



UNIVERSITY OF NICOSIA

ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΛΕΥΚΩΣΙΑΣ

University of Nicosia, Cyprus

Course Code INT-341	Course Title History & Theory of Interior Design	ECTS Credits 4
Department Architecture	Semester Spring	Prerequisites INT142
Type of Course Major Requirement	Field Interior Design	Language of Instruction English
Level of Course 1 st Cycle	Year of Study 3 rd	Lecturer Michaelides Antigoni
Mode of Delivery Face- to- face	Work Placement N/A	Co-requisites INT-301/INT-361

Objectives of the Course:

The main objectives of the course are :

- To present the student with 20th century's major theories taken from philosophy, sociology, psychoanalysis, linguistics and cultural studies and discuss how they have contributed to various debates found in the field of design.
- To explore themes emerging in the modern and post-modern era including industrialization, functionalism, consumerism, fetishism, representation, nostalgia and propaganda, phenomenology, structuralism, deconstruction and globalization, among others.
- To re-situate interior design within a broader cultural context and consider how, in return, design has interpreted advanced modern thought.
- To design a strong methodological discourse, interdisciplinary in character, that will enable students to develop their critical and analytical skills.
- To increase the student's vocabulary and body of knowledge in this subject matter area.

Learning Outcomes:

After completion of the course students are expected to be able to:

- Demonstrate historical and theoretical knowledge over the basic terminology and definitions which are presented in the duration of the course.
- Analyse images, products and cultural artifacts using this new theoretical, interdisciplinary context.
- Interrelate contemporary cultural production, cultural theory and instances of everyday life on a critical level, with the aim of arriving to their own independent conclusions.
- Adopt theoretical concepts and communicate them orally and in writing.
- Demonstrate through their final project a strong methodological framework and set of well-sharpened conceptual tools that advance independent interior design criticism and appreciation.

Course Contents:

Introduction: Enlightenment and the Age of Reason – The Industrial Revolution and the beginnings of the Machine Age – Modernism, the New Avant-Garde.
 Functionalism in Art, Design and the Society. The Positive and Negative Aspects of Programmatic Modernism.
 Mechanization and Mass Production – Popular Art and Consumerism. What is the value of the work of art in the age of mechanical reproduction?
 Beauty: Ideal, Sublime or Kitsch? The ‘highs’ and ‘lows’ of Modernistic culture and where does the avant-garde posit itself? Redefining ‘beauty’ in art and design.
 Structuralism in Literature and Architecture – Creating systems of reference and meaning. The ‘Subject’ replaces the ‘Individual’.
 Phenomenology: M. C. Escher, Franz Kafka and the poetics of space.
 The rise of the Subject-Object – Lacan and the Mirror Stage – J. P. Sartre’s The Look – Mulvey’s Feminist Critique of Hollywood cinema.
 Virtual Reality in Philosophy, Fiction and Cinema: Baudrillard, Borges and The Matrix. Discussing Imaginary Reality.
 Guy Debord and the Society of the Spectacle. The Situationist International critique of the city, everyday life and art.
 Structure, Sign and Play – Deconstructing visual arts and making sense of our layered culture.
 Haunted Media – Ghosting the Machine: The sounds of tap and the sounds of film – The hidden wiring of music.

Learning Activities and Teaching Methods:

Slideshow Lectures, Weekly Reading, Group Presentations, Assignments and Projects, Screenings, Class Discussions.

Assessment Methods:

Attendance and Participation, Assignments, Presentations, Mid-Term Project, Final Project.

Required Textbooks and Reading:

Course Reader prepared by the Lecturer, including primary and secondary reading, notes and supplementary information.

Recommended Textbooks and Reading:

Authors	Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN
Raizman, D.	History of Modern Design	Prentice Hall Art	2003	1856693481
Palmer & Dodson	Design and Aesthetics	Routledge, New York	1996	
Persner, N.	The Sources of Modern Architecture and Design	Thames & Hudson, London	1995	0500200726