HISP 655: American Vernacular Architecture & Documentation

University of Maryland
School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation

Fall 2013

Instructor: Prof. Donald W. Linebaugh
Office Location: Architecture, Room 1244
Office Hours: Tuesdays, 1-4 pm and by appointment
Phone: 301-405-6309
Email: dwline@umd.edu

CLASS TIME: Tuesday, 7:00 – 9:40 pm

CLASS LOCATION: Bostwick House

OVERVIEW AND COURSE OBJECTIVES:

This course will explore the history, theory, and practice of vernacular architecture studies. Looking at the “common buildings of particular regions and time periods,” the course will prepare students for studying and documenting these buildings, as well as thinking about the patterns and meanings of their use at both the individual and community level. Vernacular architecture studies draws on a board theoretical perspective that engages many disciplines and critical approaches.

This course is intended for preservation students and students in allied disciplines who would like to become familiar with the methods, theories, and contemporary practices of vernacular archaeology, particularly those that impact the field of historic preservation. We will take several field trips during the semester to examine vernacular structures and landscapes.

The specific goals of this course are to:

Familiarize students with the methods, theories, and contemporary practices of vernacular architecture, particularly those that impact the field of historic preservation;

Develop a working vocabulary in vernacular architecture and be introduced to field work skills (recording, drawing, research);
Gain exposure to a wide and diverse range of practice and debate in the field;

Enable students to begin to form their own framework and understanding of vernacular architecture; and

Explore contemporary issues in vernacular architecture, such as race, ethnicity, gender, power and ideology, and preservation.

ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADES:

All written work for this course should be of a level appropriate to graduate students. Spellings, mechanics and grammar do count; this is an opportunity to improve your ability to communicate in written formats. Please take the time to proofread all assignments carefully. Writing is a lifelong project, and you can always improve and hone your skills.

All assignments should be in 12 pt. font, with 1 inch margins and have page numbers. Please use the footnote/endnote style in the Chicago Manual of Style (14th Ed.). Internet citations should be used very sparingly and cautiously. Please DO NOT bind your papers or use folders – simply staple in the upper left hand corner.

Class Participation and Preparation (15% of final grade)
Preparing for reading and leading discussions.

Midterm Exam: (30% of final grade) (October 23)

Assignment 1: (15% of final grade) – Measured floor plan and wall elevation (due November 13)

Assignment 2: (10% of final grade) – Architectural Description (due November 20)

Assignment 3: (25% of final grade) – Research Paper (due December 17)

The UMD Historic Preservation Department uses letter grades based on the point system:

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<th>Grade</th>
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<td>A</td>
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<td>B+</td>
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<td>B</td>
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Course Grading:

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<th>Component</th>
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<tr>
<td>Class Participation/Preparation</td>
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<td>Midterm Exam:</td>
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STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

Students with disabilities who may need academic accommodations should discuss options with their professors during the first two (2) weeks of class so that the student’s learning needs may be appropriately met. The student will need to provide documentation of a disability – assistance is available through Dr. Alan Marcus at Disability Support Service (301-314-7682).

LEARNING ASSISTANCE SERVICE

"If you are experiencing difficulties in keeping up with the academic demands of this course, contact the Learning Assistance Service, 2202 Shoemaker Building, 301-314-7693. Their educational counselors can help with time management, reading, math learning skills, note-taking and exam preparation skills. All their services are free to UMD students."

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND THE HONOR CODE:

Academic integrity is essential, and the absolute highest standard of integrity and ethical conduct is a requirement of this course. The University Honor Code must be followed in all your work (see the web for the code of academic integrity).

“The University of Maryland, College Park has a nationally recognized Code of Academic Integrity, administered by the Student Honor Council. This Code sets standards for academic integrity at Maryland for all undergraduate and graduate students. As a student you are responsible for upholding these standards for this course. It is very important for you to be aware of the consequences of cheating, fabrication, facilitation, and plagiarism. For more information on the Code of Academic Integrity or the Student Honor Council, please visit: www.studenthonorcouncil.umd.edu/whatis.html.”

Should your instructor determine that any form of academic dishonesty has taken place in this course, the student(s) involved will face appropriate sanctions.
COURSE MATERIALS:

We have 2 required texts for the class that can be purchased at the University Bookstore or through Amazon or some other online bookseller (one copy of each is on Reserve in the Architecture Library):


Other Recommended Texts to Consider (not required)


Other readings are available on Blackboard, on reserve in the Architecture Library, or will be handed out in class.

BOOKS ON RESERVE:


*Gender, Class, and Shelter, Perspectives in Vernacular Architecture V.* Edited by Elizabeth Collins Cromley and Carter L. Hudgins. (Knoxville, University Press of Tennessee, 1997).

*Exploring Everyday Landscapes, Perspectives in Vernacular Architecture VII.* Edited by Annmarie Adams and Sally McMurry. (Knoxville, University Press of Tennessee, 1997).


E-Books –


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**COURSE SCHEDULE:**

**SEPTEMBER 3, CLASS 1**

**INTRODUCTION**

**Readings:**


EXAMINING THE EVIDENCE:

SEPTEMBER 10, CLASS 2
BUILDINGS TECHNOLOGIES – PART I (LECTURE)

Readings:


Wells, Camille. “Building Components and Details.”


Other Materials:


SEPTEMBER 17, CLASS 3
BUILDINGS TECHNOLOGIES – PART II (LECTURE)

Readings:


SEPTEMBER 24, CLASS 4
BUILDING TECHNOLOGIES – PART III (LECTURE)

Readings:

SEPTEMBER 1, CLASS 5
STYLE, TYPE, PLAN – PART I (LECTURE)

Readings:


OCTOBER 8, CLASS 6
STYLE, TYPE, PLAN – PART II (LECTURE)

Readings:


OCTOBER 15, CLASS 7
STYLE, TYPE, PLAN – PART III (LECTURE) & MIDTERM REVIEW

Readings:


MIDTERM REVIEW SESSION

OCTOBER 22, CLASS 8
MIDTERM EXAM (1 HOUR +/-) & ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTIONS

Readings:

Class Handouts

OCTOBER 29, CLASS 9
FIELDWORK – BUILDING ARCHAEOLOGY – PART I (Documentation and Recording)
Readings:


November 1, (9:30am-4pm) Fieldwork – ??????????????? (Need camera)

Readings:

TBA

November 5, Class 10
Fieldwork – Building Archaeology – Part II (Fieldwork Followup)
Readings:

Review fieldwork and materials from Class 8

November 12, Class 11 - Dendrochronology Workshop

Readings:

TBA

Interpreting the Evidence:

November 19, Class 12
Domestic Buildings
Readings:


NOVEMBER 26, CLASS 13
COMMERCIAL, INDUSTRIAL, AND PUBLIC BUILDINGS

Readings:


**LEARNING FROM THE EVIDENCE:**

**DECEMBER 3, CLASS 14**

**GENDER, CLASS, RACE AND ETHNICITY**

**Readings:**


DECEMBER 10, CLASS 15
POLITICS, POWER AND IDEOLOGY

Readings:


DECEMBER 17, FINAL EXAM PERIOD – ASSIGNMENT #3 DUE BY 5PM
HISP 655 Fall 2013 Calendar – Don Linebaugh

Updated 7/9/13

HISP 655 7-9:30pm

September 3rd
September 10th
September 17th
September 24th
October 1st
October 8th
October 15th
October 22nd
October 29th
November 5th
November 12th
November 19th
November 26th

28th thru Dec 1st    Thanksgiving Recess
December 1st
December 3rd
December 10th
December 17th    Last Day of Class    (December 16th – 21st Final Exams)
December 17th
HISP 710/711 Final Project and Studio Presentations 6-8pm Rm 1111