

ARC5936: Cejas Eminent Scholar Seminar
Professor Jeffrey Kipnis, The Ohio State University

Spring 2009
Florida International University School of Architecture
Professor David Rifkind [david.rifkind@fiu.edu]

PCA167, Wednesday, 3:00 – 5:00PM
Office hours, room PCA383b, Monday and Thursday, 1:30-4:00

Cejas Eminent Scholar Seminar examines the debates that have animated architectural practice over the last four decades. The seminar includes four sessions led by Professor Jeffrey Kipnis during the week of January 13-16.

Requirements: Students will lead discussions in class, and pursue a semester-long written research project. Each student will lead two of the weekly discussions, and will prepare a series of analyses of a work of architecture or design.

For each weekly discussion, one or several students will present the assigned reading. Students are expected to distill the text's arguments into a five-minute presentation, and to prompt the class with three or more penetrating questions that generate an illuminating conversation about the work under discussion. Each student will have at least two opportunities to present during the semester

The analytical project will focus on a single work of architecture, design (including landscapes, interiors, cities and objects) or theory chosen by each student in consultation with the instructor.

Goals: Students will hone their ability to read architects' theoretical statements and historians' analyses critically. The course stresses analysis and interpretation of both texts and designed works. Students will gain an intimate understanding of some of the key works of architectural theory and history from the last two centuries.

Textbook: Students are asked to purchase Kate Nesbitt, ed., *Theorizing a New Agenda for Architecture. 1965-1995*. New York, 1996.

Sessions and readings

- 1 [1.7] introduction
- 2 [1.13-16] Jeffrey Kipnis will lead four seminars, from 3:30 to 4:30. The first session we will discuss his article, "On Criticism." The subsequent sessions will deal with the content of his lectures, which will follow the seminars from 5:30 to 6:30.
Jeffrey Kipnis, "On Criticism," *Harvard Design Magazine* (Fall 2005), pp. 96-104.
- Lecture 1 [1.13] Introduction to Contemporary Architecture as Cultural Discourse
Lecture 2 [1.14] Formalism and Conceptual Architecture
Lecture 3 [1.15] Staging Character
Lecture 4 [1.16] New Authenticities
- 3 [1.21] Critical theory
Fredric Jameson, "Architecture and the Critique of Ideology" in *Architecture Criticism Ideology* pp. 51-87 (reprinted in Michael Hays (ed), *Architectural Theory (1968-Present)*, pp.440-461).
Manfredo Tafuri, "Problems in the Form of a Conclusion," in Nesbitt, pp. 360-368.

- K. Michael Hays, "Critical Architecture: Between Culture and Form," *Perspecta*, Vol. 21. (1984), pp. 14-29.
- 4 [1.28] Phenomenology
 Martin Heidegger, "Building Dwelling Thinking," *Poetry Language Thought*, pp.145-161.
 Christian Norberg-Schulz, "The Phenomenology of Place," in Nesbitt, pp. 412-428.
 Juhani Pallasmaa, "The Geometry of Feeling: A Look at the Phenomenology of Architecture," in Nesbitt, pp.447-453.
- 5 [2.4] Typology
 Aldo Rossi, "An Analogical Architecture," in Nesbitt, pp. 345-52.
 Anthony Vidler, "The Third Typology," in Nesbitt, pp. 258-263.
- 6 [2.11] Surfaces
 Joanna Merwood, "The Mechanization of Cladding: The Reliance Building and Narratives of Modern Architecture," *Grey Room*, No. 4. (Summer, 2001), pp. 52-69.
 Timothy M. Rohan, "Rendering the Surface: Paul Rudolph's Art and Architecture Building at Yale," *Grey Room*, No. 1. (Autumn, 2000), pp. 84-107.
- 7 [2.18] Tectonics
 Vittorio Gregotti, "The Exercise of Detailing," in Nesbitt, pp. 494-497.
 Kenneth Frampton, "Rappel a l'ordre. The Case for the Tectonic," in Nesbitt, pp. 516-528.
 Mitchell Schwarzer, "Tectonics of the Unforeseen," in Harry Francis Mallgrave and Christina Contandriopoulous, eds., *Architectural Theory*, v.II. Malden, MA, 2006, pp. 551-552.
- 8 [2.25] Feminism
 Diana Agrest, "Architecture from Without: Body, Logic, and Sex," in Nesbitt, pp. 541-553.
 Deborah Fausch, "The Knowledge of the Body and the Presence of History - Toward a Feminist Architecture," *Architecture and Feminism*, Princeton, 1996, pp. 38-59.
 Mary McLeod, "Everyday and Other spaces," *Architecture and Feminism*, ed. Debra Coleman et al. New York, 1996, pp. 1-37.
 Esther da Costa Meyer, "La Donna e Mobile: Agoraphobia, Women, and Urban Space," in *The Sex of Architecture*, ed. Patricia Conway and Leslie Kanes Diana Agrest, New York, 1996, pp. 141-156.
 Dana Arnold, "Reading Architectural Herstories: The Discourses of Gender," in Abigail Harrison-Moore and Dorothy Rowe, eds., *Architecture and Design in Europe and America, 1750-2000*. Malden, MA, 2006, pp.172-179.
- 9 [3.4] Post-colonial theories
 Zeynep Celik, "Le Corbusier, Orientalism, Colonialism," *Assemblage 17* (April 1992), pp. 59-77.
 Vikramaditya Prakash, "Identity Production in Postcolonial Indian Architecture: Re-Covering What We Never Had," in Gülsüm Baydar Nalbantoglu and Wong Chong Thai, eds. *Postcolonial Space(s)*, New York, 1997, pp.39-52.
 John Biln, "(De) Forming Self and Other: Toward an Ethics of Distance" in *Postcolonial Space(s)* pp. 25-37.
- 10 [3.11] Post-structuralism
 Peter Eisenman, "The End of the Classical. The End of the Beginning. The End of the End," *Perspecta*, Vol.21 (1984, reprinted in *Architecture Theory Since 1968*, 522-539).
 Bernard Tschumi, "Abstract Mediation and Strategy," in *Architecture and Disjunction*, pp. 191-206.
 Rosalind Krauss, "Sculpture in the Expanded Field" *The Originality of the Avant Garde and Other Modernist Myths*, pp. 276-290.

- [3.16-20] Spring break – no class
- 11 [3.25] Digital representation and fabrication
Robin Evans, "Translations from Drawing to Building," *Translations from Drawing to Building*. London, 1997, pp. 153-193.
Alberto Pérez-Gómez, "Architecture as Drawing," *JAE*, Vol. 36, No. 2 (Winter 1982), pp. 2-7.
William Mitchell, "Antitechtonics: The Poetics of Virtuality," *The Virtual Dimension: Architecture, Representation and Crash Culture*. New York, 1998, pp. 205-217.
- 12 [4.1] Digital representation and fabrication
Mario Carpo, "Post-Hype Digital Architecture: From Irrational Exuberance to Irrational Despondency," *Grey Room 14* (Winter 2004), 102-115.
Anthony Vidler, "Skin and Bones. Folds from Leibniz to Lynn" *Warped Space*, pp.219-233.
Jeffery Kipnis, "Drawing a Conclusion," *Perspecta 22* (1986), 94-99.
- 13 [4.8] Psychoanalysis
Sylvia Lavin, "Open the Box: Richard Neutra and the Psychology of the Domestic Environment," *Assemblage*, No. 40 (December 1999), pp. 6-25.
Beatriz Colomina, "The Split Wall: Domestic Voyeurism," in Colomina, ed., *Sexuality and Space*. New York, 1992, pp. 73-128.
Victor Burgin, "Perverse Space," in Beatriz Colomina, ed., *Sexuality and Space*. New York, 1992, pp. 218-240.
- 14 [4.15] Ecology
Ian McHarg, *Design with Nature*. Garden City, N.Y., 1969. [excerpted in Mallgrave, 363-364]
Ken Yeang, *Designing with Nature*. New York, 1995. [excerpted in Mallgrave, 587]
William McDonough, "Design, Ecology, Ethics, and the Making of Things," in Nesbitt, pp. 398-407.
William McDonough Architects, "The Hannover Principles," in Nesbitt, pp. 408-410.

Possible alternate session:

Tectonics

Kenneth Frampton, "Prospects for a Critical Regionalism," (1983) in Nesbitt, pp. 468-482.
Alexander Tzonis and Liane Lefaivre, "Why Critical Regionalism Today?" (1990) in Nesbitt, pp. 483-492.