

San José State University
School/Department
ANTH 132 (27872)/GEOG 132 (28572)/URBP 132 (28571)

Creating Built Worlds, Spring 2016

Course and Contact Information

Instructor:	Chuck Darrah
Office Location:	Clark Hall 463
Telephone:	408 924-5314
Email:	chuck.darrah@sjsu.edu
Office Hours:	MW 0900-1000 and 1200-1300
Class Days/Time:	MW 1500-1615
Classroom:	Clark Hall 204

Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU Messaging (Optional)

Some course materials will be distributed in class sessions and others will be sent to students via the email address which appears in the course roster. This course makes no use of the Canvas learning management system and you are responsible for all assignments and changes to them. You should plan to attend class, talk with other students in the class, and regularly check your email for information about the class.

Course Description

Cross-cultural exploration of material expressions of culture. Analysis of production and consumption of places, shelters, and goods. Implications for design and policy. Prerequisites: upper division standing

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

Students who satisfactorily complete this course will:

1. Be knowledgeable about the diversity of built environments and material artifacts, and the way they are patterned and can understood. This outcome will be accomplished through course readings and lectures, and demonstrated in essay examinations.
2. Be able to analyze the relationships of artifacts and the built environment to social organization and ideology. This learning outcome will be accomplished through lectures and readings during the entire semester, midterm examination essays, classroom exercises, and the final exam project.
3. Be able to analyze aesthetic, functional, adaptive and policy implications of artifacts and the built environment using different theoretical perspectives. This outcome will be accomplished through midterm essays, the final exam project, and an individual term project completed by each student.
4. Be able to create alternative scenarios for artifacts and built environments. This outcome will be accomplished by completion of a final exam design scenario project.

Required Texts/Readings

Victor Buchli (2013). *Anthropology of Architecture* (ISBN 9781845207830).

Adam Drazin & Suzsanne Kuchler (2015). *The Social Life of Materials* (ISBN 9781472592644)

Daniel Miller (1998). *Material Cultures* (ISBN 9780226526010)..

John Thackara (2006). *In the Bubble* ((ISBN 9780262701150).

Anthropology Library Liaison

Our library liaison is Silke Higgins (silke.higgins@sjsu.edu), a graduate of our undergraduate program in anthropology who knows our discipline and department very well.

Course Requirements and Assignments

SJSU classes are designed such that in order to be successful, it is expected that students will spend a minimum of forty-five hours for each unit of credit (normally three hours per unit per week), including preparing for class, participating in course activities, completing assignments, and so on. More details about student workload can be found in [University Policy S12-3](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf>.

1. Midterm Examination #1 (25%). Take-home essay examination on lectures and readings.
2. Midterm Examination #2 (25%). Take-home essay examination on lectures and readings.
3. Term Report (20%). You will prepare a 10-20 page report on a topic of your choice relevant to the study of material culture. The report may be based on library research (i.e. fully referenced and using American Anthropological Association style (http://www.aaanet.org/pubs/style_guide.htm)) and/or ethnographic fieldwork (participant observation, observation, interview).
4. Participation (10%). Part of participation is being in class and generally contributing to discussions, but in addition there will be several classroom exercises that complement readings, lectures and discussions. These cannot be made up
5. Final Project Scenario (15%). After reading Thackara's *In the Bubble*, you will work in small teams to prepare a scenario for modifying or changing the built world in some way. Class time will be used to work on the project and get feedback from other teams and the instructor. Each team will present the results of their exploration using some combination of words and images during the final examination period.

[University policy F69-24](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F69-24.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F69-24.pdf> states that "Students should attend all meetings of their classes, not only because they are responsible for material discussed therein, but because active participation is frequently essential to insure maximum benefit for all members of the class. Attendance per se shall not be used as a criterion for grading."

Grading Policy

Course grades will be assigned as follows:

A+ = 98-100%
A = 94-97%
A- = 90-93%
B+ = 88-89%
B = 84-87%
B- = 80-83%
C+ = 78-79%
C = 74-77%
C- = 70-73%
D+ = 68-69%
D = 64-67%
D- = 60-63%
F = lower than 60%

Note that "All students have the right, within a reasonable time, to know their academic scores, to review their grade-dependent work, and to be provided with explanations for the determination of their course grades." See [University Policy F13-1](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F13-1.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F13-1.pdf> for more details. The instructor will return materials submitted for grade within 10 days. I am happy to discuss student grades during office hours, but I will not do so by phone or email or in class.

Classroom Protocol

Electronics. Unless a student has explicit, written permission from the Accessible Learning Center, electronic devices such as laptops, tablets, and smart phones should be turned off and are not allowed out in class; you may audio record class lectures. Research has shown that (1) glowing screens distract other students in class and (2) learning is enhanced by taking manual notes that are rewritten later using with pen and paper or word processor.

Presence and Presenting. Roll will be taken rarely and only so I can learn names. If you wish to drop the course it is your responsibility to do so. If you vanish during the semester your name will appear on the final grade roster and you will receive a WU grade, which is equivalent to an F. If you fail to complete all the course assignments you will also receive a WU. Incompletes are only granted if I have been notified in advance and approved the request. Attendance is not graded, but I doubt you will get much out of the course, including a passing grade, if you are frequently absent. You are also expected to be present in the sense of paying attention and treating fellow students and the instructor with respect and civility.

Late Papers, Missed Exams. All assignments must be completed during the designated period. You may be allowed to make up an exam only if (1) you contact me immediately by phone or email and (2) you can provide a compelling *and documented* excuse for your absence (e.g. family emergency, sickness, injury, etc. Please remember that it is unfair to both your classmates and the instructor to request exceptions to the official examination dates or paper deadline.

University Policies

General Expectations, Rights and Responsibilities of the Student

As members of the academic community, students accept both the rights and responsibilities incumbent upon all members of the institution. Students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with SJSU's policies and practices pertaining to the procedures to follow if and when questions or concerns about a class arises. To learn important campus information, view [University Policy S90-5](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S90-5.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S90-5.pdf> and SJSU current semester's [Policies and Procedures, at http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html](http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html). In general, it is recommended that students begin by seeking clarification or discussing concerns with their instructor. If such conversation is not possible, or if it does not address the issue, it is recommended that the student contact the Department Chair as the next step.

Dropping and Adding

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade forgiveness, etc. Refer to the current semester's [Catalog Policies](http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html) section at <http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html>. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the current academic year calendars document on the [Academic Calendars webpage](http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/) at http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/. The [Late Drop Policy](http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/) is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/>. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes.

Information about the latest changes and news is available at the [Advising Hub](http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/>.

Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material

[University Policy S12-7](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf), <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf>, requires students to obtain instructor's permission to record the course and the following items to be included in the syllabus:

- "Common courtesy and professional behavior dictate that you notify someone when you are recording him/her. You must obtain the instructor's permission to make audio or video recordings in this class. Such permission allows the recordings to be used for your private, study purposes only. The recordings are the intellectual property of the instructor; you have not been given any rights to reproduce or distribute the material."
 - It is suggested that the greensheet include the instructor's process for granting permission, whether in writing or orally and whether for the whole semester or on a class by class basis.
 - In classes where active participation of students or guests may be on the recording, permission of those students or guests should be obtained as well.
- "Course material developed by the instructor is the intellectual property of the instructor and cannot be shared publicly without his/her approval. You may not publicly share or upload instructor generated material for this course such as exam questions, lecture notes, or homework solutions without instructor consent."

Academic integrity

Your commitment, as a student, to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The [University Academic Integrity Policy S07-2](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf> requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The [Student Conduct and Ethical Development website](http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/) is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/>.

Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. [Presidential Directive 97-03](http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf) at http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the [Accessible Education Center](http://www.sjsu.edu/aec) (AEC) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aec> to establish a record of their disability.

SJSU Writing Center

The SJSU Writing Center is located in Clark Hall, Suite 126. All Writing Specialists have gone through a rigorous hiring process, and they are well trained to assist all students at all levels within all disciplines to become better writers. In addition to one-on-one tutoring services, the Writing Center also offers workshops every semester on a variety of writing topics. To make an appointment or to refer to the numerous online resources offered through the Writing Center, visit the [Writing Center website](http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter>. For additional resources and updated information, follow the Writing Center on Twitter and



become a fan of the SJSU Writing Center on Facebook. (Note: You need to have a QR Reader to scan this code.)

ANTH 132(1) Creating Built Worlds, Spring 2016 (27872)

This schedule is subject to change with fair notice and such changes will be communicated to you by the instructor in class and via email. You are responsible for any such changes.

Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	February 1	Course introduction & basic concepts
1	February 3	Living in the World: Sense & Bodies Drazin & Kuchler Ch. 1 & 2
2	February 8	Living in the World: Sense & Bodies Drazin & Kuchler Ch. 3 & 4
2	February 10	Positioning Ourselves: Proxemics Drazin & Kuchler Ch. 5
3	February 15	Material Culture: Form Drazin & Kuchler Ch. 6-8
3	February 17	Material Culture: Substance Miller Ch. 1
4	February 22	Things Change PRELIMINARY TERM REPORT TOPIC(S) DUE Buchli Ch. 1
4	February 24	Things Change Buchli 2
5	February 29	Things <i>Mean</i> PRELIMINARY TERM REPORT TOPIC FEEDBACK PROVIDED MIDTERM #1 DISTRIBUTED Drazin & Kuchler Ch. 9 & 10 Miller Ch. 5
5	March 2	Midterm Exam Talking
6	March 7	Place MIDTERM #1 DUE Buchli Ch. 4 Miller Ch 2
6	March 9	People in their places Miller Ch. 3
7	March 14	Dwelling FINAL TERM REPORT TOPICS DUE Buchli Ch 3
7	March 16	Dwelling Buchli p. 137 first paragraph & pp. 145-155
8	March 21	Getting Comfy Miller Ch. 6 & 7 FINAL TERM REPORT TOPIC FEEDBACK PROVIDED
8	March 23	Getting Connected Miller Ch. 8 & 9

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
9	March 28	SPRING BREAK
9	March 30	SPRING BREAK
10	April 4	Kitchens & Housework Buchli Ch. 5
10	April 6	High Style, Low Style: Dupes of Consumerism? Miller Ch. 4 & 10
11	April 11	What Things Can Tell Us About Us Drazin & Kuchler Ch. 12 & 13
11	April 13	Living With Stuff MIDTERM #2 DISTRIBUTED
12	April 18	Midterm Exam Talking
12	April 20	Ridding MIDTERM #2 DUE
13	April 25	Bubbling Project Introduction Thackara Chs. 1-5
13	April 27	Designing as a Basic Human Capability TERM REPORT DUE
14	May 2	Bubbling Project Workshop Thackara Ch. 6-10
14	May 4	Bubbling Project Workshop
15	May 9	Bubbling Project Workshop
15	May 11	Bubbling Project Workshop
16	May 16	Trial Bubbles
Final Exam	May 20 1215-1430	FINAL EXAM: PRESENTATIONS AND REPORTS DUE