

CHP 395: Architecture as Gateway to Culture

3:00-5:00 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday
17 Temple Buell Hall – 3 Hours

This course, a capstone seminar for students in the Campus Honors Program, is intended as an open-ended seminar focusing upon the discipline of architecture as an entry point for the study of historic and contemporary culture. Architecture will be presented as a window through which to view the earliest civilizations, vernacular communities, the development of historic architectural theory, and 20th and 21st century urban architectural design. The seminar will look at culture in its broadest interpretation, containing components emphasizing worldwide vernacular, historic and contemporary design issues. The emphasis will be upon built works, but will also be open to discussions regarding art, theater, literature, film, geography and anthropology.

The seminar, specifically planned for non-architecture majors, will meet twice per week. Each student will prepare and present to the class four analytical written projects.

Some classes will be based upon conventional methods of learning: readings, short lectures, slide presentations, films, and discussions with invited guests. These classes will look at architecture globally and offer broad views of cultures worldwide – from China to Mali, from Nepal to Peru, from Borneo to Mexico. Other classes will be based upon techniques of experiential learning: field trips to quality works of architecture located in Champaign-Urbana, Columbus, Indiana, Springfield, Illinois and rural communities in Central Illinois. These visits to architectural sites will emphasize that the understanding of architecture is grounded in the conviction that works of architecture are never fully understood until experienced firsthand. The field trips, conducted in a 15 passenger University van, will place special emphasis upon Midwestern architecture as a gateway for gaining insights into the essence of our own American culture.

Note: Because some required field trips may take up to 2 1/2 daylight hours, this seminar will begin at 3 PM. Please ignore the time listed in the timetable of 3:30 PM. The class will begin at 3 PM and end occasionally as late as 5:30 or 6 PM.

Instructor:

James P. Warfield, ACSA Distinguished Professor in Architecture, Emeritus, is an architect and educator who has taught at the UIUC School of Architecture since 1972. His built works include numerous schools, churches, multifamily residences, commercial offices and recreational facilities. He has taught design studios at every level of the undergraduate and graduate program. His research, which focuses upon vernacular architecture and design projects of international scope, has been conducted at sites around the world including Mexico, Peru, Greece, Bolivia, China, Malaysia, Nepal, Spain, Turkey, New Guinea, Tunisia, Mali, Tanzania, and Egypt. He has been named an Advisory Professor at Tongji University in Shanghai and is author of the "Warfield Column" in the quarterly Chinese Journal *Heritage Architecture*.