

Arch 401 • Spring 2022 • Elective Seminar • Professor Alejandro Lapunzina



The postulates, principles, and architecture of Le Corbusier

Tu/Th from 11:00am-12:20pm [online] • from February 1 to April 21, 2021

This elective seminar course is dedicated to a monographic study of the work of Le Corbusier, from his formative years at the beginning of the 20th Century in La Chaux de Fonds (Switzerland), to his late and mature work in the 1960s.

The course proposes a critical assessment of Le Corbusier's postulates, principles, ideas, projects and works through a series of short lectures that present his work as a journey through different periods of work dominated by distinctive interests that marked his extraordinary professional trajectory.

Lectures will alternate from general considerations that will trace back the evolution of his work to closer examination of his most significant works, buildings, and projects that, as case studies, will reveal the dimension of his timeless contributions to the universal history of architecture.

It should be noted that whereas the course is based on historical material and also that it follows the evolution of his work and ideas chronologically, this is not a history course; instead, it should be regarded as a retrospective look at the work of who is considered as the most influential architect of the 20th century and one of the greatest architects in the history of architecture.

The course is open to undergraduate seniors and graduate level students. Participants will be required to [a] complete reading assignments on a weekly basis (which will be discussed in class through student active participation), [b] keep a notebook of written and graphic notes taken from the lectures and class discussions, and [c] develop a term assignment (a research-based presentation combining graphic and written content) on a topic to be announced during the first week of class.