**Course Description**

How do buildings reflect history? This introductory-level course attempts to answer that question by surveying the human built environment of the past six centuries from a global perspective. We will study buildings large and small as well as gardens, parks, towns, and cities thinking along the way about the many meanings of place and space in modern history. From the Forbidden City in Beijing to the Piazza Duomo in Florence and from the Houses of Parliament in London to the Ministry of Education and Health in Rio de Janeiro, the sites covered in this course will encourage students to think broadly about the technologies, uses, and aesthetics of architecture across time and geography and across a range of social, cultural, and religious traditions. Students will learn to write about architecture though writing assignments centered on visual analysis and complemented at times with drawing exercises.

The class meets three times per week, twice for lectures and once for a discussion section in a smaller group setting on Fs. Previous study of art history is not required, and you do not have to be an artist in order to complete the drawing exercises!

*Please also purchase a sketchbook such as a Blick Studio hardbound sketchbook, 8 ½ x 5 ½” (available at Blick Art Materials, 1755 Maple Avenue, Evanston)