WOMEN AND ARCHITECTURE
INSTRUCTOR: JACQUELINE TAYLOR
Credits: 3

Course Description:
Architecture is ubiquitous; we live, work, and play in it. But what happens to our understanding of architecture when we couple it with 'gender'? Is architecture gender neutral or are we inclined to think of it as traditionally male? Through the lenses of race and gender we will examine our relationship to architecture - as designers, patrons, and users – in the public and the private realm and across a broad range of temporal and geographic boundaries. Approaches will include psychoanalysis, critical theory, and social, political, and architectural history. The course will balance an examination of the ways in which the built environment and architecture have been considered masculine, the province of males, and designed by men, with the ways in which women have been active agents in the design and construction of buildings and space. Inevitably, in this exploration we will also question constructions of gender and identity, within the broader context of race and ethnicity.

Objectives of the course:
The aims of this course are to learn how we as individuals and as members of certain groups relate to, understand, and engage with the built environment. Students will be introduced to the work of women architects, and consider their role in the built environment through building, the visual arts, preservation, and patronage. We will gain intellectual and tangible awareness of gender, space, and architecture, through theoretical and analytical readings, film, and the physical act of engaging with our environment.

Requirements: (Meets the second writing requirement)
1. Participation includes regular attendance and submission of a ¼ page summary of readings per week with two questions or comments (15%)
2. Assignment: “Engaging with the Environment” – a presentation of text and images (25%)
2. One 5-page paper (25%)
3. One ca. 7-10-page paper (35%)

Class Attendance:
All students are required to attend each class fully prepared to discuss the assigned readings. Absences will only be tolerated in extreme circumstances and with proof of the need for that absence, i.e. doctor’s note/letter from family member. If you incur more than two absences your final grade will be reduced one full grade.

Important Dates:
February 19: first 5-page paper due electronically by 5pm.
March: 19 and 21: Documentation project due for presentation and submission.
April 30: Final Paper due electronically by 5pm.

WEEK 1

Sept 1: Establishing a Male Profession: Architecture as Cultural and Social Artifact.
READINGS:
**WEEK 2: Working Women and the Metropolis**

JAN 22

JAN 24

**WEEK 3: Women Build the City**

JAN 29
READINGs: Wanda M. Corn, “Women Building History: Public Art at the 1893 Columbian Exposition,”

JAN 31

**WEEK 4: Necessary Interventions**

FEB 5

FEB 7
READINGs: Ellen Wiley Todd, “Remembering the Unknowns: The Longman Memorial and the 1911 Triangle Shirtwaist Fire,” *American Art*, Vol. 23, No. 3 (Fall 2009), pp. 60-81

**WEEK 5 Iconic Architect Genius, and the office girl**

FEB 12
READINGs: Andrew Saint, *The Image of the architect*

FEB 14

**WEEK 6**

FEB 19

FEB 21

**WEEK 7 Experiencing the City**

FEB 26

FEB 28

**WEEK 8**
MARCH 5

MARCH 7

**WEEK 9**
[SPRING RECESS MARCH 9 –MARCH 17TH]

**WEEK 10**
MARCH 19
READINGS: Student Built Environment Documentation Project

MARCH 21
READINGS: Student Built Environment Documentation Project

**WEEK 11**
MARCH 26
READING:
PRESENTATIONS
MARCH 28

**WEEK 12 Interior Spaces**
APRIL 2

APRIL 4

**WEEK 13**
APRIL 9

APRIL 11

**WEEK 14 Pain and Poetry in Remembering**

APRIL 16
READINGS: Carrie Mae Weems, *The Louisiana Project* (Newcomb Art Gallery, Tulane University, 2004).

APRIL 18

**WEEK 15 Inscribing Space with Thought**

APRIL 23

APRIL 25

**WEEK 16 The Final Word**

APRIL 30

COURSES END APRIL 30: EXAM SCHEDULE – MAY 2 – MAY 10