NYSID #111 Modern Architecture and Design I 1760-1893

Lecture credits 2
Part One of a two part, two semester survey course of modern architecture & design from the 18th century work of Robert Adam to the post-Modernism of the 1990's.

Syon Park Conservatory, near London 1837.

#1: The Palladian Tradition, Robert Adam and the Georgian/Federalist Style 1760-1790
#2: The European Classical Revival / The American Greek Revival 1780-1845
#3: The Neo-Gothic 1845-1865
#4: The Italianate 1845-1865
#5: The Second Empire Style and the neo-Baroque 1860-1875
#6: The Victorian "Moderne" in England and France: The Metallic Style 1840-1870
#7: The American Neo-Grec 1870-1885
#8: Origins of Modernism in England: John Ruskin, Wm. Morris, the Arts & Crafts Reform and the Queen Anne Style 1840-1885
#9: The Ruskinian Gothic aka High Victorian Gothic and Modern Design 1855-1880
#10: The American Victorian "Moderne" in the 1870's: Richard Morris Hunt & Frank Furness
#11: The American Victorian "Moderne" 1880's, Part I: Domestic Design in the neo-Romanesque and the American Queen Anne (the Shingle Style)
#12: The "American Victorian Moderne" 1880's, Part II: Commercial design & the beginning of the skyscraper
#13: Late 19th Design and the Foundations of 20th Century Modernism
#14: Review of the semester
#15: Final Exam
Lecture credits 2

Part Two of a two part, two semester survey course of modern architecture & design from the 18th century work of Robert Adam to the post-Modernism of the 1990's.


#1: Beaux-Arts: Introduction / The Public Buildings 1890-1920
#2: The Skyscraper 1890-1910: The Beaux-Arts vs. Louis Sullivan & the Chicago School
#3: Beaux-Arts 1890-1920: Urban Mansions, Rowhouses & Apartment Houses
#4: The Middle Class American Home & the Garden Suburb: 1890-1940
#5: European Roots of Art Deco: 1900-1915 Mackintosh's Hill House in Scotland, the Vienna Secessionists in Austria, the Futurists in Italy.
#6: European Roots of Art Deco: 1915-1925 Dutch and German Expressionism; the French Classical Moderne & the 1925 Art Deco Exposition
#7: American Art Deco Skyscrapers of the 1920's
#8: American Art Moderne Skyscrapers of the 1930's
#13: Wrap-Up
#14: Review of the semester
#15: Final exam
#1-#4: Introduction to the Beaux-Arts Tradition & Modern Domestic Design

#1: The Beaux-Arts Tradition: Variety and Nuances.
The neo-classical tradition, created by the Renaissance, ran the gamut of expression from the theatrical intensity of the Baroque (the Roman tradition of the grotesque, the Cuvilliés Theater in Munich, the Capucine cemetery in Rome) to the austere, minimalist proto-Modern work of Germany’s Karl Friedrich von Schinkel and England's John Soane.

#2: Richard Morris Hunt & the Beginning of American Design Professionalism
Though his work is largely forgotten today, Hunt, America's first professionally trained architect took Europe's neo-classical tradition and its nuanced variety and adapted it to the American experience of domestic, commercial and town planning design.

#3: Hunt, H. H. Richardson & McKim, Mead & White: Foundations of the Modern American Home
All 3 architectural firms contributed to the evolution of the modern American home with emphasis on clarity in design, simple expression of material and open, light-filled interior layouts. Richardson & McKim, Mead & White preferred simple, minimalist Renaissance geometry; Hunt championed the 19th century's Picturesque.

#4: Elsie de Wolfe, James Deering and Henry Davis Sleeper
DeWolfe’s simple, pared-down interiors, Deering’s Vizcaya (1910-20, Miami, FL) and Sleeper’s Beauport (1910-1925, Gloucester, MA) are all brilliant examples of the new, Beaux-Arts based American Eclecticism.
#5-#9: Walking tours of Beaux-Arts New York
Public & private interiors of the Beaux-Arts era will be examined for their relevance to Modern design. Exteriors will be examined for style, scale, urbanity and direct expression of function. Itineraries change, but areas covered might include:

- The Fifth Avenue Commercial Palazzo: 34th-42nd Sts.
- The Public Library (1911): A Machine for Research
- Grand Central Terminal (1913): A Machine for Movement
- Villard House interior (if available), 1883: clarity in a box.
- Otto Khan house (if available), 1918: a Renaissance villa, precursor to Modernism.
- The Upper West Side: from the Dakota (1883) to Verdi Square.

#10-#13: The Beaux-Arts Tradition and the Middle Class American House
The golden age of American house design, from 1890 to 1940, was shaped by the Beaux-Arts domestic tradition R.M. Hunt first introduced back in the 1870's and '80's. These modern American homes were spacious, light-filled and informal and attention was paid to the entire spectrum of the middle and working class market. This same Beaux-Arts tradition gave all classes access to an invented history of Revival styles that could embellish their homes with dignity.

#10: The 1893 Chicago World's Fair introduces us to the Beaux-Arts Revival home
#11: Beaux-Arts for the masses: mail-order houses & "Archie Bunkers" with class
#12: Beaux-Arts Revival: The West Coast bungalow; the Dutch Colonial Revival, the Tudor Revival
#13: The Georgian / Saltbox / Cotswold Cottage Revivals; the Spanish Colonial Revival; Pueblo Revival
#14: Review.
#15: Final exam
#2: Art Nouveau: France and Germany
#3: C.R. Mackintosh, the Macdonalds & H. McNair: Glasgow School of Art, Miss Cranston Tea Rooms, Graphics.
#4: Vienna Secession: Hoffmann, Moser, Wagner and Loos.
#5: Prague Cubism / Josip Plecnik 1910's-1920's
#6: French Deco 1910's-1920's
#7: Art Deco / Modernistic: Eileen Gray
#8: American Art Deco: Northern European Expressionism and Eliel Saarinen's Cranbrook Academy
#9: American Art Deco: Cranbrook Academy II, Arts & Crafts to Biomorphis
#11: Moving Towards The Biomorphic 1935-55
   (TOURS MIGHT CHANGE FROM SEMESTER TO SEMESTER)
#12: TOUR Art Deco Skyscrapers of the Grand Central district
#13: TOUR Waldorf-Astoria: An American Sandwich of German Expressionism and French Art Deco
#14: TOUR Rockefeller Center & (if available) Radio City Music Hall & the Roxy apartment
#15: FINAL EXAM