

## DEPARTMENT OF ART HISTORY & ART CONSERVATION

ARTH 383 / 3.0  
The City

Prof. Katherine Romba

Fall 2020 remote delivery  
Monday 8:30-10  
Thursday 10-11:30  
(I do not expect there to be any  
synchronous meetings for this course.)



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### CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:

This course examines the phenomenon of the city, a settlement of high density that has, throughout history, offered many distinctive social and cultural experiences. The focus of this course will be urban art, architecture, planning, and material culture, and their relationship to those experiences. Specific urban case studies, Western and non-Western, will provide the foundation for our study.

*Prerequisites:* Level 3 or above.

### COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The focus of this course is urban architecture, urban objects, urban spaces, and urban design. We will study structures, materials, forms, and places, as well as ideas, representations, and experiences. Our original aim will be broad: What is a city? What characterizes it? Is there one consistent definition of the city, or do we have many types of things that we call cities? Other, more focused topics will include: entering the city, the growth of the city, and the urban/country divide.

### COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Students will be responsible for short weekly assignments, some textual and some visual, which we will share with each other through OnQ. Most of these assignments will allow us to engage with that week's lecture topic through our own experiences and surroundings. In addition, students will choose and complete two, more in-depth assignments from a list of five, which correspond to a range of learning styles and research skills.