



Left:
Hawa Aden Yeru, with humanitarian aid items as building materials
Ifo camp, Dadaab, Kenya, 2011
(Photo: Women's Refugee Commission)

Right:
Minnette De Silva, inspecting construction
Colombo, 1958
(Photo: The Life and Work of an Asian Woman Architect, by Minnette De Silva)

Histories of Architecture and Feminism

Barnard and Columbia Colleges Architecture Department

Fall 2018 ARCH UN3901 section 001 Senior Seminar

Time: Tuesday 10:10-12:00

Location: Barnard Archives and Special Collections Reading Room, 423 Milstein

Teaching and Learning Center

Professor Anooradha Iyer Siddiqi

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Phone: (212) 851-2959

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Office: The Diana Center, Room 500H

Office Hours: Thursday 10:00-12:00 or by appointment

Course Description

What does it mean to write histories of architecture and feminism? Which stories are included and which excluded? What are the objects of these histories? Must we focus on biographies of women? Must we reject them? How is a material and spatial field figured in a feminist history? What scales and positionalities appear, and how does architecture enforce or subvert politics of location? How are race, sexuality, class, colonialism, ethnicity, and nation bound up with architecture in these histories? How are questions of domesticity linked with those of power? What is an architect?

This seminar will examine these questions and others through historiographical practice and theory. Building upon recent interventions by scholars examining architecture, art, urbanism, geography, territory, ecology, technology, and material culture, we will examine how histories of architecture and feminism have been narrated and shaped. Students will study practice and theory in formal and institutionalized interventions, as well as historiographical approaches in informal or emergent initiatives. In our class discussions, we will examine the objects and methods of histories that concern themselves with architecture—defined broadly as well as narrowly—and study how scholars using feminist approaches have attempted to write those histories.

The seminar follows the iterative pedagogical structure of an architectural studio, but emphasizes inquiry through open-ended project-based research rather than making. The seminar has two aspects. First, we will work out of an institutional archive, engaging collections held by the Barnard Archives, including the collections of the Center for Research on Women. This will enable us to think about how evidence is mobilized in the construction of narratives, and to experiment with the development of “feminist” and “architectural” methods and histories, as proposed, developed, and argued by students. Second, we will read from a body of literature and develop another archive: a database of direct conversations and interviews (in person and virtually) with others currently engaged in feminist scholarship. Our research practice will result in a publication or exhibition to be developed as part of the work in the seminar. This course has no prerequisites.

Student Learning Objectives

Upon completion of this course, students should be able, at an advanced level, to:

1. Verbally present independent, group or assigned research, in multiple media formats
2. Organize, research and write in a variety of formats
3. Conduct archival research and interviews and discussion with scholars based upon background research and critical reading of their work
4. Contribute to an annotated working bibliography of secondary literature
5. Maintain a research journal and present regular research progress reports

6. Organize, research and write text and compile images or artifacts for a final exhibition and/or publication project that synthesizes research and uses argued feminist and architectural historiographical approaches

Course Requirements, Evaluation, and Grading

Academic Contribution 10%

Weekly assignments (8 total):

[Contribute to shared annotated bibliography](#) (2-3 entries per week)

DUE Sunday 11:00PM

[Submit request for archive materials](#) (on shared Google doc)

DUE Sunday 11:00PM

Maintain research journal (digital and analog formats)

DUE in class and material for inclusion in Proposal/Reports

Archive Exercise (Weeks 2-4) and Research 15%

Research Proposal format (to be followed for Research Reports):

Thesis

Project Outline

Workplan

Methods

Primary Sources

Annotated Bibliography

Interviews/Discussions (10 total) 20%

[Brief online reading response/question](#) (100-200 words)

DUE Sunday 11:00PM

[Organize and archive interview/discussion](#) (in shared Google drive)

DUE in class

Research Journal and Reports 30%

Research Report (Phase I)

Research Report (Phase II)

Final Project 25%

Books and Materials

Research journal required, digital and analog.

The following edited collections represent relevant recent publications, and will aid our secondary research, as will the working bibliography for the course (which you will assist in annotating), located [here](#). You are not required to purchase these, and they will be kept on reserve in the Barnard library.

- Doucet, Isabelle, and H el ene Frichot, eds. "Resist, Reclaim, Speculate: Situated Perspectives on Architecture and the City," *Architectural Theory Review* 22:1 (2018).
- Frichot, H el ene, Catharina Gabri elsson and Helen Runting, eds. *Architecture and Feminisms: Ecologies, Economies, Technologies*. London: Routledge, 2017.
- Heynen, Hilde, and G uls m Baydar, eds. *Negotiating Domesticity: Spatial Productions of Gender in Modern Architecture*. London: Routledge, 2005.
- Lambert, L eopold, ed. "Queers, Feminists & Interiors," *The Funambulist* 13.
- Lee, Rachel, and Anooradha Iyer Siddiqi, eds. "On Margins: Feminist Architectural Histories of Migration," *Architecture Beyond Europe*, forthcoming.
- Phadke, Shilpa. "[Transnational Feminisms: Pedagogies and Syllabi](#)."
- Rendell, Jane, Barbara Penner, and Iain Borden, eds. *Gender Space Architecture*. London: Routledge, 2007.
- Reisinger, Karin, and Meike Schalk, eds. "[Becoming a Feminist Architect](#)," *Field Journal* 7 (2017).
- Reisinger, Karin, and Meike Schalk, eds., "Styles of Queer Feminist Practices and Objects," *Architecture and Culture* Vol. 5 Issue 3 (2017).

Course Structure and Schedule

Week 1 September 4. Shannon O'Neill, BC Director of Archives & Special Collections, History Librarian; Martha Tenney, BC Digital Archivist and American Studies Librarian; Meredith Wisner, BC Research & Instruction Librarian for Art & Architecture.

Introduction to course structure and primary research.

Week 2 September 11. Shannon O'Neill, BC Director of Archives & Special Collections, History Librarian; Martha Tenney, BC Digital Archivist and American Studies Librarian; Meredith Wisner, BC Research & Instruction Librarian for Art & Architecture.

Introduction to primary research and methods.

Recommended readings:

Booth, Wayne C., et. al., *The Craft of Research*, 3rd edition (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2008). Chapter 1 “Thinking in Print: The Uses of Research, Public and Private,” Chapter 4 “From Questions to a Problem,” and Chapter 5 “From Problems to Sources.”

Roberts, Jennifer, “The Power of Patience,” *Harvard Magazine* (November-December 2013): 40-43.

International Network for the Conservation of Contemporary Art, *Guide to Good Practice: Artists’ Interviews*.

Week 3 September 18. Nicole King, Ph.D. Department of English and Comparative Literature, Goldsmiths, University of London.

Nicole King, “From the Bronx to Germany and Back: Using the Archive to Narrate African American Protest & Patriotism,” paper for European & British Associations for American Studies (EBAAS) Conference, 6 April 2018.

Nicole King

Time of interview: 10:30-11:30 EST

Preferred mode of contact: Skype nicole.king1

Back-up mode of contact: telephone +44. 207.635.9973

Email contact: n.king@gold.ac.uk

Organized by: Francisco Alvidrez, Yvette Kleinbock

Introduction to secondary research.

Week 4 September 25. Barbara Penner, Ph.D. Bartlett School of Architecture, University College London.

Barbara Penner, “[The Flexible Heart of the Home](#),” *Places* (May 2018).

Barbara Penner

Time of interview: xx:xx-xx:xx EST

Preferred mode of contact:

Back-up mode of contact:

Email contact:

Organized by: Eno Chen, Adam Croxton, Morgan Montgomery, Dan Schumacher

Archive exercise in preparation for Research Proposal.

Week 5 October 2. Martina Tanga, Ph.D., Koch Curatorial Fellow, deCordova Sculpture Park and Museum.

Martina Tanga, "Burnishing History: Mags Harries' 1976 Asaroton," *Public Art Dialogue* 8:1 (2018): 50-71.

Martina Tanga

Time of interview: 10:20-10:50 EST

Preferred mode of contact: Skype: martinatanga

Back-up mode of contact: 1.857.272.5249

Email contact: martina.tanga@gmail.com

Organized by: Cecley Hill

Research Proposal DUE. Independent research. (4) Student meetings.

Week 6 October 9. Delia Wendel, Ph.D. Department of Urban Studies and Planning, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Delia Wendel, "The Materiality of Interpellation: Modern Roofs for Modern Citizens [in Rwanda]," Chapter 8 in "The Ethics of Stability: Rebuilding Rwanda after the 1994 Genocide," Ph.D. dissertation, Harvard University, 2016.

Delia Wendel

Time of interview: 10:30-11:00 EST

Preferred mode of contact: Zoom link

Back-up mode of contact: office phone 617.324.3780

Email contact: wendel@mit.edu

Organized by: Zariah Griffith, Elizaveta Reynolds, Dan Schumacher, Aayushi Singal

Independent research. (4) Student meetings.

Week 7 October 16. No class, independent meetings with professor as needed.

Week 8 October 23. Samia Henni, Ph.D. College of Architecture, Art, and Planning, Cornell University.

Samia Henni, "[Designing for the 'Milieu Féminin': France's Attempts to Keep Algerian Women away from Islamic Customs](#)," Harvard University Graduate School of Design Aga Khan Program lecture, 9 March 2018.

Samia Henni

Time of interview: xx:xx-xx:xx EST

Preferred mode of contact:

Back-up mode of contact:
Email contact:

Organized by: Natasha Abaza, Zariah Griffith, Derrick Sibley

Independent research. (4) Student meetings.

Week 9 October 30. Sophie Hochhaeusl, Ph.D. Department of Architecture,
University of Pennsylvania.

Sophie Hochhaeusl, "Introduction: Memories from Resistance," *Memories from Resistance*, Sophie Hochhaeusl ed. Raphael Koenig, trans., not paginated (manuscript in production, forthcoming).

Margarete Schuette-Lihotzky, "25 Days in the Resistance," and "A Year and a Half at Schiffamtsgasse District Prison, Vienna" *Memories from Resistance*, Sophie Hochhaeusl ed., Raphael Koenig, trans., not paginated (manuscript in production, forthcoming).

Susan Henderson, "A Revolution in the Woman's Sphere: Grete Lihotzky and the Frankfurt Kitchen," in *Architecture and Feminism* (Yale publications on architecture), ed. Debra Coleman, Elizabeth Danze, Carol Henderson (New York: Princeton Architectural Press, 1996).

Sophie Hochhaeusl
Time of interview: xx:xx-xx:xx EST
Preferred mode of contact:
Back-up mode of contact:
Email contact:

Organized by: Eno Chen, Yvette Kleinblock, Aayushi Singal

Research Report (Phase I) DUE. Independent research. (4) Student meetings.

Week 10 November 6. No class, election day.

Week 11 November 13. Dubravka Sekulić, Ph.D. Graz University of Technology.

Dubravka Sekulić, "[Forty Years of A Seventh Man](#)," *Život umjetnosti* 101:2 (2017): 168-179.

Dubravka Sekulić, "[The Ambiguities of Informality](#)," *Derive*, no. 71 (April 2018): 37-42.

Dubravka Sekulić
Time of interview: 10:30-11:30 EST
Preferred mode of contact: Skype dubravaja
Back-up mode of contact: whatsapp +4368110450319
Email contact: dubravka@dubravka.net

Organized by: Adam Croxton

Independent research. (4) Student meetings.

Week 12 November 20. Joy Mboya, M.Arch. Executive Director, Godown Arts Centre.

Godown Arts Centre, *Nai Ni Who?* festival brochure.

Joy Mboya and Garnette Oluoch-Olunya, "Nai.Ni.Who?: Exploring Urban Identity, Place, and Social (Re)construction in Nairobi," *Critical Interventions* 11:1 (2017): 58-72.

Joy Mboya and Judy Ogana, "Dante's Walk: Markers of Place in an Informal Settlement, The *Nai Ni Who* Festival in Nairobi," in *Things Don't Exist Until You Give Them A Name*, ed. Rachel Lee, et. al., 100-105 (Dar es Salaam: Mkuki na Nyota, 2017).

Joy Mboya

Time of interview: xx:xx-xx:xx EST

Preferred mode of contact:

Back-up mode of contact:

Email contact:

Organized by: Cecley Hill

Independent research. (4) Student meetings.

Week 13 November 27. Rupali Gupte, M.Arch. School of Environment and Architecture, University of Mumbai.

Rupali Gupte, "Appropriating modern spaces, gendered narratives," (unpublished essay, in volume on gender and space, edited by Madhavi Desai).

Rupali Gupte

Time of interview: xx:xx-xx:xx EST

Preferred mode of contact:

Back-up mode of contact:

Email contact:

Organized by: Francisco Alvidrez, Cecley Hill, Aayushi Singal

Independent research. (4) Student meetings.

Week 14 December 4. Lilian Chee, Ph.D. Department of Architecture, National University of Singapore.

Lilian Chee, "Domesticity, gender, architecture: Locating an expanded field," in *The Routledge Companion to Contemporary Architectural History*, ed. Duanfang Lu (London: Routledge, forthcoming 2018).

Lilian Chee, "Unhousing sexuality: Sexuality and singlehood in Singapore's Public Housing," in *Sexuality and Gender at Home*, ed. Brent Carnell, Rachael Scicliuna, Ben Campkin and Barbara Penner, 35-51 (London: Bloomsbury Academic, 2017).

Lilian Chee

Time of interview: xx:xx-xx:xx EST

Preferred mode of contact:

Back-up mode of contact:

Email contact:

Organized by: Natasha Abaza, Derrick Sibley

Research Report (Phase II) DUE. Independent research. (4) Student meetings.

Final Week December 11.

Final Project DUE.

POLICIES AND STATEMENTS

Honor Code:

The Barnard Honor Code applies to all students in this class regardless of academic affiliation. Approved by the student body in 1912 and updated in 2016, the Code states: We, the students of Barnard College, resolve to uphold the honor of the College by engaging with integrity in all of our academic pursuits. We affirm that academic integrity is the honorable creation and presentation of our own work. We acknowledge that it is our responsibility to seek clarification of proper forms of collaboration and use of academic resources in all assignments or exams. We consider academic integrity to include the proper use and care for all print, electronic, or other academic resources. We will respect the rights of others to engage in pursuit of learning in order to uphold our commitment to honor. We pledge to do all that is in our power to create a spirit of honesty and honor for its own sake.

The Columbia College Honor Code and the Columbia College Faculty Statement on Academic Integrity can be viewed here:

<https://www.college.columbia.edu/honorcode>

<https://www.college.columbia.edu/faculty/resourcesforinstructors/academicintegrity/statement>

Class Attendance, Late Arrivals, and Absences Policy:

Attendance is mandatory at all scheduled classes, field trips, and reviews. Any student arriving later than 20 minutes after the start of class will be considered late and anyone arriving later than 1 hour after the start of class will be marked absent.

Absences due to acute illness, a personal crisis (e.g. a death in the family), religious observance, or for other reasons of comparable gravity may be excused. In all such cases, students must promptly email their instructor to communicate the reason for their absence and to arrange an opportunity to review any important information they may have missed.

Students who know they will miss one or more scheduled classes due to a religious holiday should meet with their instructor during the first week of classes to discuss their anticipated absences.

Unexcused absences, late arrivals, or early departures from class will reduce your course grade. Three non-consecutive absences will result in a grade reduction by one-third (1/3) of one letter grade (e.g., A- to B+). Three consecutive absences or four non-consecutive absences will adversely affect your final grade.

Academic Accommodations Statement:

If you are a student with a documented disability and require academic accommodations in this course, you must register with the Office of Disability Services (ODS) for assistance. Students requesting accommodations will need to first meet with an ODS staff member. Once registered, students are required to request accommodation letters each semester to notify faculty. Accommodations are not retroactive, so it is best to contact ODS early each semester to access your accommodations. If you are registered with ODS, please see me to schedule a meeting outside of class in which you can bring me your faculty notification letter and we can discuss your accommodations for this course. Students are not eligible to use their accommodations in this course until they have met with me. ODS is located in Milbank Hall, Room 009/008. Columbia ODS is located in Wien Hall, Suite 108A.

Affordable Access to Course Texts Statement:

All students deserve to be able to access course texts. The high costs of textbooks and other course materials prohibit access and perpetuate inequity, and Barnard librarians are partnering with students, faculty, and staff to increase access. By the first day of advance registration for each term, you should be able to view on Canvas information provided by your faculty about required texts (including ISBN or author, title, publisher and copyright date) and their prices. Once you have selected your classes, here are some cost-free methods for accessing course texts, recommended by the Barnard Library: find out if your faculty has placed the texts on reserve at Barnard Library or another Columbia library, and look for course texts using CLIO (library catalog), Borrow Direct (request books from partner libraries), Interlibrary Loan (request book chapters from any library), and NYPL. Students with financial need or insecurity can check items out from the FLIP lending libraries in the Barnard Library and Butler Library and can consult with the Dean of Studies and the Financial Aid Office about additional affordable alternatives for getting access to course texts. Talk with your librarian and visit the Barnard Library Textbook Affordability guide(library.barnard.edu/textbook-affordability) for more details.

Wellness Statement:

It is important for undergraduates to recognize and identify the different pressures, burdens, and stressors you may be facing, whether personal, emotional, physical, financial, mental, or academic. We as a community urge you to make yourself—your own health, sanity, and wellness—your priority throughout this term and your career here. Sleep, exercise, and eating well can all be a part of a healthy regimen to cope with stress. Resources exist to support you in several sectors of your life, and we encourage you to make use of them. Should you have any questions about navigating these resources, please visit these sites:

- Barnard Students: <https://barnard.edu/wellwoman/about>
- Columbia Students: <http://www.college.columbia.edu/resources> Click on Health-Wellness
- Columbia GS Students: <https://gs.columbia.edu/health-and-wellness>
- Columbia SEAS Students: <http://gradengineering.columbia.edu/campus-resources>"