

Course Description

ARC2701 | History of Architecture 1 | 3.00 credits

This course offers a survey of architecture from ancient times through the 18th century and includes works from the Western canon. Students will examine the integration of art forms, structural elements, and ornamental designs across world civilizations, analyzing their connections to broader aspects of human development. Through this exploration, students will develop critical thinking skills and gain understanding of how architecture reflects and influences societies throughout historical periods.

Course Competencies:

Competency 1: The student will demonstrate an understanding of architectural history by:

- 1. Analyzing structural elements of ancient buildings
- 2. Comparing ornamental designs across different periods
- 3. Identifying key works from the Western architectural canon
- 4. Examining the advancement of architectural styles through the 18th century
- 5. Evaluating the influence of materials on architectural forms
- 6. Interpreting the symbolic meanings in architectural designs
- 7. Tracing the development of specific architectural features over time

Competency 2: The student will explore the relationship between architecture and society by:

- 1. Investigating the role of architecture on religious spaces
- 2. Examining the impact of political systems on architectural designs
- 3. Analyzing the influence of economic factors on building construction
- 4. Assessing the relationship between urban planning and architectural styles
- 5. Exploring the connection between climate and regional architectural features
- 6. Evaluating the role of technology in advancing architectural capabilities
- 7. Comparing public and private architectural spaces across historical periods

Competency 3: The student will develop critical thinking skills in architectural analysis by:

- 1. Applying art historical methodologies to architectural works
- 2. Synthesizing information from various sources to form architectural arguments
- 3. Critiquing the effectiveness of structural solutions in historical buildings
- 4. Evaluating the aesthetic principles employed in architectural designs
- 5. Analyzing the integration of art forms within architectural structures
- 6. Comparing architectural theories from different historical periods
- 7. Assessing the cultural significance of specific architectural works
- 8. Interpreting the narrative elements in architectural ornamentation

Learning Outcomes

- Solve problems using critical and creative thinking and scientific reasoning
- Formulate strategies to locate, evaluate, and apply information

Updated: Fall 2025