

Architecture and Ideology, building for status and power

Start date 22nd January 2017 **Time** 10.00am – 16.45pm

Venue Madingley Hall
Madingley
Cambridge

Tutor Dr Sarah Pearson **Course code** 1617NDX024

Director of Programmes Emma Jennings
For further information on this course, please contact Public Programme Coordinator, Clare Kerr
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To book See: www.ice.cam.ac.uk or telephone 01223 746262

Tutor biography

Sarah read Art History at Reading University, gaining a first class BA and followed this with an MA in World Art Studies at UEA and a PhD in Architectural History at Reading. The subject of her doctoral thesis was the architect Francesco di Giorgio Martini and Sarah retains active research interests in Italian art and architecture and continues to publish in this field. Sarah has been teaching and lecturing on a variety of art and architectural subjects since 2001 at Universities and adult education organizations, and has been working at Madingley Hall for two years. She believes that learning should be both engaging and enjoyable for students and her teaching methods are based on this principle.

Course programme

09:30	Terrace bar open for pre-course tea/coffee
10:00 – 11:15	Session 1: Triumphs in Stone – Expressions of power in Classical Rome In this session we will examine the way architecture was employed by successive emperors to immortalise their achievements and to please the masses. We will consider constructions of the Augustan age and also controversial creations such as the Golden House of Nero. Roman architecture also provides the language for successive eras and we will introduce some basic architectural terminology.
11:15	Coffee
11:45 – 13:00	Session 2: Magnificence and munificence – power and position in Renaissance Italy Architecture was a key tool in Renaissance Italy for demonstrating power and political affiliation. Palace builders trod a difficult line between creating a building expressive of majesty whilst not being regarded as too opulent and showy. Architectural patronage of churches and convents also served to demonstrate the piety of an individual. We will look at selected examples from the Italian city states including Venice, Urbino, Florence and Rome.
13:00	Lunch
14:00 – 15:15	Session 3: Crass, or Culture and Class – demonstrating superiority in Eighteenth Century England In the era of the Grand Tour building a new country house was a key way of demonstrating taste and culture. A gentleman's choice of architecture also served to indicate if he was a Whig or a Tory, a Catholic or a Protestant. In this session we will examine constructions of the eighteenth century and consider the architectural message being presented to the viewing public.
15:15	Tea
15:30 – 16:45	Session 4 Immortalising Il Duce: – architecture as a tool of the Fascist regime In fascist Italy architecture was used both to win the favour of the populace and to establish Mussolini as a modern Emperor. We will consider projects in Rome such as the Foro Mussolini (now the Forum Italico) and also in other locations such as Mussolini's place of birth Predappio which was redesigned as the perfect fascist city.
16:45	Day-school ends

Course syllabus

Aims:

This course aims to introduce students to:

1. Architectural design in four time periods, Classical Rome, Renaissance Italy, Eighteenth Century England and Fascist Italy.
2. The discussion of the expressive power of architecture using appropriate terminology.
3. Identification of instances where architecture has a deliberate ideological intent.

Content:

This course will examine the use of architecture as a tool of power in four different time periods: Classical Rome, the Renaissance, eighteenth-century England and the Fascist era in Italy. These eras produced very different buildings but share a common architectural language. We will examine selected buildings from these time periods and discuss the ways in which they were intended to influence the contemporary audience. We will examine how building types and features may be appropriated to express an ideology, and consider whether architectural elements can be tainted by their use and in future associated with such an ideology. No previous knowledge of architecture is required as the terms and techniques of architectural evaluation will be explained over the various sessions.

Presentation of the course:

Each session will comprise an illustrated lecture with group discussion. Students will be encouraged to evaluate the architecture presented, knowledge of architectural terminology will not be required for such evaluations.

As a result of the course, within the constraints of the time available, students should be able to:

- Identify occasions in which architectural design has been deliberately used to express power.
- Discuss how architecture may be employed to express an ideological view.
- Contrast the use of architecture as a tool of power in the different time periods examined in the course.
- Feel confident in discussing architectural design.

Reading and resources list

Listed below are a number of texts that might be of interest for future reference, but do not need to be bought (or consulted) for the course.

Author	Title	Publisher and date
Curl, JS	Classical Architecture: An Introduction to Its Vocabulary and Essentials	Batsford, 2002
Hollingsworth, M	Patronage in Renaissance Italy: From 1400 to the Early Sixteenth Century Kindle Edition	Thistle Publishing, 2014
Painter, B	Mussolini's Rome: Rebuilding the Eternal City: The Fascist Transformation of the Eternal City	Palgrave Macmillan, 2005
Summerson, J	The Architecture of the Eighteenth Century	Thames and Hudson, 1986

Additional information

Venue

Details of how to find Madingley Hall can be found on our website:
<http://www.ice.cam.ac.uk/who-we-are/how-to-find-the-institute>

Refreshments

Tea and coffee and lunch will be provided. If you have any specific dietary requirements or allergies and have not already advised us, please inform our Admissions Team on ice.admissions@ice.cam.ac.uk or +44 (0)1223 746262.

Note Students of the Institute of Continuing Education are entitled to 20% discount on books published by Cambridge University Press (CUP) which are purchased at the Press bookshop, 1 Trinity Street, Cambridge (Mon-Sat 9am – 5:30pm, Sun 11am – 5pm). A letter or email confirming acceptance on to a current Institute course should be taken as evidence of enrolment.

Information correct as of: 09 January 2017