GHENT UNIVERSITY

Course Specifications

Valid as from the academic year 2025-2026

Art and Architecture (E075611)

Course size *(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)*

Credits 3.0 **Study time 90 h**

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2026-2027

A (semester 2)	Dutch	Gent	lecture

Lecturers in academic year 2026-2027

Davidts, Wouter	TWO1	lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2026-2027	**crdts**	**offering**
Bachelor of Arts in Art History, Musicology and Theatre Studies	3	A
Bachelor of Science in Engineering: Architecture	3	A
Preparatory Course Master of Science in Engineering: Architecture(main subject Architectural Design and Construction Techniques)	3	A
Preparatory Course Master of Science in Engineering: Architecture(main subject Urban Design and Architecture)	3	A
Preparatory Course Master of Science in Engineering: Architecture	3	A
Elective Set Architecture for Art Historians	3	A

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

Vocabulary of of Art and Architecture

Position of the course

"When I use a word,' Humpty Dumpty said in rather a scornful tone, 'it means just what I choose it to mean — neither more nor less.'
'The question is,' said Alice, 'whether you can make words mean so many different things.'
'The question is,' said Humpty Dumpty, 'which is to be master — that's all."
Lewis Caroll, *Through the Looking Glass*, Chapter VI, 1872

Here language is built, not written,
Robert Smithson, *Language to be looked at and/or things to be read*, 1967

DOGMA:I:AMGOD
Carl Andre, *Art Theory*, 1999

In daily dicourse visual arts and architecture share many terms: space, object, material, structure, context, site, scale, etcetera. The meanings accorded to these terms however tend to significantly differ depending on the respective disciple or practice that uses them.

Contents

In the course 'Art and Architecture' we will explore some terms of the vocabulary shared by visual arts and architecture, while examining the differences and correspondences. Terms that are self-evident within architecture discourse are often used and understood in the visual arts in ways that sometimes differ, but also surprise and illuminate.

Based on the argument by Adrian Forty (*Words and Buildings*, 2000) that a critical vocabulary is not about things, it is about encounters with things, we will

undertake a exploratory journey through the visual arts of the past 6 decades.

The course 'Art and Architecture' consists of a series of ex cathedra lectures. In addition to the lectures, a compulsory, one-day excursion to a museum in Belgium or abroad is organized.

Initial competences

This course unit builds on certain course competencies/learning outcomes of Philosophy and Critical Theory: an Architectural Introduction and Architectural Theory 1: Early Modern Foundations (Bachelor of Science in Engineering: Architecture) or similar introductions

Final competences

1 Acquaintance with conceptual and formal design and productiong strategies in other domains than the discipline and practice of architecture, in particular in the visual arts.
2 Acquaintance with literature and writings from other domains than the discipline and practice of architecture, in particular from the visual arts.

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is determined after successful competences assessment

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Excursion, Lecture

Extra information on the teaching methods

Lectures with group discussions, and excursion (compuslory one day trip to museum).
Lectures are the primary mode of teaching.

Study material

Type: Syllabus

Name: At the start of the course a syllabus will be provided.
Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty
Optional: no

References

Suggested reading list plus image bank.

Course content-related study coaching

Assessment moments

end-of-term assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the first examination period

Written assessment open-book, Assignment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the second examination period

Assignment

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

examination during the second examination period is possible in modified form

Extra information on the examination methods

Take Home Exam during which an assignemt is made on the basis of specific instructions.
Open-book

Calculation of the examination mark

Assignment, oral exam and participation during the excursion are marked seperately:
- Assignment: 100%