



CLCS/Art 120 Fall, 2019

Intensive, first six week course

M/W 10:30-11:45

The Vassar Campus Schedule of class meetings and readings

Yvonne Elet

Office Hours: Monday 3-5 or by appointment

Office: Taylor Hall 307

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W Sept 4 Introduction to the Vassar Campus; with Professor Karen van Lengen (VC '73), University of Virginia School of Architecture

Meet in Taylor 206; after a brief introduction, we'll continue outside.

Laurie Olin, "The Campus: An American Landscape," *Sitelines* 2013, 3-10.

Karen van Lengen and Lisa Reilly, *Vassar College: An Architectural Tour (The Campus Guide)* (Princeton Architectural Press, 2004), 1-28.

Karen van Lengen, "Pedagogy and Place. The Legacy of the Landscape at Vassar College," in *Landscape and the Academy*, ed. John Beardsley (Harvard University Press/Dumbarton Oaks: 2019), 147-75.

M Sept 9 The campus as a work of art

Meet on the Library Lawn, under the giant tree

John Dixon Hunt, 'Campuses,' in *The Making of Place. Modern and Contemporary Gardens* (London: Reaktion Books, 2015), 133-136.

Paul Venable Turner, *Campus. An American Planning Tradition* (The Architectural History Foundation and the MIT Press, 1984), "The American Campus as an 'Academical Village'," 3-7; "Coeducation and Women's Colleges, 133-40.

Thomas A. Gaines, *The Campus as a Work of Art* (New York: Praeger, 1991), Introduction, ix-x; Chapter One, "What Makes a Successful Campus?," 1-11; and Appendix: The Top Fifty Campuses, 155-6..

M. Perry Chapman, *American Places. In Search of the Twenty-first Century Campus* (Praeger, 2006), Introduction.

W Sept 11 The campus as arboretum

Meet in the Kendrick parking lot (directly across from Main Gate)

Yvonne Elet and Virginia Duncan (VC '16), "Beatrix Farrand and campus landscape at Vassar: pedagogy and practice, 1925-29," *Studies in the History of Gardens and Designed Landscapes* 39 (2019): 105-36.

M Sept 16 Spaces of spirituality; with Samuel H. Speers, Associate Dean of Religious and Spiritual Life and Contemplative Practices

Meet in the Chapel Narthex (the portico outside the Chapel)

Margaret M. Grubiak, *White Elephants on Campus. The Decline of the University Chapel in America, 1920-1960* (Notre Dame, Indiana: University of Notre Dame Press, 2014), 1-10.

Lindsay Cook (VC '10), "Religious Freedom and Architectural Ambition at Vassar College, 1945-54," in *Modernism and American mid-20th century Sacred Architecture*, ed. Anat Geva (Routledge, 2019), 31-50.

W Sept 18 Collegiate Gothic

Meet in the Courtyard between the Loeb Center and Taylor Hall

Johanna Seasonwein, *Princeton and the Gothic Revival: 1870-1930* (Princeton University Press, 2012), 15-23.

Peter Fergusson, James F. O'Gorman, and John Rhodes, *The Landscape & Architecture of Wellesley College* (Wellesley, 2000), 149-153, 164.

Christopher Hawthorne, "College campuses are constructing buildings that look like they're straight out of Harry Potter's world," *Los Angeles Times*, December 21, 2017.

M Sept 23 The library: from cathedral of learning to glass house

Meet in the courtyard in front of Main Library

Please bring project prospectus to class (hardcopy)

Dale Allen Gyure, "The Heart of the University: A History of the Library as an Architectural Symbol of American Higher Education," *Winterthur Portfolio* 42 (summer-autumn 2008): 107-32.

Margaret M. Grubiak, "Reassessing Yale's Cathedral Orgy: The Ecclesiastical Metaphor and the Sterling Memorial Library," *Winterthur Portfolio* 43, 2/3 (summer/autumn 2009): 159-184. (Just skim quickly re: the ecclesiastical metaphor in library design.)

Mardges Bacon, *John McAndrew's Modernist Vision: from the Vassar College Art Library to the museum of Modern Art in New York* (Princeton Architectural Press, 2018), 4-7; 33-39; 63-117.

W Sept 25 Campus collections; with Loeb Director T. Barton Thurber

Meet inside the Frances Lehman Loeb Art Center, at the foot of the long staircase

Michael J. Lewis, "Art and college history, written in stone," *The Chronicle of Higher Education* 52, 34 (April 28, 2006).

Susan Donahue Kuretsky (VC '63), Sarah Gibson Blanding Professor of Art Emerita, and Nicholas Adams, Mary Conover Mellon Professor in the History of Architecture Emeritus, with assistance from Nicole Weindling (VC '10), Sophia Alexandrov (VC '11) and Maria Emilia Fernandez (VC '13), "[The History of Art at Vassar College](#)," Art department website, 2011.

Jacqueline Musacchio, *Copies, Casts, and Pedagogy: The Early Teaching of Art and Art History at Vassar College*, exh. cat. (The Frances Lehman Loeb Art Center, 2006), 1-8.

M Sept 30 Discussion of research project topics

Meet in the outdoor classroom (just north of the Ely parking lot)

We will discuss project ideas as a group. Please come prepared to discuss your ideas and sources for your topic very briefly (two minutes or less!)

W Oct 2 Living on campus: the dormitory

Meet in the dormitory "quadrangle" right behind Rocky

Carla Yanni, *Living on Campus: An Architectural History of the American Dormitory* (University of Minnesota Press, 2019), 1-7, 77; and chapter 2.

Annie Duncan (VC '19), "Close Quarters. Reimagining Campus Living and the Student Module," B.A. thesis in Urban Studies, Advisor Tobias Armbrorst, Vassar College, 2019.

- M Oct 7 Ecology and campus landscape; with Professor of Biology Meg Ronsheim**
Meet at the entrance to walkway over the Fonteynkill, behind Skinner Hall and the Bridge buildings
 Edith A. Roberts, "The Development of an Out-of-Door Botanical Laboratory for Experimental Ecology," *Ecology* 14, 2 (1933): 163-223.
 Darrel G. Morrison, Foreword to Edith Roberts and Elsa Rehmann, *American plants for American gardens* (New York: Macmillan, 1929), xi-xxviii.
- W Oct 9 The campus farm; with Jennifer Rubbo, Director, The Environmental Cooperative and Leon Vehaba, Farm Director, The Poughkeepsie Farm Project**
Meet outside Main Gate on Raymond Avenue
 Elizabeth A. Daniels and Julia Van Develder, "[The Vassar Farm and Ecological Preserve](#)," *Vassar Encyclopedia*, 2008.
[History of the Vassar Farm and Ecological Preserve, Vassar website](#)
[The Environmental Cooperative at the Vassar Barns, Vassar website](#)
[The Poughkeepsie Farm Project website](#)
- M Oct 14 Modern architecture on campus**
Meet in Noyes Circle
 John McAndrew, Elizabeth Mock, and Margaret Miller, *What is Modern Architecture?* Exh. cat. (New York: Museum of Modern Art, 1942).
 Walter Gropius, "Not Gothic but Modern for our Colleges," *The New York Times* (October 23, 1949): 90, 233-4.
 Vanessa Beloyianis (VC '08), "Eero Saarinen's Emma Hartman Noyes House at Vassar College," Exh. brochure, Frances Lehman Loeb Art Center, 2008. [A project advised by Nicholas Adams]
- W Oct 16 The campus of the future**
Meet on the green on the corner of College & Raymond Avenues
 Eero Saarinen, "Campus Planning. The Unique World of the University," *Architectural Record* (November, 1960): 123-30.
 Michael Van Valkenburgh, Landscape Masterplan
 Frederick Fisher and Partners, Plans for the Inn and Institute