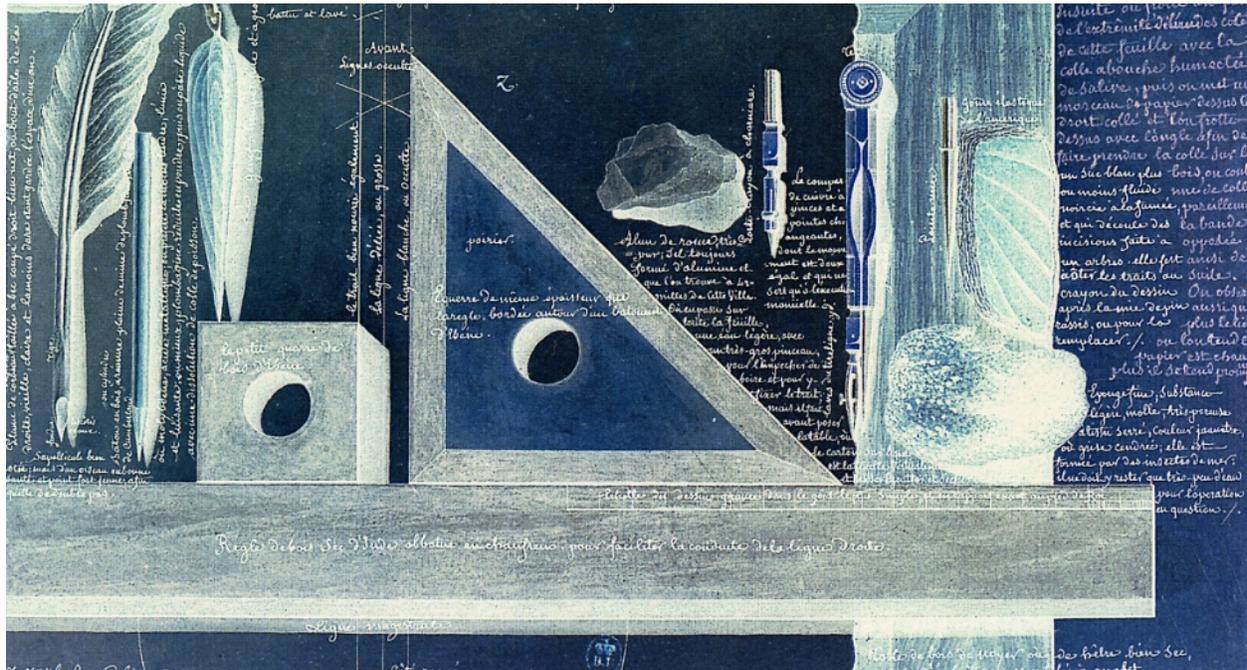


TRADITIONS OF ARCHITECTURAL PRACTICE



Catalog Description.

Critical examination of architectural practice. Cultural derivation and technological transformation of various conventions of representation, construction, and design; speculation about future paradigms of architectural practice.

Cross-Listings for Graduate Elective Requirements.

This course is cross-listed with the following courses and may be used to satisfy elective credit in the areas of either Architectural Theory or Architectural Practice:

- Arch 6316 Practice of Architecture 2
- Arch 6352 Theory of Architecture 2

Research Question.

Architectural practice is constantly changing. Economic and technological forces are actively reshaping professional assumptions, and the modes of practice in coming decades may vary as much from today's practices as those do from practices of the 19th century. Given this constant revolutionizing of architectural practice, **how can architects – and students of architecture – prepare themselves for inevitable shifts in the culture of architectural production?** Focusing upon the material culture of American architectural practice – its tools, documents, methods, divisions of labor – as a means of unearthing the embedded ideological assumptions of the profession, the course poses a critique of architectural practice

as we understand it today and speculates about the emergent forms of alternative practices.

Course Organization.

We will consider architectural practice from a historical perspective: first reviewing the framework of world traditions then giving particular emphasis to the establishment of the U.S. profession beginning in the middle of the 19th century. We will critically consider how tools of practice evolved and functioned as mediators between and among clients, architects, and builders. Finally, we will speculate about emergent trajectories of architectural practice in light of digital tools and methods.

Course Procedures and Outcomes.

The course combines topical lectures, seminar discussions of assigned readings, and student presentations on a rotating basis. Course requirements include a short mid-term exam written in class and an end-of-term research project (8-10 pages for undergraduates; 12-14 pages for graduate students) relating your interests to the themes of the course.

Alternately, 3rd-year M.Arch. students anticipating participation in my Design + Research Studio for Spring 2019 may use the final assignment for the development of thesis proposals that will propel their individual design research agendas for the Spring semester studio.