### Course Title
Introduction to the History of Western Architecture

Western architecture - which since 1800 has become “world architecture” is made of heavy, permanent materials - concrete, stone, new sorts of glass nowadays held together with steel. This last a long time - Istanbul one can enter Hagia Sophia and see precisely what Emperor Justinian saw in 538 AD; in Rome, one can walk through the original bronze doors of Emperor Hadrian’s Pantheon and see precisely what he did in 115 AD; in Chartres one can enter the Cathedral and see precisely what pilgrims did there in 1225. Such architecture is not universal - around the Pacific they build in wood and at Ise the shrine is completely rebuilt every 20 years which is another way of defeating time. But in the Mediterranean and North Atlantic world, we have our architecture - whole and with its original secrets.

In order to do this amazing thing, our Western half of the world’s culture has to mobilize huge resources and to manage that there has always been a class of people thinking everything out beforehand, already called “architecti” by the Romans and that name has never changed. They don’t place one stone on another, but calculate and draw just how all the stones might be made to stand up - amazingly cleverly as at the Pantheon, Hagia Sophia or Chartres - or even in the Northwestern University Library by Walter Netsch. This course will trace and explain the historical development of the strange and wonderful enterprise - this “art” which we take for granted in all its vast intricacy, from, the Parthenon and the Pantheon, through Hagia Sophia the mosques of the great Ottoman architect Sinan and the cathedrals of Michelangelo and Christopher Wren, to the Guggenheim Museums of Frank Lloyd Wright in New York and Frank Gehry in Bilbao.

### Required Textbooks
- Erwin Panofsky, *Gothic Architecture and Scholasticism* (0529020920)
- Marshall Berman, *All That is Solid Melts into Air* (0140109625)

### Assessments
- Midterm, final, analytical paper