

SCHOOLS OF ARCHITECTURE/AFRICA: CONNECTING DISCIPLINES IN DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT

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Bodys Isek Kingelez, DR Congo

The class is being offered in conjunction with the Center for African Studies annual Carter Conference of the same title scheduled for March 13-14, 2015. Students are invited to attend conference panels and lectures and participate in presentations, exhibitions, and contribute to a conference publication. Nigerian architect, Kunle Adeyemi, well known for his floating-schools and the redesign of Lagos, Nigeria's urban waterscape, is the conference keynote and his work, among other examples, will be addressed in the course.

Please contact Professors Cohen and Chalfin via email if you have any questions

The course is appropriate for graduate and undergraduate students in architecture, anthropology, art history and allied social sciences and humanities fields with an interest in design, development, and the built environment. Prior coursework in African Studies is a plus but not required as the course themes are broadly relevant and invite comparative perspectives.

You may register for this course as:

ANT 4930 sec 11BC

ANG 6930 sec 11BB

AFR 4905 sec 146C

ARC 4930 sec 038B

ARC 6793 sec 038C

The course is scheduled for Tues per. 6-8. (12:50-3:50p)
The first class meeting will be in Grinter 471.

APPROACH AND PROBLEM SPACE

This interdisciplinary course uses the combined lens of architecture and anthropology to explore the changing form of Africa's built environment across the continent today. It asks, what do architectural perspectives bring to anthropology and what does anthropology bring to architecture? Can a common lexicon of concepts and concerns spanning these different disciplines shed light on Africa's built landscape? How does the content and context of architectural forms in Africa today push both disciplines in new directions and toward new conversations relevant beyond the African setting? How might these engagements enhance architectural practice as well as the means and ends of anthropological scholarship and a more general understanding of African realities?

The course – and the conference with which it is associated – is premised on the claim that Africa's architectural landscape in the opening decades of the twenty-first century is marked by a series of realignments. Namely, across the continent we see a concerted effort to expand and both Africanize and nationalize architectural education. This is accompanied by a wide-ranging reconsideration of the merits and possibilities of popular and indigenous architectures, community participation, and the mobilization of architectural design to enhance and enable development interventions. By no means are these inward-looking, nativist agendas. Rather, they are bound-up with highly cosmopolitan exchanges and transnational flows of commissions, capital and personnel. While the outcomes provide much to celebrate and inspire in terms of form, function and aesthetics, the course casts the historically and theoretically-informed perspective of anthropology on the current turn of events. Combined with the insights of architectural evaluation, the application of anthropology's critical analytic reveals the reprise of elite political interests, the entrenched exclusions of stakeholder models and one-size-fits all neo-modernist templates, along with the lingering positioning of Africa as laboratory for better endowed actors and institutions in this new wave of architectural efforts.

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Obtain familiarity with recent trends in African architecture
- Critically evaluate the causes and effects of current architectural interventions in Africa
- Comprehend the link between design of the built environment and economic development
- Understand the transnational foundations of the architectural education and expertise
- Gain skills in interdisciplinary analysis and collaborative learning and research
- Translate from theory to practice through interaction with practitioners
- Contribute to an international conference and publication

TOPICS OF STUDY

Class meetings and materials are organized around four themes:

1. Design and Development 2. Street as Studio 3. Schools of Architecture 4. Transnational Exchange and Expertise.

The first weeks are devoted to establishing our conceptual and historical baselines, giving students a familiarity with the distinct disciplinary perspectives of anthropology and architecture and an overview of Africa's architectural history. The next section of the course moves to consider the design and development nexus from the era of imperial expansion through the post-colonial period. This is followed

by case studies of the popular architectural practice in the contemporary moment and its harnessing by architecture professionals. A consideration of architectural training, expertise, and transnational networks of comes next. The midpoint of the course is devoted to planning for, documenting and reporting on the conference sessions and participants. Organized as research workshops or 'laboratories', the remaining weeks of the semester will be spent expanding on course themes in light of conference case-studies and specific areas of student interest as students prepare their final projects in response to the course's founding premise regarding the directions and dilemmas of African architecture today.

COURSE FORMAT

This seminar style course will revolve around class discussions and in-class collaborative research and problem solving drawn from required reading, films, exhibit catalogs, image gallery, and other textual and visual material. Students will play a role in the March 13-14, 2015 Carter Conference where they will interview invited participants and take notes on conference proceedings. Students will be given the option to contribute to conference exhibition and presentations. Final project assignments will be tailored to each students' interests and course of study.

ASSIGNMENTS

In-class exercises (6 @ 5%): 30%
Carter Conference Documentation: 30%
Final Research Project (Due 4/21/15): 30%
Contribution to class discussions: 10%

**Course materials will be posted on the course gmail account: CarterConference2015@gmail.com
Pw: africa2015. When necessary, hard copies will be held on reserve at the UF Fine Arts Library.**

COURSE SCHEDULE

Class 1 (1.6.15): Course Overview

Class 2 (1.13.15): Foundations of Anthropology and Architecture

P. Bourdieu, "The Kabyle House or The World Reversed," The Logic of Practice (Cambridge, 1990).
M. Foucault, "The Panopticon," Discipline and Punish (Vintage, 1991).
V. Buchli, "Introduction, section 1," An Anthropology of Architecture (Bloomsbury, 2013).
T. Ingold, "The materials of life," Making: Anthropology, Archaeology, Art, Architecture. (Routledge, 2013). Pp. 17-32
L. Kahn, Conversations with Students (Princeton, 1998) skim
P. Zumthor Thinking Architecture (Lars Muller 1998) online link.
<http://www.filozofia.bme.hu/materials/kerekgyarto/szakmernoki/ido,%20emlekezet,%20epiteszet/tovabb%20szovegek/Zumth,%20Thinking.pdf>
MASS in Rwanda Afritecture: Building Social Change (Hatje Cantz Verlag 2013)
J. Pallasmaa, Eyes of the Skin (Wiley, 1996)

Class 3 (1.20.15): Africa's Architecture and Built Environment in Historical Perspective: Mud and Stone: Case Studies from West Africa and the Horn

A.Cassiman, Architectures of Belonging: Inhabiting Worlds in Rural West Africa (BAI, 2011) Chaps. 1 &2.

L. Prussin, Architecture in Northern Ghana. (California 1969)
L. Prussin, "An Introduction to Indigenous African Architecture." Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians. 1974. 33/3. pp. 182-205
T. Marchand. Masons of Djenné (Indiana, 2009), Introduction & Ch. 1
H. Miner, The Primitive City of Timbuctoo. (Princeton, 1953) "The City Quarters." pp. 32-47
Z.S.Strother "Eastern Pende Constructions of Secrecy in Secrecy: African Art that Conceals and Reveals (Prestel 1993). pp. 157-178

M. Jarzombek "Lalibela and Libanos: The King and the Hydro Engineer of 13th Century Ethiopia" in Construction Ahead periodical pp 16-21
http://web.mit.edu/mmj4/www/downloads/const_ahead2007.pdf
Look at Ethiopian sites on ICOMOS publications on World Heritage in Africa
www.international.icomos.org

Film: Future of Mud

Class 4 (1.27.15) Architectures and Anthropologies of Empire, Conquest, and Colonization: Aesthetics, Politics, and Policies of Urban Planning in Senegal, Nigeria, South Africa, and Ethiopia

K. Anquandah. Castles and Forts of Ghana. (Atalante 1999) browse
B. Freund, The African City, "Colonialism and Urbanization." (Cambridge, 2007)
L. Bigon, "Urban Planning, colonial doctrines and street names in French Dakar and British Lagos," Urban History 2009. 36/3. Pp. 426-448.
A. Njoh. "Urban Planning as a tool of power and social control in colonial Africa." Planning Perspectives 2009. 24. Pp. 301-317.

DW Fields, "Review Article: Architecture Denied" and W. Peters "Apartheid politics and architecture in South Africa." Social Identities: Journal for the Study of Race, Nation and Culture. 2004. 10/4.
M. Gluckman, 1940. Analysis of a Social Situation in Modern Zululand. Bantu Studies. 14/1. Pp. 1-30.

E. Denison, et al Asmara: Africa's Secret Modernist City (Merrel, 2003)
Fuller, Mia "Wherever You Go, There You Are: Fascist Plans for the Colonial City of Addis Ababa and the Colonizing Suburb of EUR '42" Journal of Contemporary History, Special Issue: The Aesthetics of Fascism. 1996. 31/2,. pp 397-418
David Rifkind. "Colonial Cities at the Crossroads: Italy and Ethiopia," in Urban Planning in Sub-Saharan Africa: Colonial and Post-Colonial Planning Cultures. (2015).
David Rifkind. "**Gondar. Architecture and Urbanism for Italy's Fascist Empire**," Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians (2011)
http://davidrifkind.org/fiu/research_files/JSAH7004_05_Article_Rifkind.pdf
D.Rifkind2012 exhibition, Metropole/Colony: Africa and Italy

Class 5 (2.3.15) Architectures of Development: Tropical Modernism, Mega-Projects, and Global Models in Ghana and Tanzania

J. Scott, Seeing Like a State, (Yale, 1998) Ch. 3 "Authoritarian High Modernism" and Ch. 7 "Compulsory Villagization in Tanzania."
L. Mosha, "Imposition of architectural and Spatial Planning concepts into local dwelling culture" Prime Journal of Business Administration and Management. 2011. 2/6 pp. 596-603.

J. Drew and M. Fry, Village Housing in the Tropics

V. D'Auria, "In the laboratory and in the field: hybrid housing design for the African city in late-colonial and decolonizing Ghana (1945-57), Journal of Architecture. 2014. 19/3.

See also on-line: Transnational Architecture Group, Fry Drew Conference.

C. Doxiadis, Ecumenopolis: the inevitable city of the future. (Athens Center for Ekistics, 1974).

Film: City of dreams. Many Words for Modern

Class 6 (2.10.15) Architectures of Everyday Life:

Embodied Infrastructures and the Urban Sensorium in Kinshasa, Jo-burg, Abidjan, Douala

AM Simone, For the City Yet to Come: Changing Life in Four African Cities. (Duke, 2004) Ch. 3

F. Deboeck, Kinshasa: Tales of the Invisible City. (Ludion, 2006/Cornell, 2014) Ch. 1 "Kinshasa"

CD Gondola, "Dream and Drama: The search for elegance among Congolese Youth." African Studies Review. 1999. 42/1. Pp. 23-48

S. Newell, The Modernity Bluff (Chicago, 2013) Chapter 3

S. Nutall and A. Mbembe eds., Johannesburg: The Elusive Metropolis. (Duke, 2008) People, Stylizing, Sounds, Nocturnal.

W. Benjamin, The Arcades Project (Belknap, 1999). Brief excerpt.

B. Latour. "Technology is society made durable," The Sociological Review. 38/S1. Pp. 103-131

Film: Market Imaginary

Class 7 (2.17.15) (7) Street as Studio: Templates, Projects, Observations.

Projects and Contemporary Developments:

Francis Kere in Small Scale Big Change: New architectures of social engagement (MoMA)

Kunle Adeyemi, Makoko Floating School Project

Hollmen Reuter Sandman Womens Center Senegal [Ukumbi.org](http://ukumbi.org)

F. Oswald NESTOWN video New Energy Self Sufficient Town www.nestown.org

Architects Observe/Research:

David Adjaye African Metropolitan Architecture (Rizzoli, 2011)

EIABC in Addis (Fasil Ghiorgis Youtube on Streets)

Studio X Johannesburg

Sundial: Radical Imaginaries in an Afro-Future City

Film: Lagos/Koolhaas

Class 8 (2.24.15) Architectural Education and Expertise:

Cosmopolitan Networks and National Agendas

J.H. Chang, "Building a Colonial Technoscientific Network." In Third World Modernism. (Routledge, 2010)

A. Smith, "AA in Africa: A Selective Bibliography" (Architectural Association Library)

O. Uduku, "Other Modernisms: Recording Diversity and Communicating History in Urban West Africa," DOCOMOMO Journal, 48.

Antoni Folkers, ArchiAfrika in Modern Architecture in Africa (SUN, 2010)

Afritecture: Building Social Change (Hatje Cantz Verlag 2013)

A. Caragone. The Texas Rangers: Notes on from the Architectural Underground (MIT, 1995)

I. Marjanovic. "Alvin Boyarsky's Delicatessen," In Critical Architecture, ed. J. Rendell et al (Routledge: 2008).

K.A. Appiah. Cosmopolitanism (Norton, 2006) selection.

D. Mosse. Adventures in Aidland. Chapter 1 "The Anthropology of Expertise and Professionals in International Development." (Berghan, 2011)

Y. Sho, "Looking like developed: Aesthetics and Ethics in Rwandan Housing Projects." In Journal of Architectural Education. 2014. 68/2. Pp. 199-208.

Case Study of Kunle Adeyemi and NLE

Case Study of Joe Addo and ArchiAfrika

Case Study of Rwanda, MASS

Mapping Exercise in Class

Spring Break: No Class 3.3.15

Class 9 (3.10.15) Conference Prep 'Work day'

**Class 10 (3.17.15) Post-conference Debriefing:
Comparing Notes & Preliminary Findings**

Class 11 (3.24.15): Design and Development Redux

Class 12 (3.31.15): Street as Studio Redux

Class 13 (4.7.15): Networks Redux

Class 14 (4.14.15) Presentation of final project drafts

Class 15 (4.21.15) Final project due.