

Essay Instructions

History of Architecture in Northern Europe, 2023

prof. Panu Savolainen, History of Architecture and Architectural Conservation

1. Task

Write a 7–8 page essay about some of the themes of this course. You may propose your own topic or choose one of the following topics. The essay is a critical text, based on literature, containing a research question and a tripartite structure with 1) introduction, 2) chapter or chapters of analysis, and 3) conclusions. You are supposed to use ca. 45 hours to this task, in other words it is a workload of six working days.

The essay must be based on literature. You should find literature by yourself. Between three and five bibliographical references are good.

Please browse through with relevant keywords all the portals of <https://aalto.finna.fi/>. You should sign in with your university account first, because in that case you can find much more digitized articles and books.

All essays are checked in Turnitin, and plagiarism will lead to sanctions by the faculty. Using AI is not prohibited neither.

2. Possible topics

(or you can propose your own, please come to talk to me after the lectures if so)

1. Long timespan and evolution of settlements and towns
2. Local, global and/or transnational aspects of architecture
3. Vernacular construction
4. possible innovations from the vernacular techniques to modern construction
5. Medieval stone churches
6. Urbanisation after the middle ages
7. C. L. Engel and the Architecture of autonomous Finland
8. The rise and contemporary issues of pre 19th century Heritage
9. The role and preservation of older heritage in the future

2. Schedule

December 20th: Submission of the final essay

You are supposed to submit your essay. You will get a grade (0-5) and a feedback from the teacher in matrix format and verbally formulated.

3. Structure and contents

A4, line spacing 1,5, margins 2,5 cm, 12 pt font size

You may references in the text (APA, footnotes or endnotes are all OK), if you want, but a list of literature in the end of the essay is enough.

The essay should be structured in the following way:

1) Introduction

- Describe your topic
- Present your Research Question (RQ)
- Argument shortly, why your scope and RQ are relevant to this specific topic
- Remember that this essay is a short one, you can't embrace all the history of Finnish architecture, and instead, you have to focus in some phenomenon, scope or angle, even though you would have a long time span

2) Analysis

- Analyse your subject through your RQ using the available literature or other material that you have been able to find
- You may have several chapters in this section (thematic or chronological)
- You can refer and describe the literature with your own words, but you should also reflect, contemplate and give the floor to your own thinking and reflection
- Make solid arguments by giving enough evidence from the literature
- You may have figures if relevant but these are not needed and do not count to the length of the essay (in any case you must have 7-8 pages text)

3) Conclusions

- Go back to your RQ: what kind of answers did you find during the writing process to your topic?
- Here you can be more abstract and free, also link the theme to topical issues in the society etc.

4) List of Literature

Books and monographs:

Surname, First name. *Title*. Publisher, year.

Articles:

[in anthologies]: Surname, First name. "Title of the article", Name(s) of the editor(s) (ed.). *Title of the book*. Publisher, year. Page numbers.

[in journals]: Surname, First name. "Title of the article", *Name of the journal* volume number, issue number (year of publication), page numbers.

4. Assessment

The grade of the essay: 100 % of the course grade. See the separate matrix about the details of the assessment principles.