



**University/Academy:** Arab Academy for Science, Technology & Maritime Transport  
**Faculty/Institute:** College of Engineering & Technology  
**Program:** B.Sc. Architectural Engineering and Environmental Design

### Form no. (12): Course Specification

#### 1- Course Data

Course Code: <b>AR 421</b>	Course Title: <b>Architectural Criticism</b>	Academic Year/Level: <b>4<sup>th</sup> year/7<sup>th</sup> semester</b>
Specialization: <b>Architecture</b>	No. of Instructional Units Credit <b>2</b> Lecture <b>1</b> Tutorial <b>3</b>	Prerequisite <b>None</b>

#### 2- Course Aim

This course is an introduction to the basics and fundamentals of architectural criticism. It reviews contemporary architectural movements and the various directions of criticism they engendered. Particular emphasis is placed on the conceptions and directions of criticism, with a view to develop the student's ability to understand, analyse and interpret architectural works, as well as the meanings and intentions associated with them. Ideological and philosophical trends underlying the current movements are cross-examined, through selected examples highlighting various means utilised by architects to achieve such values as originality and innovation.

**The course aims to:**

- Provide students with knowledge about the vocabulary of architectural criticism, its nature, function, and importance in the architectural appraisal
- Provide students with knowledge about awareness of definitions, qualities and movements in criticism is sought, as well as understanding techniques in order to compare and evaluate different works of architecture.

#### 3- Intended Learning Outcomes

<b>a- Knowledge and Understanding</b>	<b>Through knowledge and understanding, students will be able to:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Define types of architectural criticism.</li> <li>• Explain qualities and movements in criticism.</li> </ul>
<b>b- Intellectual Skills</b>	<b>Through intellectual skills, students will be able to:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acquire skills of analysis, interpretation, documentation and evaluation of architectural projects after being subjected to values, criteria, and movements of criticism, and their prevailing ideas.</li> <li>• Express their judgment and observation both verbally through discussions and literary through text, drawings and models.</li> </ul>
<b>c- Professional Skills</b>	<b>Through professional and practical skills, students will be able to:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understand, analyze and interpret architectural works, as well as the meanings and intentions associated with them</li> </ul>
<b>d- General Skills</b>	<b>Through general and transferable skills, students will be able to:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Write reports in accordance with appropriate academic and scientific standards.</li> <li>• Present reports in seminars, discuss results, defend their ideas, and communicate effectively in writing, verbally and through evaluation different works of architecture.</li> <li>• Independently seek knowledge, set aims, targets, objectives and plan to meet them with a deadline (time management).</li> </ul>

#### **4- Course Content**

- Week No.1** Introduction to the Field of Architectural Criticism
- Week No.2** Roots of contemporary thought & Conceptions of Architectural Criticism
- Week No.3** Early beginnings & Neo Classicism
- Week No.4** Language of Architecture: Early Ideologies
- Week No.5** Towards Modernity: Evolving Idea
- Week No.6** Modernism and sequential directions
- Week No.7** Continuation of the previous lecture and evaluation.
- Week No.8** Variations on Early Themes
- Week No.9** New Criteria: Emphasis on Locality & Identity
- Week No.10** More Recent Movements: Back to Classics
- Week No.11** Technological Influence & New Directions
- Week No.12** Continuation of the previous lecture and evaluation.
- Week No.13** Current Trends and Signature Styles, Multiple-Topic Session: Future Prospects
- Week No.14** Case Studies: Models of Criticism
- Week No.15** Revision.

#### **5- Teaching and Learning Methods**

The course comprises a combination of lectures, case study analysis, discussion sessions and project work.

#### **6-Teaching and Learning Methods for Students with Special Needs**

- Consulting with lecturer during office hours.
- Consulting with teaching assistant during office hours.
- Private sessions for redelivering the lecture contents.
- For handicapped accessibility, please refer to program specification.

## 7- Student Assessment

Asses No.	Procedures used		Start Week No.	Subm. Week No.	Weighting of Asses.
	Type	To assess			
1	Assignment.	Knowledge and understanding.	2	3	5%
2	Oral presentation.	Knowledge and understanding Practical skills	4	4	5%
3	Assignment.	Knowledge and understanding Intellectual and practical skills	4	6	5%
4	Written exam..	Knowledge and understanding Practical skills	7	7	15%
5	Oral presentation.	Practical and transferable skills.	8	10	10%
6	Written exam..	Knowledge and practical skills.	12	12	10%
7	Oral presentation.	Practical and transferable skills.	11	14	10%
8	Written exam..	Knowledge and understanding Practical skills	15	15	40%
<b>Total</b>					100%

## 8- List of References:

<b>a- Course Notes</b>	Notes are handed out to students regularly.
<b>b- Required Books</b> (Textbooks)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Frampton, K. (1992) <i>Modern Architecture: A Critical History</i>. London, Thames and Hudson.</li> <li>• Gossel, P. and Leuthauser, G. (1991) <i>Architecture in the 20th Century</i>. Koln, Benedikt Taschen.</li> <li>• Jencks, C. (1998) <i>Architecture Today</i>. London, Academy Editions.</li> <li>• Jencks, C. (2000) <i>Architecture (2000) and beyond</i> (success in the art of prediction). London, Wiley Academy Editions</li> </ul>
<b>c- Recommended Books</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Moffett, M., et al (2003) <i>A World History of Architecture</i>. New York, McGraw Hill Professional.</li> <li>• Morgan, C.L. (2002) <i>20th Century Design: A Reader's Guide</i> London, Architectural Press.</li> <li>• Thomas, D. (2002) <i>Architecture and the Urban Environment</i>. Oxford, The Architectural Press.</li> <li>• Jodidio, P. (1998) <i>Contemporary European Architects</i>, Vol. VI. Koln, Taschen.</li> <li>• Jodidio, P. (1998) <i>Contemporary American Architects</i>, Vol. IV. Koln, Taschen.</li> <li>• Koshalek, R. and Smith, E. (eds) (1998) <i>At the End of the Century: One Hundred Years of Architecture</i>. Los Angeles, The Museum of Contemporary Art.</li> <li>• KANIN, Blair. (2001) <i>Why Architecture Matters: Lessons from Chicago</i>. University of Chicago Press.</li> </ul>
<b>d- Periodicals, Web Sites, etc.</b>	N/A