

<b>COURSE TITLE BLACKBOARD SITE</b>	ARC 5623-02 Current Issues in Architecture Spring 2011 – CRN 3430
<b>INSTRUCTOR</b>	Heidi Beebe Lawrence Technological University, Adjunct Professor Beebe Skidmore Architects, Partner  Contact Information: <a href="mailto:hbeebe@ltu.edu">hbeebe@ltu.edu</a> Office hours: Monday 12 - 1 p.m. & Wednesday 6 - 8 p.m.
<b>SCHEDULE</b>	January 10, 2010 – May 07, 2010  See <a href="http://www.ltu.edu/registrars_office/calendar_final_exam.index.asp">http://www.ltu.edu/registrars_office/calendar_final_exam.index.asp</a> for LTU academic calendar information.
<b>LEVEL/ HOURS PREREQUISITE</b>	Master's of Architecture / 3 credit hours
<b>REQUIRED TEXT</b>  (See Blackboard for additional resources)	Koolhaas, Rem, et al. <u>Mutations</u> . Bordeaux: ACTAR, 2001. ISBN 978-8-49527-351-2  Sykes, A.Krista, ed. <u>Constructing A New Agenda: Architectural Theory 1993-2009</u> . New York: Princeton Architectural Press, 2010. ISBN 978-1-56898-859-7  Manaugh, Geoff, <u>The BLDGBLOG Book</u> . San Francisco: Chronicle Books, 2009. ISBN 978-0-8118-6644-6  Steffens, Jo, ed. <u>Unpacking My Library: Architects and Their Books</u> . New Haven and London: Yale University Press, 2009. ISBN 978-0-300-15893-9
<b>ADDITIONAL RESOURCES</b>	LTU Online student resources: <a href="http://www.ltu.edu/ltuonline/">http://www.ltu.edu/ltuonline/</a>
<b>TECHNICAL SUPPORT</b>	Technical support for using Blackboard is provided by the Helpdesk. Visit <a href="http://www.ltu.edu/ehelp">www.ltu.edu/ehelp</a> or 248.204.2330 or <a href="mailto:helpdesk@ltu.edu">helpdesk@ltu.edu</a> . Send the Help Desk a form detailing any issues by clicking here <a href="http://tinyurl.com/3yqrvne">http://tinyurl.com/3yqrvne</a> .

## COURSE SCHEDULE FOR TRADITIONAL SEMESTER COURSES

This fully online course begins with a partial week online course orientation period to familiarize yourself with the online learning environment and to meet online or via the phone with your instructor. Each subsequent week starts on a Monday and ends on a Sunday. All assignments due in a given week must be posted by 11:59 on Sunday evening of the week they are due. Presentations will be viewed and discussed by the class the week after they are due. Discussion Forums will be posted on Mondays, but students are not expected to begin discussing the readings before Wednesday.

Dates	Modules	Topics / Readings	Assignments Due
Prior to Semester Start and Jan 10 – Jan 12	Module 0	Online Learning Orientation Class Introductions Course Overview	Introductions (in Virtual Lounge)
Week of Jan 10 – Jan 16	Module 1	“Eisenman’s Six Point Plan” (Blackboard)	Bb Discussion Forums Sign-up for Assignment #1 Sign-up for Assignment #2
Week of Jan 17 – Jan 23	Module 2	“From Grid to Network,” by Mark Taylor in <u>The Moment of Complexity: Emerging Network Culture</u> , (Blackboard)	Bb Discussion Forums
Week of Jan 24 – Jan 30	Module 3	“Design Intelligence Part 1: Introduction” by Michael Speaks in <u>Constructing a New Agenda</u>  <u>Unpacking My Library: Architects and Their Books</u> by Jo Seffens, ed.	Bb Discussion Forums Assignment 1.1
Week of Jan 31 – Feb 6	Module 4	“Junkspace” by Rem Koolhaas in <u>Constructing a New Agenda</u>  “Future City” by Fredric Jameson in <u>Constructing a New Agenda</u>	Bb Discussion Forums Assignment 1.2
Week of Feb 7 – Feb 13	Module 5	“Shopping” in <u>Mutations</u> , pp. 124-195	Bb Discussion Forums Assignment 1.3
Week of Feb 14 – Feb 20	Module 6	“The American City,” in <u>Mutations</u> , pp. 484-627  Video: Lagos/Koolhaas (Blackboard)	Bb Discussion Forums Assignment 1.4
Week of Feb 21 – Feb 27	Module 7	“USE Uncertain States of Europe” & “USE Cases” in <u>Mutations</u> , pp. 338-474	Bb Discussion Forums Assignment 1.5

Dates	Modules	Topics / Readings	Assignments Due
Week of Feb 28 – Mar 6	Module 8	<p>“The Reclaiming of Site” by Sebastian Marot in <u>Recovering Landscape</u> (Blackboard)</p> <p>“On Site: Architectural Preoccupations” by Carol J. Burns in <u>Drawing Building Text</u> (Blackboard)</p>	Bb Discussion Forums Assignment 3.1 Due
<b>Mid-semester Break – No Classes</b>			
Week of Mar 14 – Mar 20	Module 9	“Drosscape” by Alan Berger in <u>The Landscape Urbanism Reader</u> (Blackboard)	Bb Discussion Forums Assignment 2.1
Week of Mar 21 – Mar 27	Module 10	<p>“Architectural Curvilinearity: The Folded, the Pliant and the Supple” by Greg Lynn in <u>Constructing a New Agenda</u></p> <p>“Scale and Span in the Global Digital World” by Saskia Sassen in <u>Constructing a New Agenda</u></p>	Bb Discussion Forums Assignment 2.2
Week of Mar 28 – Apr 3	Module 11	<p>“Technology, Place, and Nonmodern Regionalism” by Steven A. Moore in <u>Constructing a New Agenda</u></p> <p>“Architecture &amp; the Virtual: Towards a New Materiality” by Anton Picon in <u>Constructing a New Agenda</u></p>	Bb Discussion Forums Assignment 2.3
Week of Apr 4 – Apr 10	Module 12	“The Underground” by Geoff Manaugh in <u>The Bldg/Blog Book</u> , pp. 51-115	Bb Discussion Forums Assignment 2.4
Week of Apr 11 – Apr 17	Module 13	“Music Sound Noise” by Geoff Manaugh in <u>The Bldg/Blog Book</u> , pp. 141-186	Bb Discussion Forums Assignment 2.5
Week of Apr 18 – Apr 24	Module 14	“Landscape Futures” by Geoff Manaugh in <u>The Bldg/Blog Book</u> , pp. 187-238	Bb Discussion Forums Assignment 3.2

Dates	Modules	Topics / Readings	Assignments Due
Week of Apr 25 – May 1	Module 15	<p>“Toward a Theory of Normative Architecture” by Joan Ockman (Blackboard)</p> <p>“Notes around the Doppler Effect and Other Moods of Modernism” by Robert Somol and Sarah Whiting in <u>Constructing a New Agenda</u></p>	Bb Discussion Forums No Assignment Due
Week of May 2 – May 7			Final Paper Due

### STUDENT EVALUATION

Final grades will be based on participation in class discussion forums, evidence of reading comprehension, presentations, and written assignments. This course has 3 assignments consisting of two presentations and one final research paper. Detailed evaluation criteria for each assignment will be clearly delineated on the assignment instructions. Participation is a large percentage of the grade. Letter grades are awarded based on the total number of points achieved. Participation will be evaluated based on meeting the required number of posts in Discussion Forums each week. Points are deducted for lack of participation and late assignments. Late assignments will be dropped by one grade for each day they are late. Extension can be arranged with the instructor on an as need basis for medical reasons only.

Assignments	Points
Assignment #1 Presentation of Your Library	10
Assignment #2 Presentation of a Contemporary Architect	10
Assignment #3: Final Paper	20
Participation	60
Total Points	100

Class Points	Letter Grade
96 and above	A
90 – 95	A-
87 – 89	B+
83 – 86	B
80 – 82	B-
77 – 79	C+
73 – 76	C
70 – 72	C-
61 – 70	D (Undergrad Only)
60 and below	E

*Note: Grades lower than a “B” fall below the LTU graduate standard*

## EDUCATIONAL GOALS

Students taking this course will gain familiarity with critical issues concerning current architectural discourse and design. Students will be exposed to a selection writers and designers who are actively engaged in discussions about the relationship of architecture to an ever changing world. They will develop the necessary skills required to engage in discussions of these critical issues.

## STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES / OUTCOMES

1. Awareness of a selection of well-known contemporary architects and architectural writers
2. The ability to understand and clearly summarize current issues facing architecture
3. The skills to make connections between written ideas and built projects
4. An in-depth understanding of the relationship between culture and architecture
5. Greater understanding of issues surrounding globalization, urbanism, research, rapidly evolving technologies, landscape and infrastructure
6. The ability to articulate coherent and well-researched arguments and commentary on complex architectural concepts

## INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS AND COURSE ORGANIZATION

**Blackboard Learning Environment** – Blackboard at my.ltu.edu contains the syllabus, all assignments, reading materials, streaming videos, narrated PowerPoint mini-lectures, podcasts, written lecture notes, chapter quizzes, links to Web resources, and discussion forums. You will submit all assignments via Blackboard, and are expected to participate regularly in discussion topics. Please take time to familiarize yourself with the organization of the Blackboard site. You will want to check the site frequently for announcements reminding you of new resources and upcoming assignments.

**Graded Blackboard Discussion Forums** – There will be 4, graded discussion Forums each week:

**1)** The “Student Lead Discussion Forum” will revolve around discussion questions posted by each student. Students will be required to post one question related to the week’s reading by Wednesday of each week and respond to at least two other students’ discussion questions by Sunday of each Week. Each student will receive 1 point weekly for meeting these criteria with thoughtful, well-articulated input.

**2)** The “Presentation Review” will revolve around the discussion of student presentations. Three Students will present on each designated week. Students will be required to provide one comment or question about each student presentation other than their own as well as respond to questions related to their own presentation. Each student will receive 1 point weekly for meeting these criteria with thoughtful, well-articulated input.

**3)** The “Instructor Discussion Forum A” will revolve around discussion questions posted by the instructor. Students are required to respond to the instructor’s questions and 2 student responses each week. Each student will receive 1 point weekly for meeting these criteria with thoughtful, well-articulated input.

**4)** The “Instructor Discussion Forum B” will revolve around discussion questions posted by the instructor. Students are required to respond to the instructor’s questions and 2 student responses each week. Each student will receive 1 point weekly for meeting these criteria with thoughtful, well-articulated input.

**Non-Graded Black Board Discussion Forums** –There are two non-graded discussion forums that students can utilize as needed.

- 1) “Virtual Office” is an online version of instructor office hours or a question and answer session with the instructor. It is open and visible to all students in the class. If you have a question that other students might have, please ask it here.
- 2) “Virtual Lounge” is a place where you can discuss class related issues (both logistical and other discussion related to the subject matter) with your colleagues. This forum is visible to the instructor, but will not be regularly monitored.

**Student/Instructor Conversations** – Students keep in touch with the instructor via e-mail messages, telephone conference calls, and IM conversations.

**Self-Assessments** – Pre- and post- self-assessment tools will help students measure their entering skills and progress during the course.

**Required Reading** – Readings should be read according to the schedule outlined in the syllabus. Chapters will be discussed online. Instructor reserves the right to modify readings to meet the needs and interests of the class. The instructor may add additional readings and references on an as needed weekly basis throughout the course. These items will include video links and items available via blackboard that will supplement the discussion.

**Publisher Web Site** – A publisher web site at <http://www.nnn.com/nnn> includes instructional materials, PowerPoint slides, case studies, application exercises, and practice quizzes. You should make use of as many of these resources as you need to be successful.

**Assignments** – Assignments include two Power Point Style presentations to the class and one research paper. The final paper is 1400 words and graded in 3 installments: proposal, draft, and final paper.

## LEADERSHIP TRANSCRIPTS

The leadership transcript enables students to track co-curricular activities that are undertaken above and beyond the requirements of the LTU curriculum. The leadership transcript serves students by enhancing the leadership portfolio; providing the opportunity for a transcript of distinction; enhancing their resumes; and assisting in articulating leadership experience. **It can be accessed by logging on to Banner Web and clicking the Student and Financial Aid tab.** Leadership Activities is located at the bottom of the list.

## CLASS POLICIES AND EXPECTATIONS

I plan to offer you a valuable learning experience, and expect us to work together to achieve this goal. Here are some general expectations regarding this course:

Each student has a LTU email account. If you wish to use a different email address for this course, please **change your email address in Blackboard under “Blackboard Tools”, then “Personal Information”** and send an email to me so I can store your address in my email directory.

Readings, discussion forum participation, and written assignments must be completed according to the class schedule. It is important to contact the instructor as needed to discuss personal needs regarding course requirements and assignments.

It is essential that all students actively contribute to the course objectives through their experiences and working knowledge.

All assignments must be submitted on schedule, via Blackboard, and using Microsoft Office compatible software. If you need to submit an assignment via email, contact the instructor in advance.

Assignments must be completed to an adequate standard to obtain a passing grade. Requirements for each assignment are detailed in this syllabus.

Be prepared to log into Blackboard at least once each day. Please focus your online correspondence within the appropriate Blackboard discussion forums so that your colleagues can learn from you.

At midterm and at the end of the course, you will be invited to participate in a University evaluation of this course. Your feedback is important to the University, to LTU Online, and to me as an instructor, and I encourage you to participate in the evaluation process.

It is important for you as students to know what to expect from me as your instructor:

- I will be available to you via e-mail and phone, and will promptly reply to your messages.
- I will be available to you for face-to-face appointments as requested.
- I will maintain the Blackboard web site with current materials, and will resolve any content-related problems promptly as they are reported to me.
- I will send out a weekly e-mail update to all class members to guide upcoming work and remind you of assignment due dates.
- I will return all assignments to you promptly, and will include individualized comments and suggestions with each assignment.
- I will hold our personal written or verbal communications in confidence. I will not post any of your assignments for viewing by the class without requesting your approval in advance.
- I will treat all members of the class fairly, and will do my best to accommodate individual learning styles and special needs.
- If any of these points need clarification, or when special circumstances arise that require my assistance, please contact me so that we can discuss the matter personally.

## **PRACTICAL GUIDELINES FOR CLASS LOAD EXPECTATIONS**

A three-credit course generally requires at least nine hours per week of time commitment. Here are some practical guidelines to help schedule your time commitments for this online course:

- A 14-week semester (the Summer semester is compressed into 10 weeks) would require at least 126 hours of time commitment to successfully complete all readings, activities, assignments, and texts as described in this syllabus. **\*\*Please remember that you are not attending a face-to-face class for 3 hours per week, so you should expect that this time will be added on to that which you would normally spend on coursework.\*\***
- You should reserve at least 6 hours per week to read the required textbook chapters and resources, participate in online discussions, review presentation materials, and work through online quizzes. This effort will total at least 84 hours over the course of the semester.
- You should organize your remaining time to roughly correspond with the point value of each major assignment. This means that you should plan to spend at least:
  - 8-9 hours preparing your case study review;
  - 24-40 hours working with your group on the three parts of your semester-long project;
  - 8-9 hours working on the various components of your reflective consolidation (final exam).

These guidelines may not reflect the actual amount of outside time that you – as a unique individual with your own learning style – will need to complete the course requirements. The number of hours each week will vary based on assignment due dates, so please plan ahead to insure that you schedule your

academic, work, and personal time effectively. The following graphic can be used to guide you in planning your weekly course work to remain on schedule:

Online Learning Schedule						
MON	TUES	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
Read Textbook Chapter						
		Take Online Chapter Quiz				
		Participate in Weekly Blackboard Discussions				
Individual and Group Project Work - Coordinate With Colleagues						
Instructor Communication - As Needed						

### ASSIGNMENT DETAILS

Details for all assignments will be located in the Assignments section of Blackboard. Please note that you should not submit any papers to the Blackboard "Digital Drop Box." All papers are submitted using the assignment link within the Module. The student presentations and the final presentations will be submitted using the "Digital Drop Box."

### SYLLABUS ADDENDA

Please see the LTU Online "Current Students" web site <http://www.ltu.edu/ltuonline/> for comprehensive information about Lawrence Tech's academic services, library services, student services, and academic integrity standards. The content of this web site is explicitly included as syllabus requirements.

The LTU Online "Current Students" web site also includes grading rubrics used by your instructor to evaluate written assignments, discussion forum participation, and group assignments. Please note that the SafeAssign anti-plagiarism product will be used for written assignments submitted for this course. Please see the instructions included on the LTU Online web site regarding the use of the SafeAssign product.