

GSEM 651: Public Space

Fall 2006

Thursday 2-4 pm, Carpenter 15

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Description: Political, economic, religious and cultural forces govern cities. These powers and their desires translate into the form and function of public spaces. This interdisciplinary graduate seminar first examines public space from a theoretical perspective through lecture classes and student presentations. It will then investigate case studies throughout history and across the world. Finally, it will concentrate in depth on specific ancient and modern cities.

Students in the class come from different backgrounds. In order to make the topic approachable for all and to give an interdisciplinary perspective, we have selected a large range of readings and will comment them in class prior to the day of discussion. We will comment on the readings prior to the class for which they are assigned.

Requirements: Students will give presentations on assigned topics during the course and assign readings on their topic from the general bibliography as well as from other texts. You will post abstracts and bibliographies on Blackboard. For the final paper, you will develop your special area of interest in a research projects, assign readings for the day of your presentation. Post your bibliography as well as an abstract and the final paper on blackboard.

Please check the syllabus throughout the semester as supplementary readings will be assigned.

Syllabus:

Week 1 (September 7th)

Introduction: Brainstorming about definitions of public and private, students' interest in the class, first definitions, main themes

Readings:

Wright (See Reading Guide for Week 1 on Blackboard)–
Aristotle, Politics; Vitruvius I praef. 2; I. 2; VI.5.1; Severy 2003, 1-6; Geuss 2002;
Arendt 1987; Habermas 1974; Aries 1978; Scruton 1987; Sennet 1987; Weintraub 1997;
Connerton 1999.

Hein–

Crawford 1995, Deutsche 1992, Grant 2001, Hein 1996, Horowitz 1996, Lee 1998, Low
2002, McCarthy 2006, Mitchell 1995.

Week 2 (September 14th)

Discussion of definitions and themes of public space

Readings:

Brain 1997, Calhoun 1997, Passerin d'Entrèves 2000, Passerin d'Entrèves and Vogel
2000, Hayden 1995 (p. 1-78), Steiner 2000, Swanson 2000 (Ch. 4 and 8), Sypnowich
2000, Weintraub 1997. Habermas 1974.

Wright (See Reading Guide for Week 2 on Blackboard)–

Hall 1966. chapter X.

Tuan 1977. Chapters 7-9.

Connerton 1989.

Week 3 (September 21nd)

Themes of public space in Europe

Readings:

Corijn 2006, Dijkink 2001, Hein 2006, Koopmans 2004, Sjøholt 1999.

Week 4 (September 28th)

Themes of public space in the Old World, the New World and in Asia.

Readings

Wright–

Egypt: Baines 2006; Baines and Yoffee 1998;

Mesopotamia: Baines and Yoffee 1998; Van de Mierop 1997.

Inka: Moore 1996, 2004; background reading: Moore 2005; Classen 1993; Hyslop 1990

Mesoamerica: Ashmore 2005; Sanders and Webster 1988

Recommended for background: Trigger 2003, esp chs. 6-10,

Coaldrake 1996 (Ch. 3, 4, 5), Bianca 2000, Hein 2002, Low 2000 (Ch. 3, 4, 5, 8), Wang, Yoneyama 1999 (Ch. 2).

Week 5 (October 5th)

Public space in “city-states” and Mediterranean empires: Late Bronze Age polities of the Eastern Mediterranean (Levant, Aegean), Greece and “colonies”, Etruscans and early Rome, Roman empire

Hansen 2000

Aristotle on Hippodamos of Miletos

Hölscher 1991

Richardson 1991

Anderson 1997, chs. 4-6 (pp. 241-336).

Week 6 (October 12th)

Student presentations: Old World.

Week 7 (October 19th) Fall break

Week 8 (October 26th)

Student presentations: Old World.

Week 9 (November 2nd)

Public space from medieval times until today

Readings

Berggren 2000, Binder 2000, Deutsche 1996, Frandsen 2000, Gournay 2006, Kostof 1991 (Ch. 4), Kostof 1992 (Ch. 3, 4 partial), Piccinato 2006, Rowe 1997 (Ch. 1, 2), Schneider 1995 (Ch. 5), Therborn 2002, White 2006.

Week 10 (November 9th)

Student presentations: Public space from medieval times until today

Week 11 (November 16th)

Student presentations: Public space from medieval times until today

Week 12 (November 23rd) Thanksgiving vacation

Week 13 (November 30th)

Paper presentations

Week 14 (December 7th)

Paper presentations

Week 15 (alternative date for fieldtrip downtown)

Public Conference with presentation of revised papers during spring semester

Assigned texts on blackboard:

- Berggren, Lars. "Monuments in the Making of Italy." In *Myth and Memory in the Construction of Community*, edited by Bo Stråth, 187-97. Brussels, etc.: P.I.E.-Peter Lang, 2000.
- Bianca, Stefano. *Urban Form in the Arab World*. London: Thames and Hudson, 2000.
- Binder, Beate. "Political Stage-Setting. The Symbolic Transformation of Berlin." In *Myth and Memory in the Construction of Community. Historical Patterns in Europe and Beyond*, edited by Bo Stråth, 137-55. Bruxelles, Bern, Berlin, Frankfurt/M., New York, Wien: P.I.E.-Peter Lang, 2000.
- Brain, David. "From Public Housing to Private Communities: The Discipline of Design and the Materialization of the Public/Private Distinction in the Built Environment." In *Public and Private in Thought and Practice. Perspectives on a Grand Dichotomy*, edited by Jeff Weintraub and Krishan Kumar, 237-67. Chicago, London: University of Chicago Press, 1997.
- Calhoun, Craig. "Nationalism and the Public Sphere." In *Public and Private in Thought and Practice*, edited by Jeff Weintraub and Krishan Kumar, 75-102. Chicago, London: The University of Chicago Press, 1997.
- Coaldrake, William H. *Architecture and Authority in Japan*. London: Routledge, Japanese Studies Series, 1996.
- Corijn, Eric. "Building the Capital of Europe as a Heterotopia." In *Bruxelles, l'Européenne. Capitale de qui? Ville de qui?/European Brussels. Whose capital? Whose city?*, edited by Carola Hein, 52-66. Brussels: La Lettre Volée, 2006.
- Crawford, Margaret. "Contesting the Public Realm: Struggles over Public Space in Los Angeles." *Journal of Architectural Education* 49, no. 1 (1995): 4-9.
- Deutsche, Rosalyn. "Art and Public Space: Questions of Democracy." *Social Text* 33 (1992): 34-53.
- . "Representing Berlin etc.?" In *Evictions : art and spatial politics* edited by Rosalyn Deutsche. Chicago, Ill; Cambridge, Mass: Graham Foundation for Advanced Studies in the Fine Arts: MIT Press, 1996.
- Dijkink, Gertjan. "European Capital Cities as Political Frontiers." *GeoJournal (special issue on European Capital Cities)* 51, no. 1/2 (2000): 65-71.
- Gournay, Isabelle. "Washington: The DC's History of Unresolved Planning Conflicts." In *Planning Twentieth Century Capital Cities*, edited by David L.A. Gordon, 115-29. New York: Routledge, 2006.
- Grant, Bruce. "New Moscow Monuments, or, States of Innocence " *American Ethnologist* 28, no. 2 (2001): 332-62.
- Hayden, Dolores. *The Power of Place: Urban Landscapes as Public History*. Cambridge (MA): MIT Press, 1995.
- Hein, Carola. "Hiroshima. The atomic bomb and Kenzo Tange's Hiroshima Peace Center." In *Out of Ground Zero. Case Studies in Urban Reinvention*, edited by Joan Ockman, 62-83. New York, München: Temple Hoyne Buell Center for the Study of American Architecture Columbia University, Prestel, 2002.

- Hein, Hilde. "What is Public Art? Time, Place, and Meaning." *The Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism* 54, no. 1 (1996): 1-7.
- Horowitz, Gregg M. "Public Art/Public Space: The Spectacle of the Tilted Arc Controversy." *The Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism* 54, no. 1 (1996): 8-14.
- Koopmans, Ruud, and Jessica Erbe. "Towards a European public sphere?" *Innovation: The European Journal of Social Science Research* 17, no. 2 (2004): 97-118.
- Kostof, Spiro. *The City Assembled*. London: Thames and Hudson, 1992.
- . *The City Shaped*. London: Thames and Hudson, 1991.
- Lee, Pamela M. "Public Art and the Spaces of Democracy." *Assemblage* 35 (1998): 80-86.
- Low, Setha M. "Lessons from Imagining the World Trade Center Site: An Examination of Public Space and Culture" *Anthropology and Education Quarterly* 33, no. 3 (2002): 395-405.
- McCarthy, John. "Regeneration of Cultural Quarters: Public Art for Place Image or Place Identity." *Journal of Urban Design* 11, no. 2 (2006): 243-62.
- Passerin d'Entrèves, Maurizio. "Public and Private in Hannah Arendt's concept of citizenship." In *Private and Public: Legal, political, and Philosophical Perspectives*, edited by Maurizio Passerin d'Entrèves and Ursula Vogel, 68-89. London: Routledge, 2000.
- Passerin d'Entrèves, Maurizio, and Ursula Vogel. "Public and Private: A Complex Relation." In *Private and Public: Legal, political, and Philosophical Perspectives*, edited by Maurizio Passerin d'Entrèves and Ursula Vogel, 1-16. London: Routledge, 2000.
- Piccinato, Giorgio. "Rome: Where Great Events not Regular Planning Bring Development." In *Washington: The DC's History of Unresolved Planning Conflicts*, edited by David L.A. Gordon, 213-25. New York: Routledge, 2006.
- Rowe, Peter G. *Civic Realism*. Cambridge, Mass: London: MIT Press, 1997.
- Schneider, Robert A. *The Ceremonial City, Toulouse Observed, 1738-1780*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1995.
- Steiner, Hillel. "The 'Public-Private' Demarcation." In *Private and Public: Legal, political, and Philosophical Perspectives*, edited by Maurizio Passerin d'Entrèves and Ursula Vogel, 19-27. London: Routledge, 2000.
- Swanson, Judith A. "Ch. 4 The Economy: A Public Place for Private Activity." In *The Public and the Private in Aristotle's Political Philosophy*, edited by Judith A. Swanson, 69-94. Ithaca: Cornell University, 1992.
- . "Ch. 8 Philosophy: Reciprocity between the Most Private and the Public." In *The Public and the Private in Aristotle's Political Philosophy*, edited by Judith A. Swanson, 193-206. Ithaca: Cornell University, 1992.
- Sypnowich, Christine. "The civility of law: between public and private." In *Private and Public: Legal, political, and Philosophical Perspectives*, edited by Maurizio Passerin d'Entrèves and Ursula Vogel, 93-116. London: Routledge, 2000.
- Therborn, Göran. "Monumental Europe: The National Years. On the Iconography of European Capital Cities." *Housing, Theory and Society* 19, no. 1 (2002): 26-47.
- Wang, Di. "Street Culture: Public Space and Urban Commoners in Late-Qing Chengdu." *Modern China* 24, no. 1 (1998): 34-72.

- Weintraub, Jeff. "The Theory and Politics of the Public/Private Distinction." In *Public and Private in Thought and Practice*, edited by Jeff Weintraub and Krishan Kumar, 1-42. Chicago, London: University of Chicago, 1997.
- White, Paul. "Paris: From the Legacy of Haussmann to the Pursuit of Cultural Supremacy." In *Planning Twentieth Century Capital Cities*, edited by David L.A. Gordon, 38-57. New York: Routledge, 2006.
- Yoneyama, Lisa. *Hiroshima Traces. Time, Space, and the Dialectics of Memory*. Berkeley, Los Angeles, London: University of California, 1999.