169  
Norwich, pp. 202-209, 218-219, 222-227

### **Week 11-12**

#### **Modern architecture**

Sutton, chapter 9, pp. 316-335, 348-349 (strongly recommended)  
Glancey, pp. 160-163, 172-179, 182-183, 188, 190-191  
Norwich, pp. 228-241, 254-261  
"Western architecture. 20<sup>th</sup>-century architecture, The Modernist Moment". *Encyclopædia Britannica. Encyclopædia Britannica Online*. Encyclopædia Britannica Inc., 2017. (strongly recommended)  
<https://www.britannica.com/art/Western-architecture/20th-century-architecture#ref47416>

### **Week 12-13**

#### **Contemporary architecture**

Sutton, chapter 10, pp. 354-371  
Glancey, pp. 198-201, 204-207, 218-225  
"Western architecture. 20th-century architecture, Postmodernism". *Encyclopædia Britannica. Encyclopædia Britannica Online*. Encyclopædia Britannica Inc., 2018. (strongly recommended)  
<https://www.britannica.com/art/Western-architecture/Postmodernism>  
"Western architecture. Architecture at the turn of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, Deconstruction & Millennial Trends". *Encyclopædia Britannica. Encyclopædia Britannica Online*. Encyclopædia Britannica Inc., 2018. (strongly recommended)  
<https://www.britannica.com/art/Western-architecture/Architecture-at-the-turn-of-the-21st-century>

(Edited 04/02/2022)