

Quarter/Year

Course Number

Day/Time

Instructor

Winter 2020

ART-HIST 391

F 1-3:50 PM

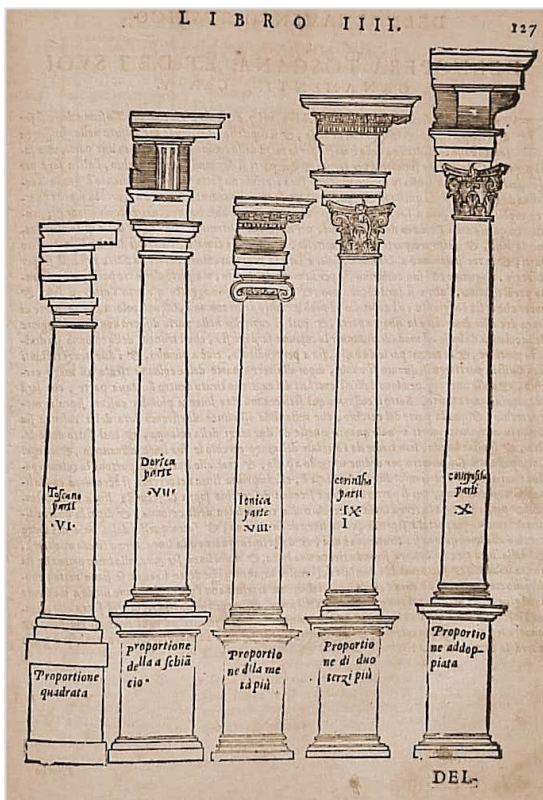
Normore

Course Title

Degree/Distro Fulfillment

Undergraduate Methods Seminar: History of Architecture

Methods seminar



The purpose of the Undergraduate Methods Seminar is to introduce art history majors, usually in the junior year, to the nuts and bolts of art history. A primary goal is to study the “history of art history,” or what is more formally called the historiography of art history. In Winter 2020, the seminar will focus on the methods and approaches scholars have used and continue to employ in writing about architecture.

The seminar will be organized around a group of architectural monuments—including books as well as buildings—from Antiquity to the Twentieth Century. Special attention will be given to primary source materials including texts by authors such as Vitruvius, unknown authors of autobiographies of Sinan in the Topkapi Palace, John Ruskin, Le Corbusier, and Denise Scott Brown. Students will conduct research on a monument of their choice, exploring it from a range of scholarly approaches and writing a series of papers that build upon each other to produce a final term paper. Additionally, the seminar will make use of Chicagoland resources and include group outings beyond campus. Ideally, students should keep Friday afternoons free in order to participate fully.

Required Textbooks

Sylvan Barnet. *A Short Guide to Writing About Art*. 11th ed. Boston: Pearson Education, 2015. ISBN: 978-0205886999.

Assessments

Weekly reading responses; research paper composed of cumulative writing assignments; active participation in seminar meetings.