J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College  
Course Content Summary

Course Prefix and Number: ARC 201  
Credits: 3

Course Title: History of Modern Architecture

Course Description: Surveys architecture from 19th century to present, with emphasis on philosophy of design, form, and structure. Prerequisite: ENG 111 or placement in co-requisites ENG 111 and ENF 3. Lecture 3 hours per week.

General Course Purpose: The primary purpose of this course will be to help students understand the importance of the contributions of 19th and 20th century architects and engineers, as well as the advances in engineering technology in shaping today’s built environment. The course satisfies the humanities/fine arts elective for the Architectural and Engineering Technology AAS degree.

Course Prerequisites and Co-requisites:  
Prerequisite: ENG 111 or placement in co-requisites ENG 111 and ENF 3

Student Learning Outcomes:  
Upon completing the course, the student will be able to
a. Recognize the role of new materials, concrete, steel, etc., in ushering in the era of modern high-rise building construction;
b. Evaluate the contributions of major figures in American architecture, such as Frank Lloyd Wright, Mies Van Der Rohe, Eero Saarinen, etc.;
c. Assess the impact of evolving building codes and regulations on the design profession; and
d. Identify significant and iconic structures built in America during the past 200 years and be able to elaborate on the significance of each during the period when it was constructed.

Major Topics to Be Included:  
a. Significance of rebuilding of Chicago after fire of 1871
b. Introduction of reinforced concrete and high-tensile steel in the 19th century
c. Impact of technology, including invention of elevators and automobile
d. “Prairie” and “Modernism” styles of architecture
e. The “Bauhaus” movement

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