There is a principle specific to ecology: it states that anything is possible – the worst disasters or the most flexible evolutions. –Felix Guattari

Architects must step forward to lead interdisciplinary teams in this newly reoriented problem-solving. –Kate Nesbitt

Technology, human needs, and environmental concerns must be considered an integral part of architecture. –Reyner Banham

"...We live in an era of glitzy buildings and trophy houses: big, ugly, show-off monsters that stand—or I should say stomp—on land stripped bare by the construction work and replanted with toxic green lawns. If the buildings could talk they would be speechless with embarrassment, but most of us see nothing wrong with them, and would, given the opportunity, build others like them, for few of us realize that there's a gentler way to build. –Malcolm Wells

The architectural profession faces a formidable set of challenges folded within the inclusive concept of sustainability. The course endeavors to contextualize current efforts to devise resourceful and responsive architectures and encourage a critical attitude about developments in the history of sustainable architecture considered most significant.

**Objectives:** The seminar calls upon participants to engage in theoretical and historical ideas that shape architecture and sustainable design. We will explore models and frameworks of sustainable design and knowledge, metrics, and techniques to quantify and qualify these models.

**Format:** This will be an interactive discussion seminar of student readings/discussion leads, guest speakers and reflective pieces.
Assignments:
1) Reading reflections and preparation to lead and participate in the discussion;
2) An annotated and illustrated timeline of a topic under study with respect to three fields of knowledge including sustainable design;
3) Create, revise, enhance and annotate a portion of the Ecoliteracy reading list.
4) Term paper or case study that provides a critical review of a specific topic and/or application that deals with examining historical aspects of material qualities, construction processes, buildings, neighborhoods, or cities.

Grading: Graded or P/NP. *students taking the course for 2 credits, will complete assignments 1-3.

READINGS (to be done prior to lecture) will be given prior to the first class.

Ecoliteracy Reading List
The Society of Building Science Educators (SBSE) during their annual curriculum retreat (http://sbse.org/retreat/retreat2002/) on Ecological Literacy: Green the Curriculum formed the following reading suggestions and references. Certainly not an exhaustive list, nor one that deals with specifically with history, we will select, enhance, and add to the list.

ECOLOGY / ECOLOGICAL LITERACY / UNDERSTANDING NATURAL SYSTEMS

ENVIRONMENTAL ETHICS & PHILOSOPHY / HUMAN CONCEPTIONS OF NATURE
THE AESTHETICS OF NATURE / PERCEIVING NATURE

ECOLOGICAL DESIGN / SUSTAINABLE ARCHITECTURE & DEVELOPMENT

FLORA & FAUNA

DESIGNING ENERGY EFFICIENT BUILDINGS / ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGY

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