

PhD Colloquium in Preservation

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Pedagogical Objective of the PhD Colloquium sequence:

The PhD Colloquium two course sequence examines the intellectual field that constitutes historic preservation as both the creative process and product of planning, designing, and implementing physical or perceptual alterations to monuments, buildings, sites and cities that are culturally and historically significant. Historic preservation is a highly specialized design discipline with distinct modes of aesthetic expression that are always grounded in, and related to, historical research, while also often being tightly regulated by law. As such, it combines aesthetic and textual work as legitimate and interdependent forms of intellectuality. The colloquium sequence examines the understanding of intellectuality that is particular to historic preservation in two semesters: one is an exploration of the theories that describe its organizing concepts, and the other is an investigation a variety of methods for conducting scholarly work. Colloquium I is focused on theory, and covers the major intellectual questions defining historic preservation scholarship since WWII. The aim is to give students a sense of the current state of thinking in the field through a critical engagement with its organizing ideas, debates and intellectual positions. Colloquium II is focused on method, and explores contemporary approaches to scholarly research in the field. The aim is to provide students with the intellectual tools to formulate relevant dissertation questions, the skills to develop a systematic approach to researching those questions, and the critical synthetic ability to ultimately answer them. Taken together, the colloquium sequence is meant to explore the range of knowledge considered relevant to the discipline and to build the capacity of students to contribute new knowledge to the field. As a pre-requisite to the course, incoming students are expected to be familiar with the history of Historic Preservation theory and practice from the 19th century to the present.

PhD Colloquium in Preservation I: Theories

Course Summary:

This doctoral colloquium probes the contemporary theoretical constructs that help define the nature of intellectuality in historic preservation. The course traces the roots of contemporary theories back to the mid twentieth century, when in the context of the postwar reconstruction, a new cultural awareness emerged about the central role of historic preservation in shaping the future of cities, both as physical places and also as symbolic anchors for imagined communities. The broad based investment of the public in historic buildings and sites spurred preservationists to expand their understanding of heritage from discrete objects to include the system of social perceptions, habits and relations within which

those objects had cultural currency, political charge and symbolic value. This conceptual expansion from objects to variously defined socio-technical systems, from tangible to intangible heritage, opened historic preservation to new theoretical currents, from structuralism and deconstructivism to more recent thing theory, and simultaneously enlarged the purview of preservation design from discrete interventions on buildings to include the design of the visitor's perception and the public's reception of heritage. The colloquium is organized chronologically around key theoretical themes and relevant readings that trace the development of preservation theory since WWII, such as:

1-Authenticity and Society. Readings: Annoni, Ambrogio, Considerations for the Built Renaissance of Milan (1945), Brandi, Cesare, Postscript to the Treatment of Lacunae (1961), Pane, Roberto, The Restoration of Monuments (1944), Braudel, Fernand, History and the Social Sciences: The Longue Duree (1958), Malraux, Andre, T.V.A. of Archeology (1960)

2-Cultural Continuity as Material Endurance. Readings: Arendt, Hannah, The Durability of the World (1958), Fett, Harry, Continuity (1949), Bonelli, Renato, Contemporary Aesthetics and Criticism of Architecture (1968), Rogers, Ernesto N., Continuity or Crisis? (1957), Levi-Strauss, Claude, Race and History (1952)

3-Historic Cities as Economic Systems. Readings: Argan, Giulio Carlo, Policy for the Preservation of Historic Centers (1973), Gebeßler, August, Old Towns and Historic Preservation (1975) Horkheimer, Max, and Theodor Adorno, The Culture Industry: Enlightenment as Mass Deception (1947)

4-Context and Constitutive Externalities. Derrida, Jacques, The Parergon (1978) Gadamer, Hans-Georg, Truth and Method (1975) Lynch, Kevin, What Time Is This Place? (1972) Lefebvre, Henri, The Monument (1974) Mikhailovskii, Evgenii Vasil'evich, The Methods of Restoration of Architectural Monuments (1977)

5-Historic Significance and Artificiality: Hobsbawm, Eric, Inventing Traditions (1983) Fitch, James Marston, Preservation vs. Historicism: Postmodernism and the Theme Park (1994) Samuel, Raphael, Heritage-baiting (1994) Lowenthal, David, Fabricating Heritage (1998) Hardesty, Donald L., Ethnographic Landscapes: Transforming Nature into Culture (2000) Howett, Catherine, Integrity as a Value in Cultural Landscape Preservation (2000)

6-Mediated Experience: MacCannell, Dean, The Tourist (1976) Hewison, Robert, The Heritage Industry (1987) Cohen, Erik, Authenticity and Commoditization in Tourism (1988) Deleuze, Gilles & Felix Guattari, Percept, Affect and Concept (1991)

7-Aestheticized Memory: Young, James, The Counter-Monument: Memory against Itself in Germany Today (1992) Nora, Pierre, Between Memory and History: Les Lieux de Mémoire (1989) Bakos, Jan, Monuments and Ideologies (1991) Mason, Randall, Historic Preservation, Public Memory, and the Making of Modern New York City (2004) Eisenman, Peter, The Houses of Memory: The Texts of Analogy (2004)

8-Nostalgia: Price, Cedric, *The Case Against Restoration* (1981) Jameson, Fredric, *Nostalgia for the Present* (1991)

9-Diversity Politics: Dubrow, Gail Lee, *Restoring a Female Presence: New Goals in Historic Preservation* (1989) Kaufman, Ned, *Heritage and the Cultural Politics of Preservation* (1998) Herscher, Andrew, *Counter-Heritage and Violence* (2006)

10-Intangible Heritage: Jokilehto, Jukka, *Authenticity: A General Framework for the Concept* (1995) Choay, Françoise, *The Concept of Authenticity in Question* (1995) Smith, Laurajane, *Heritage as Cultural Process* (2006)

11-Creativity and Temporality: Carbonara, Giovanni, *The Integration of the Image: Problems in the Restoration of Monuments* (1976) Rossi, Aldo, *The City as the Basis for the Study of the Characters of Building* (1983) Gregotti, Vittorio, *On Modification* (1996) Scott, Fred, *On Altering Architecture* (2008)

12-Performative Things: Agamben, Giorgio, *The Signature of All Things: On Method* (2008) Latour, Bruno, *Give me a Gun and I Will Make All Buildings Move* (2008) Snow, Stephen Eddy, *Performing the Pilgrims* (1993) Jackson, John Brinkerhoff, *By Way of Conclusion: How to Study the Landscape* (1980)

13-Sustainability: Muñoz-Viñas, Salvador, *Sustainable Conservation* (2005) Abramson, Daniel, *Obsolescence: Notes Toward a History* (2003)

14-Globalization: Koolhaas, Rem, *Preservation Is Overtaking Us* (2004) Chemillier-Gendreau, Monique, *The Idea of the Common Heritage of Humankind and its Political Uses* (2002) AlSayyad, Nezar, *Global Norms and Urban Forms in the Age of Tourism* (2000) Chakrabarty, Dipesh, *What is Invested in Anachronism?* (2000)