Syllabus – Fall 2010
ARCH1000
Architecture at Northeastern

Date/Time: Thursday 2:50-4:30 PM
Classroom: 300 Richards Hall

Instructors: George Thrush, FAIA
e-mail: g.thrush@neu.edu
Director, School of Architecture

Office Hours: by appointment

This class is an opportunity for you to meet the Director of the School of Architecture, and to be introduced to different ways of thinking about architecture, building, meaning, and the built environment. You will be asked to participate in discussions, both online and in-class, and to prepare a class presentation using MS Powerpoint.

Attendance: Attendance will be taken. You are allowed one unexcused absence for the quarter.

Credit/Grading: You will receive one credit for this course. You will be grade with an S (pass) or a U (fail). If you miss two unexcused classes, you will receive a U.

Lectures: Attendance at NU Architecture Series Lectures is required. Lectures are generally held Monday evenings at 6pm in Room 20, West Village Building F. Online discussion groups to follow each lecture.

Mandatory Reading:
Why Architecture Matters
Paul Goldberger
available for $15 on Amazon.com

Discussion Boards: Weekly discussion boards will be posted online using the e-education platform ‘Blackboard’.

Additional Online Blogs/ Reading (optional):
www.architects.org
Making Architecture More Connected
www.architects.org
www.dezeen.com
Design Magazine
www.archinect.com
www.archidose.blogspot.com
A Daily Dose of Architecture from NYC
www.inhabit.com
Sustainable Design Blog
www.architects.org
Boston Society of Architect’s Website
**September 9**          
*Introduction*

*In class:*
- Contacts for advising, pre-registration for Spring, co-op, Academic Honesty, etc.
- Overview of School’s approach and distinction
- Paul Goldberger and *Why Architecture Matters*

*Online Assignments / Discussions:*
  - Review Chapter 1, *Meaning, Culture Symbol*, and be prepared to discuss in class.
  - (remember to bring your name placard)

**September 16**          
*Meaning, Culture Symbol*

*In Class:*
- Discussion of Both/And thinking, as opposed to Either/Or
- Form AND Content, examples
- Ethics, Aesthetics, Vitruvius, Alberti, and the relationship of ideas to actions

*Online Discussion:*
  - Review Chapter 2, *Challenge and Comfort*. Cite your own examples of different modes of Architectural Thinking

**September 20**

*NU Lecture:*
  - *Urban Activism in Boston*
    - Room 20, Building F, 6:00 pm

**September 23**          
*Challenge and Comfort*

*In Class:*
- Use, practicality, ambition, sequence, promenade, and vision

*Online Discussion:*
  - Review Chapter 3, *Architecture as Object*

**September 30**

*NO CLASS*

**October 7**          
*Architecture as Object*

*In Class:*
- Space versus Anti-Space
- Monuments, follies, towers, and sculpture
- The language of objects

*Online Discussion:*
  - Review Chapter 4, *Architecture as Space*

**October 14**          
*Architecture as Space*

*In Class:*
- Typology: Drums, rooms, courtyards, squares and other figures
- Experience, sequence, promenade, connections to discourse on public space.

*Online Discussion:*
  - Review Chapter 5, *Architecture and Memory*

**October 16**

*Conference: Typology Redux, Room 20, Building F, 9:00 am- 4:00 pm*

**October 21**          
*Architecture and Memory*
In Class:
- Memories, real and otherwise
- Memory as personal, political, and cultural record keeping

Online Discussion: Review Chapter 6, Buildings and Time

October 21
NU Lecture: Contemporary Architecture and Typology, Hrvoje Njiric
Room 20, Building F, 6:00 pm

October 28
Building and Time
In Class:
- Weathering, Memory, Narrative, Film
- A Topographical History of Boston

Online Discussion: Review Chapter 7, Buildings and the Making of Place

November 1
NU Lecture: DesignLAB, Sam Batchelor
Room 20, Building F, 6:00 pm

November 4
Buildings and the Making of Place
In Class:
- Rossi, Norberg-Shulz, Kahn, Duany and Plater-Zyberk
- London, Paris, Las Vegas, Garden Suburbs, Houston, and Atlanta,

Online Discussion: Glossary! (maybe the best part of this excellent book)

November 11
NO CLASS

November 18
Top of the Prudential Tower
SITE VISIT:
- Meet at 52nd Floor of the Prudential Tower at 3:00 pm sharp.
- Discussion of the evolution of Boston’s Morphology

Assignment: Prepare individual presentations in MS Powerpoint for presentation to the class on December 2.
Email to George Thrush by November 30 at 5:00 pm.

November 25
NO CLASS

December 2
Student Presentations
In Class:
- Selected Students will present in class.
- Course Evaluation