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Class meeting: Monday – Friday 9-12noon

*Spaces for Living/Design in Mind – May Term 2006**

PSYC 205 or IDIS 205

We live amidst architecture—buildings, houses, interiors, and landscapes—but we rarely take the time to think about the spaces where we live. Why have our homes, communities, cities, and public spaces evolved as they have? Are some spaces more pleasing to the eye and the mind than others? How do our physical spaces affect our mental life? To explore these questions, we will read about domestic life (the idea of “home”), architecture, and design. We will learn about architects who reconceived ideas of space and design (e.g., Frank Lloyd Wright) in order to influence the viewer’s experience. Finally, we will look around and walk around our campus, Bethlehem neighborhoods, and the downtown area to consider how we live (and how we might improve our living space).

***This course fulfills the M6 (Aesthetic Experience) category of the LinC curriculum**

Required texts

Busch, A. (1999). *Geography of home: Writing on where we live*. New York: Princeton Architectural Press.

Kunstler, J. H. (1996). *Home from nowhere: Remaking our everyday world for the 21st century*. New York: Touchstone.

Rybczynski, W. (1987). *Home: A short history of an idea*. New York: Penguin.

Other readings will be placed on reserve in Reeves Library.

Course Requirements

Attendance and class participation. Our time together is short, thus attending class and participating is important. Simply put, I expect each student to come prepared to discuss the readings.

Short papers. There are four short reaction papers (2-4 pages each). The topics and due dates are noted in the course schedule. These are not research papers, rather, they are opportunities for you to reflect on your experience of public and private spaces.

Final exam. The final exam is comprised of essay questions based on class discussion, films, and readings. The final will be given during the last class meeting.

Course Grade. Your final course grade will be based on:

Class participation	20%
4 reaction papers (15% each)	60%
Final exam	20%

Class Schedule

M May 8	Organizational meeting and opening remarks on public and private space, design, and architecture; Home in the American Mind Film: <i>Monticello: Home of Thomas Jefferson</i>
T May 9	Public spaces for living I (Read: Prologue through ch. 3 in Kunstler); Communities in the American Mind Film: <i>Shakers</i> by Ken Burns Reaction paper due: <i>How would you improve the Moravian College Campus in order to make it a more inviting public space?</i>
W May 10	Public spaces for living II and spaces for death (Read chs. 4-7 in Kunstler; Ragon, chs. 5, 6, 17; and Lindley, ch. 5 on reserve). Film: <i>Cemetery Special</i>
Th May 11	Cemeteries as public spaces – Walking tour of Moravian burial ground and Nisky Hill cemetery (Meet at Benigna statue on South Campus at 9am)
F May 12	Film: <i>Frank Lloyd Wright</i> [rain date for cemetery tour]

- M May 15 Cities and Frank Lloyd Wright I and Homes
 Finish reading Kunstler, chs. 8 through 12
 Frank Lloyd Wright I and Homes
 (Read Rybczynski, chs. 1 through 3)
- Reaction paper due: *Write about cemeteries as public spaces—what are they like, what should they be like*
- Film: *Frank Lloyd Wright*
- T May 16 Frank Lloyd Wright II and Homes
 (Read pps. 67-85 in Wright's *The Natural House*)
- Film: *I. M. Pei – First Person Singular/The Museum on the Mountain*
- W May 17 Homes
 (Read Rybczynski, chs. 4 through 7)
 Reaction paper due: *Describe your ideal house—where would it be, what would it be like?*
- Film: *My Architect*
- Th May 18 More on Homes (Finish Rybczynski, chs. 8 – 10) and the
 Attraction of Ruins - read “Who Killed Daisy Miller?” from
 Christopher Woodward’s “In Ruins.”
- Film: *Maya Lin—A Strong Clear Vision*
- F May 19 Wants versus Needs
 (Read handout on “Living Smaller” and chs. 1, 7, & 8 from
 “The Most Beautiful House in the World” by Rybczynski)
 Reaction paper: *Describe the inside of your ideal living space—
 What does it look like? How is it furnished (or not furnished)?*
- Film: *In Search of Clarity: The Architecture of Gwathmey Siegel &
 Association Architects*
- M May 22 Where We Live
 Read all of *Geography of Home*
- Film: *Philip Johnson: Diary of an Eccentric Architect*
- T May 23 In class *Final Exam*

Have a great summer. . .

References on Reserve in Reeves Library

Lindley, K. (1972). *Graves and grave yards*. London: Routledge & Kegan Paul.

Ragon, M. (1983). *The space of death: A study of funerary architecture, decoration, and urbanism*. Charlottesville, VA: University of Virginia Press.

Rybczynski, W. (1993). *Looking around: A journey through architecture*. New York: Penguin.

Rybczynski, W. (1989). *The most beautiful house in the world*. New York: Penguin.

Woodward, C. (2001). *In ruins*. New York: Pantheon.

Wright, F. L. (1954). *The natural house*. New York: Meridian.