Boston University, Paris Architecture and Urbanism Program, Summer 2014

Paris Architecture and Urbanism  
AH383, Professor Tricia Meehan

From Monument to Urban Landscape

Course Description:

This course traces the development of Parisian architecture and urbanism from the Roman period to the present, with a strong emphasis on the 19th and 20th century development of the city. It is designed to offer students a sense of the dynamic exchange between architectural form, urban development, the history of ideas and the larger cultural and political history of Paris. The course prioritizes first-hand exploration of the city, which requires that students complete readings and arrive prepared to relate those texts to the sites we visit. Students will choose one of five conceptual themes through which to investigate the city, culminating in an individual final written paper at the end of the class as well as a group presentation at the capstone seminar. This final seminar will bring together faculty from Boston, London and Paris for a comparative discussion of the capitals explored during the eight-week program.

Course Logistics:

Class Schedule: On designated mornings. Lecture 9:00am-10:00am, Visit 10:45am-12:45pm, unless indicated otherwise in the schedule.
Capstone Seminar: Friday, 11 July 2014, 9:00-1:00.
Location: Seminar room for lectures and designated meeting points for visits.
Office Hours: By appointment.
E-mail: Tricia Meehan: tricia.meehan@libertysurf.fr; triciam@bu.edu
E-mails received after 6 pm will be treated the next business day.

Required Texts

*Paris par Arrondissement*, *L’Indispensable.*
Course Reader (Two Volumes).

A course reader of required readings will be available for purchase at a local copy shop. Photocopies of supplemental readings will be held on reserve at the BU Center Paris.
Grading

Weekly Journals 15%
Mid-Term Exam 30%
Final Paper 30%
Capstone Presentation 15%
Class Participation 10%

This is an intensive course and your presence at each session is indispensable. Thus, absences and tardiness cannot be tolerated:

| 1 absence from class, a required activity or in-class presentation | = -1 point on your final grade |
| More than 3 unexcused absences | = F for the course |
| Unsubmitted written work, Absence for a presentation or exam, Plagiarism | = F (0 points) for the assignment in question |

*Excused absences = absence for illness excused by the certificate of a French doctor.
Documentation to be submitted to Renée the day following the absence.

Tardiness

• The professor reserves the right to not admit a tardy student to class or to count a tardy arrival as either a half or whole unexcused absence.
• Late arrivals to class will impact the class participation grade.
• Late submission of written work will entail a penalty on the assignment grade.
  Written work submitted more than a week late will not receive credit (grade =F).

Official BU Plagiarism Policy

All students are responsible for having read the Boston University statement on plagiarism, which is available in the Academic Conduct Code. Students are advised that the penalty against students in a Boston University program for cheating on the examinations or for plagiarism may be ‘expulsion from the program or the University or such other penalty as may be recommended by the Committee on Student Academic Conduct, subject to approval by the Dean.
http://www.bu.edu/academics/policies/academic-conduct-code/

Grading Scale

| 93-100: | A |
| 90-92.5: | A- |
| 87-89.5: | B+ |
| 83-86.5: | B |
| 80-82.5: | B- |
| 77-79.5: | C+ |
| 73-76.5: | C |
| 70-72.5: | C- |
| 60-69.5: | D |
| 0-59.5: | F |
## Schedule

### Week 1

| Session 1 | Tues. 17 June | Lecture: Course Intro + Roman Paris  
Visit: The Traces of Roman Paris |
|-----------|--------------|---------------------------------|
| Session 2 | Thurs. 19 June | Lecture: Medieval Paris – Ville, Cité, Université  
Visit: The Heart of a Kingdom – The Île-de-la-Cité |
| Session 3 | Fri. 20 June | Lecture: Classicism à la française  
Visit: Royal Urbanism and the Rise of the Marais |

### Week 2

| Session 4 | Tues. 24 June | Lecture: The Grand siècle  
Visit: A New Administrative Center – Reinventing the Louvre  
**Visit Journal 1 Due** |
|-----------|--------------|---------------------------------|
| Session 5 | Wed. 25 June | Lecture: Enlightenment, Revolution and Empire  
Visit: Convention and Invention – New Urban Commercial Models |
| Session 6 | Thur. 26 June | ATTENTION: Class starts with the visit at 8:45.  
Visit: Industrialization and the Sainte-Geneviève Library  
Lecture: From the Restoration to the Second Empire |
| Session 7 | Fri. 27 June | No Lecture.  
Visit 9:30-12:30: The City as a Work of Art – The Opera Quarter  
**Mid-Term Take Home Distributed** |

### Week 3

| Session 8 | Mon. 30 June | Lecture: The Birth of the Metropolis  
Visit: Western Paris 1 – Paris, A World Stage  
**Mid-Term Take Home Due** |
|-----------|--------------|---------------------------------|
| Session 9 | Tue. 1 July | Lecture: The Modernist Challenge  
Visit: Western Paris 2 – New Tendencies in Domestic Architecture  
**No Class – Wed. 2 July** |
| Session 10 | Thur. 3 July | No Lecture.  
Visit 9:30-12:30: Eastern Paris - Renewing the Fringe: Cités jardins and Habitations à bon marché |
| Session 11 | Fri. 4 July | Lecture: Modernizing Paris  
Visit: Rethinking the Center – The Marais and the Plateau Beaubourg |

### Week 4

| Session 12 | Mon. 7 July | **Visit Journal 2 Due**  
Lecture: Affirming the Cultural Quotient  
Visit: The Grands Projets and the Mise en scène of the Seine |
|------------|-------------|---------------------------------|
| Session 13 | Tue. 8 July | Deindustrialization and the Livable City  
Visit: New Urban Strategies in Bercy & Massena  
**Wednesday 9 July – No Class** |
| Capstone Seminar | Fri. 12 July | Paris and London: A Comparison  
**Final Papers due at 3:00pm** |

### Notes:
- The visit of La Défense is mandatory.
- The visit of Versailles is strongly recommended.
Journals and Thematic Inquiry

Students will select one of five themes on which to focus their four-week investigation of Paris. These themes – Conceptions of the City, Heritage, Infrastructure, Natural & Built Environment, Public Realm – will serve as a unifying lens through which to mark changes in urbanism and architecture across the city's 2,000-year history. In 2-page journal entries students will relate the week’s readings and site visits to their particular theme of inquiry. Journals might offer an analysis of a particular site or reading, but always with an eye to organizing one’s cumulative, focused reflection on continuities and changes within the development of Paris. Your journal entries will help you prepare for the capstone seminar group presentations.

Final Paper

The final paper will explore the topic “Taming the Metropolis” through the lens of each student’s thematic inquiry. The paper may take the form of a research paper (bearing in mind that appropriate resources in English may be difficult to access) or an extended, theoretically structured investigation of a site, text, or other phenomenon related to Parisian architectural or urban development. Required readings from the course reader and supplemental readings, that will function as the common starting point, will be identified during the 1st week of class. Students may then add sources as needed to reinforce the development of their thematic inquiry.

The paper should be 6-pages long and with up to 4 additional pages of images if desired. Proper footnoting, a bibliography and appropriate illustrations are required.

A list of libraries accessible to students is provided to guide you in your research.


BU Center: Lecture
Visit: The Traces of Roman Paris
Meeting Point: 11:00 am, courtyard of the Cluny Museum. (Métro line 10, La Motte-Piquet Grenelle to Cluny-La Sorbonne, 25-30 minutes.)
Itinerary: Frigidarium of the Cluny Baths, Mont Saint Geneviève, Arena of Lutetia

Required Reading:

Supplemental Reading:

Session 2 [19 June]. Medieval Paris: Ville, Cité, Université

BU Center: Lecture
Visit: The Heart of a Kingdom – The Île-de-la-Cité
Meeting Point: 11:00 am, Statue of Charlemagne in front of Notre-Dame de Paris. (RER C Champs de Mars-Tour Eiffel to Saint-Michel Notre-Dame, 25-30 minutes.)
Itinerary: Notre-Dame de Paris, Conciergerie, Sainte-Chapelle.
Required Reading:

Supplemental Reading:

Session 3 [20 June]. Classicism à la française

BU Center: Lecture
Visit: Royal Urbanism and the Rise of the Marais
Meeting Point: 11:00 am, Statue of Louis XIII in the Place de Vosges. (Bus 69, Champs de Mars to Saint-Paul, 25-30 minutes).
Itinerary: Hôtel de Beauvais, Place des Vosges, Hôtel de Sully, Saint Paul-Saint Louis, Église Sainte-Marie de la Visitation (TBC)

Required Readings:

Supplemental Reading:

Session 4 [24 June]. The Grand siècle

BU Center: Lecture
Visit: A New Administrative Center – Reinventing the Louvre
Meeting Point: 11:00 am, corner of Quai François Mitterrand and Pont du Carrousel, Louvre side, (Bus 69, Champs de Mars to Quai François Mitterrand, 20-25 minutes).
Itinerary: Cour carré of the Louvre, Collège de Quatre nations, Tuileries, Place Vendôme and rue Saint Honoré.
Required Readings:

Supplemental Reading:

Session 5 [25 June]. Enlightenment, Revolution, Empire

BU Center: Lecture
Visit: Convention and Invention – New Urban Commercial Models
Meeting Point: 11:00 am, in the place of the Palais Royal. (Bus 69, Champs de Mars to Quai François Mitterrand, 20-25 minutes).
Itinerary: Rue de Rivoli, the Palais Royal, Vivienne Arcades, Bourse, Panorama Arcades, Théâtre des Varieties.

Required Readings: (Enlightenment)

Supplemental Reading (Enlightenment):

Session 6 [26 June]. From the Restoration to the Second Empire

ATTENTION: We start class today with the visit
Visit: Industrialization and the Sainte-Geneviève Library
Meeting Point: 8:45 am, In front of the Bibliothèque Sainte-Geneviève, 10 Place de Panthéon. (Line 10, Vaneau to Maubert Mutualité, 20-25 minutes).
10:45 BU Center: Lecture (Return to BU, Line 10, Maubert Mutualité to Motte-Piquet Grenelle, 30-35 minutes).

Required Readings: (Revolution, Empire, Restoration)
Supplemental Readings (Revolution, Empire, Restoration):

Session 7 [27 June]. The City as a Work of Art

**ATTENTION:** Today will be completely dedicated to a visit.

**Visit:** The Quarter of the Opéra

**Meeting Point:** 9:30 am, Outside of the metro Opéra, in the square in front of the Opéra. (line 10 Vaneau to Motte-Piquet Grenelle, change to line 8, Motte-Piquet Grenelle to Opéra, 25-30 minutes).

**Itinerary:** Place de l’Opéra, Opéra, blvd Haussmannn, Galleries Lafayette, St Lazare Station

**Required Readings:**
Bergdoll, “Urban Reform Before Haussmann” and “Garnier’s Opéra,” in *European Architecture, op cit.*, pp. 244-248, 251-257.

**Supplemental Reading:**

Session 8 [30 June]. The Birth of the Metropolis

**BU Center:** Lecture

**Visit:** Western Paris 1 – Paris, A World Stage

**Meeting Point:** 11:00 am, outside metro Boissière (Line 6, Dupleix to Boissière, 15-20 minutes.)

**Itinerary:** Palais de Tokyo, Palais d’Iéna, Palais Chaillot, Eiffel Tower/Champs de Mars, Housing rue Benjamin Franklin (Perret, Hennepet, etc.)

**Required Reading:**
Supplemental Reading:

Session 9 [1 July]. The Modernist Challenge

BU Center: Lecture
Visit: Western Paris 2 – New Tendencies in Domestic Architecture
  Meeting Point: 11:00 am, outside metro Ranelagh, corner rue Ranelagh and avenue Mozart (line 6, Dupleix to Trocadero, then line 9 to Ranelagh, 25-30 minutes).
  Itinerary: Apartment buildings/villas by Hector Guimard, Pol Abraham, Le Corbusier and Rob Mallet-Stevens; visit interior of Villa La Roche.

Required Readings:

Supplemental Reading:

Session 10 [3 July]. Renewing the Fringe: *Cités jardins & Habitations à bon marché*

ATTENTION: Today will be completely dedicated to a visit.

Visit: Cité Jardin Pré-Saint-Gervais and social housing around the Reservoirs de Lilas and the Butte du Chapeau Rouge.
  Meeting Point: 9:30 am Corner of rue de Belleville and Blvd Sérurier (19th). Métro: Porte de Lilas. (Line 10, Vaneau to Jussieu, line 7 to Chatelet, line 11 to Porte de Lilas, 45-50 minutes.)

Required Readings:
Supplemental Reading:

Session 11 [4 July]. Modernizing Paris

BU Center: Lecture
Visit: Rethinking the Center – The Marais and the Plateau Beaubourg
Meeting Point: 11:00 am, In front of Saint Gervais Church. (Bus 69, Champs de Mars to Église Saint Gervais, 20-25 minutes).

Required Readings:

Supplemental Reading:

Session 12 [8 July]. Affirming the Cultural Quotient

BU Center: Lecture
Visit: The Grands Projets and the Mise en scène of the Seine
Meeting Point: 11:00 am, outside Métro Cardinal Lemoine corner rue Monge and rue du Cardinal Lemoine (line 10, La Motte-Piquet Grenelle to Cardinal Lemoine, 30-35 min +/‐).
Itinerary: Institut du Monde Arabe (lobby/roof terrace), [bus 24 to] Musée d’Orsay (outside), (RER C to) Musée de Quai Branley (garden/lobby).
Required Readings:

Supplemental Reading:

Session 13 [9 July]. Deindustrialization and the Livable City

BU Center: Lecture
Visit: New Urban Strategies in Bercy and Massena
Meeting Point: 11:00 am, in front of the Palais Omnisport de Bercy, on the side facing the rue de Bercy (line 6, Dupleix to Bercy, 30-35 minutes).
Itinerary: Bercy: Ministry of Economy and Finances, Palais Omnisport Bercy, Housing, Maison du Cinéma (Gehry), Bercy Village, Entropôts Lheureux, Place des vins de France, Bercy Park. Massena: Housing, Offices, Frigos, Grands Moulins, Jardins des Grandes Moulins.

Required Readings:

Supplemental Readings:

The professor reserves the right to modify the course syllabus