The course outlines the development of Western architectural languages and urban forms from the Renaissance to the globalized 21st century, focusing on issues of cultural cross-relations. Special attention is dedicated to the role of Italian and Western models in 19th to 21st century architecture and urban design.

A multidisciplinary approach emphasizes different approaches to architectural history, and their development over the centuries, from the birth of the discipline to our days.

A basic knowledge of the history of Western architecture and the language of classicism is required, as follows:

**Roman Architecture and the Middle Ages**
- The Roman Empire: architecture, urbanism, technology
- Pantheon, Baths of Diocletian, Villa Adriana, aqueducts
- The birth of Christian architecture
- Old St Peter's and early Christian basilicas
- Florence metropolises of the Middle Ages
- Palazzo Vecchio, S. Maria del Fiore, city walls, Ossanmichele

**The Rediscovery of Classical Architecture in the Italian Renaissance**
- Florence from Brunelleschi to Alberti
- Capola of S. Maria del Fiore, S. Maria Novella, Rucellai Palace
- New models: urban and rural
- Pienza, Urbino, planned 'ideal cities', the Villa
- Rome from Bramante to Michelangelo
- New St Peter's
- Florence under the Medici: Michelangelo, Vasari, Ammannati, Buontalenti
- Sagrestia Nuova and Laurentian Library, Uffizi, Pitti, Cappella dei Principi
- Religious clashes in Europe: Counter-reformation and Baroque architecture
- The Church of the Gesù, Rome; St Peter's square; S. Carlo alle Quattro Fontane

The course includes lectures, guided readings, on-site visits in Florence and other Italian centres (not available during the first semester).

Final examination: Four written papers, online interview on one the following topics:

Towards a Globalization of Classicism
- Palladio and Palladianism: Europe-America, and beyond
- Historicism, Eclecticism, Colonialism
- Building Russia’s classicism: from Peter the Great to Stalin
- Vernacular architecture today: new challenges to a fading world

Cities in the age of industrialism and colonialism
- European urbanism in the age of industrialism: Haussmann’s Paris and its global influence
- The Rise and Fall of the City of…
- Las Vegas to Dubai, Celebration to Poundbury

Masters of the 20th Century
- Wright, Le Corbusier, Hadid, Piano

Contexts in Western architecture and urbanism, Issues of methods and interpretation
- Technology and symbolism: domes from the Pantheon to the Reichstag
- Functions and forms: triumphal arches from Rome to the 21st century
- Destructive: a political agenda in 20th and 21st century architecture and urbanism
- Architecture and dictatorship: Fascist Rome, Nazi Berlin

'I am a monument': modern architecture, kitsch and pop culture
Reference books
Andrew Leach, *What is Architectural History?*, Cambridge 2010

Basic Readings
Add two books of your choice:

Further Reading
Donald L. Miller, *City of the Century: The Epic of Chicago and the Making of America*, Chicago 1996

www.architectura.cesr.univ-tours.fr: Italian and Western architectural treatises and books published 16th-18th centuries
www.kubikat.org: collective catalogue of the leading research libraries in art and architectural history
www.jstor.org: free access to hundreds of scientific art and architectural history journals (access through unifi.it only)
www.academia.edu: academics’ sites with downloadable scholarly essays

Further reading and websites will be indicated at the end of each lecture
Most books available at Florence University Libraries: http://www.sba.unifi.it/

Prof. Mario Bevilacqua: bevilacqua@unifi.it
Prof. Lorenzo Ciccarelli: lorenzo.ciccarelli@unifi.it
Contemporary architecture technically includes all the buildings of today, but a historical style has emerged in the second half of the 20th century that is distinguishing itself from the modern architectural style of the early 20th century. The global economy and international cooperation that exploded after World War II has greatly affected artistic influences around the world, and contemporary architecture is marked by this both this transcontinentalism and a sense of placelessness, as well as an attempt to make structures integral. Generally speaking, contemporary architecture can be considered to be the architecture of the present day. When speaking about architecture, it's typical to classify different sorts of architecture into different architectural "movements." Classical architecture, brutalist architecture, Federalist architecture and Gothic architecture are all examples of particular architectural movements. Contemporary architecture typically features the use of unconventional building materials or the use of industrial materials in a domestic space. Sustainability is also a concern of the contemporary architect.