



HISTORY OF HK ARCHITECTURE

INSTRUCTOR
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ISSUE

During the 1930s-1980s, Hong Kong witnessed its modernisation, post-war reconstruction, and economic takeoff. The most active architectural activities took place during this period. How did these architectural activities respond to this historical development, as well as to Hong Kong's unique geographical conditions? And, ultimately, what can we learn from them?

While many studies have touched upon the history of this era, the architectural experiments have not received sufficient in-depth understanding. These studies often focus on specific buildings, architects, and architectural styles or types, lacking a comprehensive understanding. This course aims to present an overview of Hong Kong's architectural history during this era, fostering discussion and guiding in-depth investigations into selected case studies.

DESCRIPTION

The course provides an account of Hong Kong's architectural history the 1930s-1980s, fostering discussion and enabling in-depth investigations of selected case studies. By exploring the region's architectural history, this course will enrich the humanities curriculum at the School of Architecture of CUHK, linking regional architecture to the wider global architectural context.

IMPACT AND SUSTAINABILITY

The learning outcomes will not only deepen the understanding of Hong Kong architecture but also enlighten present/future architectural design practices, as well as contribute to the practice of heritage conservation in Hong Kong.

COURSE SYLLABUS

PART 1

Through a series of lectures, an understanding of the 20th-century architecture of Hong Kong is discussed from three perspectives: buildings in history, buildings in the place, and buildings in the society.

PART 2

The course instructor will guide the students to conduct in-depth investigations on selected cases.

METHODS

For the first part, students are required to attend lectures and actively participate in discussions regarding the topics covered. Subsequently, students will form groups to conduct the investigation, which will involve several steps: archival study and field trips to collect data, formal analysis and contextual analysis, and an interpretive narrative presented in video format. At the end of the semester, there will be a screening session followed by review and discussion.

DELIVERABLES

- 01_ A raw material package of found drawings, photos (historical or from on-site studies), historical documents, interview records, etc.
- 02_ A set of drawings and a digital model of the selected project
- 03_ A set of analytical diagrams
- 04_ A video presentation as a narrative to showcase the investigation's findings.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. An understanding of the legacies extracted from the selected projects
2. An understanding of the evolution of 20th-century Hong Kong architecture and its relationship to technological progress, social-economic changes, and the exchange of architectural cultures
3. An understanding of the role and contribution of architects in the building industry of Hong Kong
4. An understanding of the impact of local conditions on architecture
5. An understanding of the characteristics of 20th-century Hong Kong architecture
6. An understanding of the 20th-century architecture
7. Able to adopt the taught methodology and skill sets to study architecture
8. Able to collaborate on investigation

ASSESSMENT SCHEME

SPECIFIC ASSESSMENT

- 01_ Raw Material Package (20%)
- 02_ Redrawn Drawings and Digital Model (30%)
- 03_ Analytical Diagram (15%)
- 04_ Video (35%)

Total: 100%

COURSE FORMAT

1_ Teaching Days

1. Students must attend for F2F teaching during these teaching hours.
Teaching Day: Tuesday
2. Teaching Venue: School of Architecture (TBC)
3. Field trips, lectures, and other learning activities may be scheduled outside of teaching days.

2_ Student Study Effort_3 credit course (Total: 139 hrs)

1. Class Contact: 39 hrs (Lecture –10hrs, Tutorial – 20hrs, Field Trip –9 hrs)
2. Other Student Study Effort: 100 hrs (Studio / Self Study)

REQUIRED READINGS

Baker, Geoffrey Howard. *Design Strategies in Architecture: An Approach to the Analysis of Form*.
Blundell-Jones, Peter. *Modern Architecture through Case Studies*. Oxford: Architectural Press, 2002.
Clark, Roger H., and Michael Pause. 2012. *Precedents in Architecture: Analytic Diagrams, Formative Ideas, and Partis*.
Eisenman, Peter. 2006. *The Formal Basis of Modern Architecture*.

Frampton, Kenneth, and Ashley Simone. *A Genealogy of Modern Architecture: Comparative Critical Analysis of Built Form*. Zurich: Lars Müller Publishers, 2015.

Rowe, Colin. *The Mathematics of the Ideal Villa, and Other Essays*. Cambridge, Mass: MIT Press, 1976.

Unwin, Simon. *Analysing Architecture: The Universal Language of Place-Making*.

OTHER REFERENCES

Christ, Emanuel, Christoph Gantenbein, Hendrik Tieben, and Nele Dechmann, eds. *Hong Kong Typology: An Architectural Research on Hong Kong Building Types*. Zurich: GTA, 2010.

Chung, Wah Nan. *Contemporary Architecture in Hong Kong*. First Edition edition. Hong Kong: Joint Publishing Co, 1989.

Gu, Daqing. *Chung Chi Original Campus Architecture: Hong Kong Chinese Architects' Practice of Modern Architecture*. Hong Kong: Chung Chi College, Chinese University of Hong Kong, 2011.

Fujimori, Ryo. 'Evolution of Urban Form in Hong Kong: A Study of Development Controls and High-Density Housing Models'. The University of Hong Kong, 2015.

LUNG Bingyi 龍炳頤: *Xianggang gujin jianzhu 香港古今建築*, Hong Kong, Joint Publishing (H.K.) Ltd., 1992.

Ng, Kai Chung, and Sid C. H. Chu. '100 Years of Hong Kong Architecture - Chronicles of Early Chinese Architects in Hong Kong'. *HKIA Journal*, no. 40 (2004): 44–57.

Shelton, Barrie, Justyna Karakiewicz, and Thomas Kvan. *The Making of Hong Kong: From Vertical to Volumetric*. Planning, History and Environment Series. Abingdon, Oxfordshire; New York, NY: Routledge, 2011.

SMART Alan. *The Shek Kip Mei Myth: Squatters, Fires and Colonial Rule in Hong Kong, 1950–1963*. Hong Kong, Hong Kong University Press, 2006.

Wang, Haoyu. 'Mainland Architects in Hong Kong after 1949: A Bifurcated History of Modern Chinese Architecture'. The University of Hong Kong, 2008.

IMPORTANT NOTE TO STUDENTS

Expectations for Professional Conduct

The motto of The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) is “Through learning and temperance to virtue”. This motto places equal emphasis on the intellectual and moral education of students. In addition to pursuing academic excellence, students of CUHK are expected to maintain and uphold the highest standard of integrity and honesty in their academic and personal lives, respect the rights of others and abide by the law. More information on Postgraduate studies can be found in the PG Student Handbook. <https://www.gs.cuhk.edu.hk/>

Attendance

Class attendance is required in all courses. For an excused absence, the instructor must be notified and presented with documentation of illness or personal matter. Please note: **Three (3)** or more unexcused absences may result in a failing grade for the course.

Academic Honesty

The Chinese University of Hong Kong places very high importance on honesty in academic work submitted by students and adopts a policy of zero tolerance on academic dishonesty

Attention is drawn to University policy and regulations on honesty in academic work, and to the disciplinary guidelines and procedures applicable to breaches of such policy and regulations. Details may be found at: <http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/>.

With each assignment, students may be required to submit a statement that they are aware of these policies, regulations, guidelines and procedures.

Third-Party Assistance

All intellectual work essential to the design project must be completed by the student and cannot, under any circumstance, be outsourced to a third party (including, but not limited to a company, consultant, alumni, and/or friend).

In the design studio context, students may utilize external resources, such as printing services for presentation materials, and/or laser cutting and 3D printing services for prototyping purposes. Use of such third-party services constitutes non-intellectual work done by others. It is only permitted with prior written consent from the studio tutor and acknowledgment of such work done by the third party.

Assistance from other students or friends for aspects of project production also constitutes non-intellectual work done by others; this is allowed only if declared and acknowledged in a written statement attached to any such work that has received assistance.

Under all circumstances, students must declare all work done by others by completing the school's designated form before assessment. This form must include a detailed explanation of the third party's identity (name and relationship to the student), when and how they were utilized, and the specific tasks they performed in the project. The completed form, signed by the student, must be endorsed by the tutor and presented during the final review. The school will collect and retain this form for record-keeping purposes.

Failure to follow this code of conduct may be considered a case of academic dishonesty, to be reviewed by a disciplinary board, and possible failure of the course.

Artificial Intelligence

Unless approved by the Programme or School Director, any use of AI tools such as ChatGPT or image generation tools (Midjourney) etc. is strictly prohibited and may result in disciplinary action in accordance with university policy on academic honesty. Students may refer to the CUHK ‘Use of Artificial Intelligence tools in Teaching, Learning and Assessments’ – A Guide for Students.

Student Work

Submission of studio documentation must be complete and correctly formatted. Missing or incomplete submission of the documentation folder will result in the grade for the course being withheld. This will prevent registration for the following term or delay graduation. In addition, a grade deduction of *one letter grade* will be made.

Term 1: 2 September 2024 (Monday) – 30 November 2024 (Saturday)

WEEK 01		
03.09	LECTURE	Course Introduction
WEEK 02		
10.09	LECTURE	
WEEK 03		
17.09	LECTURE	
WEEK 04		
24.09	TUTORIAL	
WEEK 05		
01.10	NATIONAL DAY	No class
WEEK 06		
08.10	TUTORIAL	
WEEK 07		
15.10	TUTORIAL	
WEEK 08		
22.10	TUTORIAL	
WEEK 09		
29.10		
WEEK 10		
05.11	TUTORIAL	
WEEK 11		
12.11	TUTORIAL	
WEEK 12		
19.11	TUTORIAL	
WEEK 13		
26.11	TUTORIAL	

Grade	Descriptor	Criteria	Points
A	Excellent	Comprehensively excellent performance on all aspects of the design intention, development, technical resolution and presentation. Achieving all learning outcomes with distinction.	4
A-	Very Good	Generally outstanding performance on the design intention, development, technical resolution and presentation. Achieving all learning outcomes with merit.	3.7
B+	Good	Substantial performance on the design intention, development, technical resolution and presentation. Achieving all learning outcomes satisfactorily.	3.3
B			3
B-			2.7
C+	Fair	Fair performance on the design intention, development, technical resolution and presentation. Achieving all learning outcomes at a passing standard.	2.3
C			2
C-			1.7
D+	Pass	Barely satisfactory performance on the design intention, development, technical resolution and presentation. Achieving all learning outcomes at a barely satisfactory standard.	1.3
D			1
F	Failure	Unsatisfactory performance on the design intention, development, technical resolution and presentation. Not achieving all learning outcomes.	0