Liberal Studies and History/Theory Electives, Fall 2014
(for students who are enrolled in pre-Fall 2013 degree programs)

**Humanities:**

HTC2004 Modern and Contemporary Art (Not an elective for BIA and MIA students)
SSH1016 Encounters with Literature
ART1002 Writing Poems

**Social Sciences:**

SSH1014 Cultural Geography Explored Inside Out

**Physical Sciences:**

MNS1003 Botany (Not an elective for LA students)
MNS1044 Permaculture
MNS1048 Native Plant Communities
MNS2009 Plant Taxonomy (Not an elective for LA students)
MNS 1002 Physics* (Not an elective for BArch and MArch students; Pre-req: AS167/MNS1001)

*for LA students-Physical Science elective is not required but this course can be used as an AS Elective

**Arts and Sciences or Liberal Studies Electives**

Any of the above courses
ART1004 Graphic Design

**History/Theory:**

HTC1025 / HTC3025 Design History Methods Seminar: Art, Architecture, and Social Thought from Kant to Derrida
HTC2021 Art and Architecture of the Italian Renaissance
HTC2027 Imagining the Cuba of José Martí (**TRAVEL ELECTIVE, OPTIONAL STUDIO AVAILABLE**)
HTC2003 Contemporary Architecture (Not an elective for BArch and MArch students)
HTC1001 / HTC3001 Arch History 1 (Not an elective for BArch and MArch students)
HTC1002 / HTC3002 Architectural History 2 (Not an elective for BArch and MArch students)
HTC2013 History of Landscape Architecture 1 (Not an elective for BLA and MLA students)
HTC2014 History of Landscape Architecture 2 (Not an elective for BLA and MLA students)
HTC3012 History and Theory of Interior Design (Not an elective for BIA and MIA students)
Modern & Contemporary Art  
HTC2004/ SSH1004  
Tuesdays 4-7

This course focuses on the history of modern and contemporary art from the late nineteenth century through the twentieth century in Europe and United States. The objective of the course is to provide an overview of the major works of art and avant-garde movements during this period. The course also examines shifting definitions of modernism and modernity, the relationships between art and politics, and the cultural functions of the modern art museum. Through reading a combination of primary and secondary sources, we will work to understand and thoughtfully respond to historical narratives and debates.
From Impressionism to Abstract Expressionism, Picasso to Banksy, the art of the twentieth century was outrageous, varied, and unlike anything that came before it. This class will trace the art historical development of contemporary art and investigate how these weird and wonderful objects related to their environment as well as how viewers are supposed to relate to them. By looking at the important works by artists, theorists, critics, and historians, we will examine the changing definitions and contexts of art and discuss the problems and possibilities they create.

Instructor Marcia Karp received a Ph.D. in Literary History and an MA in Literary Criticism from Boston University. She has taught at Boston University, Emerson College, Massachusetts College of Art and Design, and the Northeast College of Communications, and has lectured and published extensively.
This course will introduce students to the pleasurable, hard work of writing poems. Participants will work towards mastering the craft of poetry including uses of sound, rhythm, images, the word, the line, and syntax. Throughout the semester, selected poems will be used to exemplify various approaches to technique and subject matter.

Social Science Electives
Social psychology is the scientific study of the way people think, feel, and behave in social situations. It involves understanding how individuals think about the world, how they understand themselves and others, and how they formulate perspectives on the world. In addition, social psychology enlightens us to the development of prejudice and stereotypes. A primary goal of this course is to introduce you to the perspectives, research methods, and seminal findings in the field of social psychology. Equally important is the goal of allowing you to cultivate your skills for analyzing the various social situations and events that you encounter in your everyday lives.
Have you ever wondered what kinds of connections exist between certain cultural practices and specific regions of the world? Perhaps you've been interested in what inspires individuals to get up and move for a new job? These are but a few of the questions we'll explore together in this course. Some of the topics include the ways in which globalization is transforming the American landscape and the ways in which economic realities affect where different groups of people choose to live.

Instructor Max Grinnell is an urbanologist and geographer who has taught at the University of Chicago, the University of Wisconsin, Boston University, and the Massachusetts College of Art. Along with teaching courses on urban studies, writing, and geography, he has written for the Chicago Tribune, Boston Magazine, Frommer’s, Rough Guides, and the Guardian.
History/Theory Electives
This course examines some of the key texts that, throughout the modern period, have attempted to explain, shape, and transform our understanding of artistic practices and their function in society. Readings, class presentations, and seminar discussions will provide students with a general knowledge of the intellectual history leading to contemporary theoretical debates on art, while focusing on the development of critical thinking skills, including the ability to situate authors and theories in their historical and intellectual contexts. Students will be able to test various theories and methodologies—from Aesthetic Idealism to Marxism, Structuralism, and Deconstruction—in a series of contemporary case studies involving art practices and design.
This course explores the development of architecture and design during the Italian Renaissance by examining ideas, stylistic innovations, historical events, and cultural contexts. The class will consider the emergence of humanism and new views of nature in the literature and arts of the late Middle Ages and will trace their development throughout the next two centuries. The early Renaissance of the Quattrocento will reveal the harmonies of proportion found in classical antiquity, and the High Renaissance of the Cinquecento will make evident an interest in mass and presence that become increasingly abstract. The class will end with Mannerism in the mid- to late 16th century where we will study how the classical principles reach exhaustion and are replaced by a new dynamic style. Investigating the social, economic, and political conditions of the period, the class will examine art, architecture, philosophy, and literature, as well as explore insights into the application of Renaissance principles to the design of interiors and to the development of garden and landscape design.

Instructor Ariel Brain is a member of the BAC faculty and has been teaching since 1993. In addition to teaching Ariel is a project architect at Elkus Manfredi Architects in Boston, Massachusetts, where he collaborates on large-scale commercial architecture projects. He has taught both the undergraduate and graduate Design Principles classes at the BAC and has taught a variety of studios and served as a thesis advisor. Ariel received a Masters of Architecture from Rice University and a BFA and BA from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst where he graduated Summa Cum Laude. Ariel is a LEED accredited professional and a member of the Society of Architectural Historians.
Ideas and Society
With the advent of film, animation and virtual environments, have our methods of perception and understanding (as well as our modes of expression) changed radically? The goal of this course is to investigate in what ways the moving image may have influenced our perceptual apparatus. We'll investigate topics such as: historic changes in perception; perception v. experience – a new take on phenomenology; cultural implications of time & space; film/animation/TV/video as a frame of reference for a new language of perception. In addition to reading a selection of texts based on the topics mentioned, each class we will watch a film or selections from films for discussion.

Instructor Amy Van Lauwe is a 2006 graduate of the BAC’s Master of Architecture Program and currently works at an architectural firm specializing in educational and institutional projects. Amy holds a BA in Political Science and German Culture from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst and a MA in Political Philosophy from Boston College. For the past several years she has taught sections of Civilization & Ideas, Ideas & Design and TA’s American & Contemporary Architecture as well as spending her free time watching and attempting to make movies.
This undergraduate course explores the divergence and the synergy between the three monotheistic traditions of Judaism, Christianity and Islam. By paying close attention to the theological insights of Monotheism as they are expressed in ritual and creeds, we will come to understand the objects and cultural practices of monotheistic faiths as a construct of belief. The course is composed of lecture-seminars, personal research, visits to worship sites, discussions with religious leaders, written assignments, and class presentations.

_Instructor Inga Leonova_ received a Masters of Architecture from Miami University in Oxford, OH, and a Bachelor of Architecture from Moscow Architectural Institute in Moscow, Russia. She has taught Design studio as well as History and Theory courses at Suffolk University, Miami University and at the Boston Architectural College.
Ideas and Design
This course will study ideas of society and the city. The content will span from recent to ancient times, but remain centered on the terms of our 21st century design discourse. At each meeting we will aim to reconcile visual and textual evidence by drawing both into question. Readings may cover urban history, scholasticism, subjectivity, sexuality, post-colonialism, globalization, autonomia, biopolitics, and other topics. In class we will review these topics and project them onto drawings, photos, films, and physical urban sites. The conversations will not require prior knowledge, but will require active participation.

Instructor David Turturo (Assoc. AIA, LEED AP) practices architecture as a Modern Architecture Preservation Specialist with Bruner/Cott Architects and Planners in Cambridge. He completed an advanced degree in the history and philosophy of design at the Harvard Design School and an Architecture degree at Syracuse University.
A Boston architecture firm partners with a London developer to obtain financing from Frankfurt for an office tower in Dubai, which will ultimately house regional offices for corporations that exist simultaneously everywhere and nowhere at all. News large and small arrives instantly from across the world; money, images, language, and strategies all traverse fiber-optic cable faster than thought. This online, reading- and writing-intensive course will ask you to investigate how our placeless world came to be; what has been gained, and by whom; at what costs, exacted from whom; and how you might find your own footing on unstable ground. An online course about placelessness presents ironies and complications that we must investigate as well.

Instructor Marilyn Moedinger, LEED AP, Assoc. AIA, has been a practicing architectural designer, professor, contractor, and construction worker, all in pursuit of clarity, social justice, and engagement with the built environment. She earned an MArch, BS Arch, and BA History from the University of Virginia, was the 2010 Prize winner, and has lectured widely on her research. She was most recently in full-time practice at Utile in Boston, and has taught design studios, construction detailing, and research seminars at Northeastern University and the Boston Architectural College.