

**MODULE TITLE:** Cultural Context of Architecture III  
**MODULE CODE:** ARC301B1  
**MODULE LEVEL:** 2  
**CREDIT POINTS:** 10  
**LOCATION:** Belfast  
**ELEARNING** On WebCT once registered  
**PREREQUISITES:**  
**CO REQUISITES:**  
**MODULE CO-ORDINATOR:** Dr Bill (William J) Thompson RIBA  
**TEACHING STAFF** Bill Thompson, Liam Kelly, Kirsten Mey

**HOURS:**  
Feedback session 2 hours  
Seminars 10 hours  
Coursework (typically) 10 hours  
Lectures 10 hours  
Independent learning, typically 68 hours  
**Total 100 hours**

**ACADEMIC SUBJECT:** Architecture

**RATIONALE:**

Exploring representation and interpretation, identifying subject boundaries and subsequent rational arrangements by way of architectural texts, manifestos and manifestations from the late 19th century to the present. This will enhance the students understanding of architectural practice and extension into larger scale social issues.

**AIMS:**

- To develop the students capacity to use knowledge of history, socio-cultural issues and theories in their work
- To develop the student's capacity for the use of text and illustration.
- To encourage students to broaden their awareness of historical, social, cultural and theoretical issues and their application to architectural practices.

## **INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

*100% of the assessment will be by **coursework** to allow essay writing as the mode of assessment and include feedback to the students during the semester interactively with seminars/lectures.*

A successful student will be able to show that he/she can:

### **Knowledge and Understanding**

- K1 Identify and apply an understanding of relationships between personal, historical, social and cultural circumstances and architectural practice
- K6 Identify and apply historical, social and cultural paradigms to architectural work

### **Intellectual Qualities**

- I3 Cognize paradigmatic socio-cultural influences on urban and rural configurations and apply that knowledge to a written exposition
- I5 Identify and imitate the role of the designer in making environments
- I6 Identify and justify relationships between local and global influences on environmental design

### **Transferable Skills**

- T1 apply a relevant visual technique to the problem of communicating complex issues

## **CONTENT:**

Lectures by A+D staff x 4

Lectures on the shift from vernacular and national architecture to global and industrialized architecture and the sociological turn in architectural theory x 5

Feedback session x 1

Seminar interactives x 10

## **TEACHING AND LEARNING METHODS:**

Students will be encouraged to use the library and learning resources on campus sites as well as the www.

Lectures will direct student attention toward specific references with texts and illustrative material in addition to the reading material below.

Students will produce coursework that encourages their creative approach to interpretation.

Students will produce an essay to demonstrate their ability to explore issues relating architecture to concepts of identity and perfection (see appendix B)

## ASSESSMENT:

The assessment of this module will be 100% continual assessment, marked against the assessment criteria.

### One **collage**

Max 20% of total

One **Essay** of 3000 words will assess the student's grasp of tools for thinking behaviour (theory) and ability to integrate discussion and to reference both theory and the built environment.

Assessment element	LO	ARB	overall %
One submission of two collages A4 size	K1, T1		20% of mark
*One illustrated essay of 3000 words	K6, I3, I5, I6	<b>CC1</b>	80% of mark

### \***Essay Title: Modernity, Modernism, And Modern Architecture**

Each student must identify ideologies and global influences contributing to interpretations of architecture in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> Century and explicitly understand the way in which these produce conflicts of identity

**OR**

### **The Architecture of Indeterminate Completion**

The general implications of architecture are those of fixed spatial relationships that assist in any demand for identity or perfection whilst then getting in the way of changes in demand that find such fixed spatial relationships unhelpful to the new needs and desires.

**\*Students must note that the essay of 3000 words examines the ARB requirement for CC1**

## Schedule of lectures/seminars

Weeks are notional and week content may change without prior notice

Week 1	Problems with the concept of Society
Week 2	Vocation and Knowledge
Week 3	Problems of Consciousness
Week 4	Phenomena and the concept of a Causal Fabric
Week 5	Discursive Practices I
Week 6	Discursive Practices II
Week 7	Discuss - Proportion
Week 8	Discuss - Matter
Week 9	Discuss - Society
Week 10	Discuss - Culture
Week 11	feedback session
Week 12	Void – school trip

## **READING LIST:**

### **Essential Reading:**

**Baird G**, *The Space of Appearance*. Cambridge Massachusetts London England. MIT Press. 2003

**Scruton R**, *A Short History of Modern Philosophy*, Routledge, 1995

**Inglis D; Hughson J**, *Confronting Culture*, Cambridge, Polity, 2003

**Leader D. Groves J**, *Introducing Lacan*, Cambridge UK, Icon Books, 1995

**Warburton N**, *The Basics of Essay Writing*, London and new York, Routledge, 2007

### **Recommended reading:**

**Anderson B**, *Imagined Communities*, Verso, 1983

**Arendt H**. *The Human Condition*. Chicago and London. University of Chicago Press. 1958

**Ashcroft B; Ahluwalia P**, *Edward Said; The Paradox of Identity*, Routledge, 1999

**Eagleton T**, *The Idea of Culture*, Blackwell Publishers, 2000

**Fuller S**, *Thomas Kuhn*, Chicago; London, University of Chicago Press, 2000

**Ingram D**, *Critical Theory and Philosophy*, New York, Paragon House, 1990

**Lesley Naa Norle Lokko**, *White Papers Black Marks*, London, Athlone Press, 2000

**Banham R**. *Theory and Design in the First Machine Age*. Cambridge USA. MIT Press. 1960-1980

**Martin B; Sparke P; eds.** *Women's Places*. London. Routledge. 2003

### **Summary ARC301B1**

This module requires the student to explore in depth the ways in which relationships between the architect and concepts of society and the use of form have been manifested in text and debate and created or confronted identity. The module also teaches students the skills and practices that will help any casual reader/listener better understand the student's own approach to architecture.

The student will be able to write about creativity and cognition for the casual reader and relate the sort of things they write about to existing knowledge in the field of architectural history and cultural theory.

# ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Each student will be expected to put a copy of their work into their portfolio clearly marked with sheet number and module number on the back of each sheet as well as a copy for marking similarly identified

several students in each year risk failure because their mark cannot be attributed to them for want of their name and number at the appropriate time!

## **Appendix A:**

### Collage: **identity**

Each student is required to carry out the following procedure:

Your task is to locate and structure images that when put together provide a comment on the topic, identity.

Using collage **with** (or without) additional sketches and/or text put together **two A4 sheets** that are visually and intellectually interesting.

The point of the exercise is to see how well you can extract and assemble information to make a clear and concise presentation.

If it involves searching the web you should use appropriate search engines to do this such as alta-vista and google, or others available on electronic resources on the library information home page and transpose information to collage form.

The title of the presentations is to be '**identity**' which is a title and a comment on the way we use image to strengthen and boost or hide and conceal our part in a supposed narrative which we imagine to have readers and those who 'care' or know about such things.

Each student will be expected to put a copy of their work into their portfolio clearly marked with sheet number and module number on the back of each sheet as well as a copy for marking!

## **Appendix B:**

Your essay, 3000 words, is to be about modernism and/or postmodernism.

The title will be –

### **The Architecture of Indeterminate Completion**

Be sure to use at least one or two illustrations and remember that the general implications of architecture have been to strive for identity or perfection in many ways particularly, in the period you are looking at, national identities and the perfection of structure or form or society and so on. These material correlations can only be perfect if every human being associated with them is perfect in a specific and entirely appropriate manner, which can never be authentic. Thus completion of perfection will always be indeterminate.

**OR**

### **Modernity, Modernism, And Modern Architecture**

Each student must identify ideologies and global influences contributing to interpretations of architecture in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> Century and explicitly detail the way in which these produced and possibly contrasted individual or group identities of place

#### **Use any relevant text - for example**

- Anderson P, The Origins of Postmodernity, Verso, 1998
- Baird G, The Space of Appearance. Cambridge Massachusetts London England. MIT Press. 2003
- Bertens H, The Idea of the Postmodern, London; New York, Routledge, 1995
- Blitz M, Heidegger and Postmodernism, in, Perspectives on Political Science, Volume 24, Issue 2, 1995, pp.77-83
- Blundell Jones P, Modern Architecture Through Case Studies, Oxford; Amsterdam; Boston; London, Architectural Press, 2002
- Jencks C, 1977, The Language of Post Modern Architecture, Academy Editions, London
- Lyotard J F, The Post Modern Condition, Manchester, Manchester University Press, 1994
- Scruton R, A Short History of Modern Philosophy, Routledge, 1995
- Vattimo G, 1985/1988, The End of Modernity, Cambridge, Polity Press
- Foster H, The Anti Aesthetic-Essays on Post Modern Culture, Washington, Bay press, 1983

# ARC301B1

Student Number

20% of the total mark will be for the **collage** as follows:

Effort of exploration 9-10very good 7-8 good 5-6 Interested 3-4 adequate 1-2 less than adequate	3	
Relationship to Architecture 9-10Excellent 7-8 very good ditto 5-6 good 3-4 reasonable 1-2 adequate	3	
Illustration material 9-10excellent selection of images and visually interesting 7-8 very good ditto 5-6 good 3-4 reasonable 1-2 adequate	2	
Complexity and/or sophistication 9-10strong / profound and/or witty comment 7-8 ditto but not exceptional 5-6 ditto but ordinary 3-4 ditto reasonably 1-2 ditto adequately	1	
<b>PRESENTATION</b> 9-10Clear layout with intelligent use of material 7-8 Clear layout with adequate use of material 5-6 Obviously considered layout but dull 3-4 Minimal consideration of layout 1-2 Thrown together	1	
	<b>WEIGHTING</b>	<b>MARK</b>
		<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100%; height: 100%; position: relative;"> <div style="position: absolute; top: 0; right: 0; bottom: 0; left: 0; border-left: 2px solid black; border-right: 2px solid black;"></div> <div style="position: absolute; bottom: 0; right: 0; font-size: 48px; font-weight: bold;">100</div> </div>

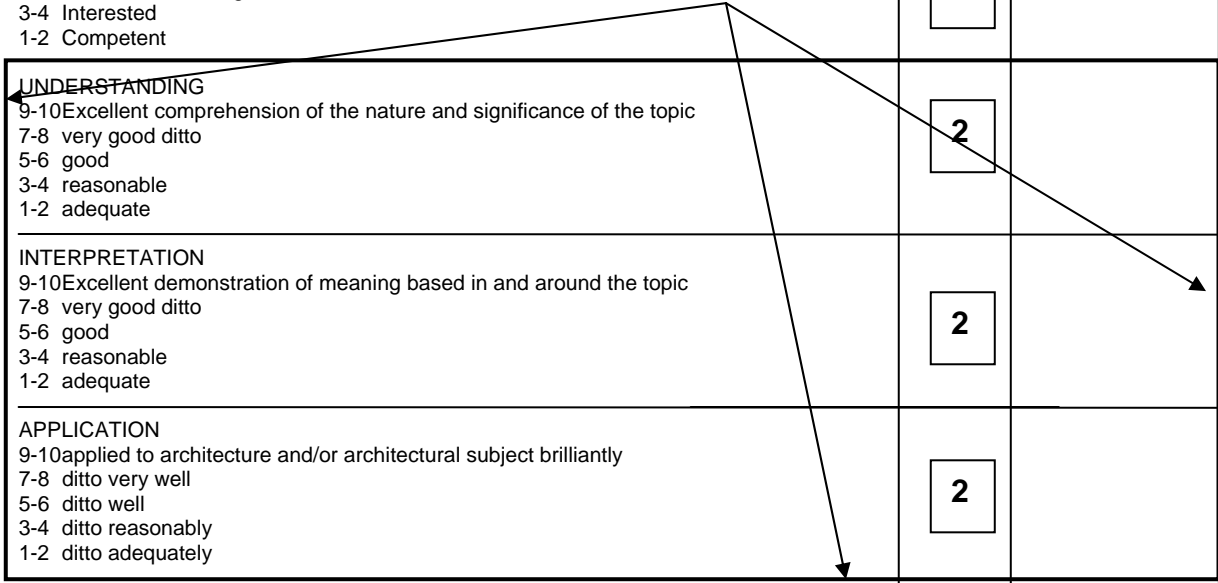
# ARC301B1

Student Number

80% of the total mark will be for the essay as follows:

<p><b>INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTION</b>            9-10 Discursive and Original            7-8 Engaged and Original            5-6 Interested and Original            3-4 Interested            1-2 Competent</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 30px; margin: 0 auto;">1</div>	
<p><b>UNDERSTANDING</b>            9-10 Excellent comprehension of the nature and significance of the topic            7-8 very good ditto            5-6 good            3-4 reasonable            1-2 adequate</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 30px; margin: 0 auto;">2</div>	
<p><b>INTERPRETATION</b>            9-10 Excellent demonstration of meaning based in and around the topic            7-8 very good ditto            5-6 good            3-4 reasonable            1-2 adequate</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 30px; margin: 0 auto;">2</div>	
<p><b>APPLICATION</b>            9-10 applied to architecture and/or architectural subject brilliantly            7-8 ditto very well            5-6 ditto well            3-4 ditto reasonably            1-2 ditto adequately</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 30px; margin: 0 auto;">2</div>	
<p><b>EVIDENCE OF READING</b>            9-10 excellent correlation between text/visuals and sources            7-8 very good ditto            5-6 good ditto            3-4 reasonable            1-2 adequate</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 30px; margin: 0 auto;">1</div>	
<p><b>REFERENCING</b>            9-10 excellent referencing of text and web            7-8 very good ditto            5-6 good ditto            3-4 reasonable            1-2 adequate</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 30px; margin: 0 auto;">1</div>	
<p><b>PRESENTATION</b>            9-10 Clear layout with intelligent use of visual material            7-8 Clear layout with adequate use of visual material            5-6 Obviously considered layout but dull            3-4 Minimal consideration of layout            1-2 Thrown together</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 30px; margin: 0 auto;">1</div>	

Arb element in this box requires 40% to pass module



**WEIGHTING MARK**

