



Armenian Culture Course Syllabi

Table of Contents

Armenian Culture	2
Architecture.....	2
AC 322: Introduction to Armenian Architecture – Part 1 (in English): 3 credits	2
AC 332: Introduction to Armenian Architecture – Part 2 (in English): 3 credits	5
Architecture content providers	8
Music	9
AC 342: Introduction to Armenian Music – Part 1 (in English): 3 credits.....	9
AC 352: Introduction to Armenian Music – Part 2 (in English): 3 credits.....	12
Music content providers.....	15



ARMENIAN CULTURE

The courses at the Culture Department offer students an introduction into aspects of Armenian culture and the rich cultural heritage of Armenians in the historical homeland, as well as outside it.

ARCHITECTURE

Armenian architecture is considered to be a major component of the world culture with its monuments and the significant role it played in the development of world architecture.

The courses help students get an overview of history of Armenian architecture starting from the earliest Armenian architectural monuments and ending with modern times.

AC 322: Introduction to Armenian Architecture – Part 1 (in English): 3 credits

TERMS ([Click for the Academic Calendar](#))

HOURLY BREAKDOWN OF THE REQUIRED PARTICIPATION (HOURS/WEEK)

Audio – visual and text based resources	1 – 2 hours
Discussions, individual and collaborative activities	2 – 3 hours
Quizzes and assignments	1 – 2 hours
Expected commitment per week	4 –7 hours

Participants will:

- Exchange posts with their peers and interact using discussion – forums, chats, Skype, audio/video conferencing;
- Review and discuss online and text based resources;
- Work collaboratively in small groups and individually, using a spectrum of online tools.

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

Armenian architecture is considered to be a major component of the world culture with its monuments and the significant role it played in the development of world architecture.

The first part of the course is an overview of historical or pre-Soviet architecture. Emphasis has been placed on the architectural details and Armenian decoration/ornament art. The course is based on and develops the theories and works of Toros Toramanyan et al on the history of Armenian Architecture. It also evolves the aspects of the first textbook on Armenian Architecture by V. Harutyunyan.

The course has been designed to be accessible to a wider audience. The curriculum is divided into eight lessons to provide an overview of Armenian architecture from ancient times to the times of Zakarid kingdom (12th to 14th centuries).



COURSE MATERIALS

No hardcopy texts are required. Selected online resources will be included as a part of the lessons. Students are required to read/listen/view all material and complete all assignments.

The online resources are drawn from the publicly available professional historical literature, academic curricula, recent publications in professional journals, educational material used in schools, and from discussions of controversies within the science of history.

The electronic resources are designed for university and pre-university students, secondary school history teachers and adult learners in Armenia and the Diaspora.

COURSE SOURCES

- Cuneo P. Armenian Architecture (in Italian). 1-2 volumes, (Rome: 1988).
- History of Armenian Architecture in 6 volumes (in Armenian). 1-3 volumes, (Yerevan: 1996, 2004 and 2002).
- Harutyunyan V. M. Armenian Monuments (in Armenian, English, French). (Beirut: 1975).
- Harutyunyan V. M. History of Armenian Architecture (in Armenian). (Yerevan: 1992).
- Hasratyan M. Early-Christian Armenian Architecture (in Russian and English). (Moscow: 2000).
- Khalpakhchyan H. Armenian Architecture, General History of Architecture: 12 volumes. (in Russian). (Leningrad-Moscow: 1966), pp.197-299.
- Khalpakhchyan H. Secular Architecture of Medieval Armenia (in Russian). (Yerevan: 1971).
- Mnatcakanyan S.Kh. Architecture of Armenian church porch (in Russian). (Yerevan: 1952).
- Mnatcakanyan S.Kh. Cross-type domed compositions in Armenia and Byzantium in v-vii centuries (in Russian). (Yerevan: 1989).
- Mnatcakanyan S. S. Early Medieval Armenian Memorials (in Armenian). (Yerevan: 1982).
- Sahinyan A. Ancient buildings of Garni (in Armenian and Russian). (Yerevan: 1988).
- Sahinyan A. Basilic Architecture of Kasagh (in Armenian). (Yerevan: 1955).
- Tokarski N. Armenian Architecture (iv-xiv centuries) (in Russian). (Yerevan: 1961).
- Tormanyan T. Topics on History of Armenian Architecture (in Armenian). 1-2 volumes, (Yerevan: 1942-1948).
- Tormanyan T. Zvartnotc, Gagkashen (in Armenian). (Yerevan: 1984).

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completion of the course, students will have familiarity with the historical period of Armenian architecture and its historical relics. The chronology of significant events in the history of Armenian architecture will help students to gain knowledge about architectural developments in each historical epoch.

TOPICS COVERED

- The primitive communal Architecture in Armenian Highlands;
- Armenian Architecture under the Kingdom of Urartu or Van;
- Antique Armenia;
- The types and formation of temples in Armenian Architecture;
- Early Medieval Armenian Architecture;
- Late Medieval Armenian Architecture;
- Armenian Architecture in the Late medieval Ages;
- Architecture in Cilician Armenia.

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

The electronic resources have been designed for user-friendly access and comprehension by a broad audience. Activities and online discussions are supported by the online instructor to engage students in study and in-depth analysis of Armenian Architectural History. Individual and group projects are designed to engage students in research giving them opportunity to collaborate and share the gained information with their peers.



COURSE SCHEDULE

The course lasts for nine weeks, including the orientation week. Each week requires student commitment throughout at least five days.

Week 0	Orientation week: Students become familiar with the Student Manual, complete the Learning Style questionnaire, complete their profile, introduce themselves to one another, participate in introductory discussion forum, and identify the time zone in which they are working. Students will also familiarize and verify the technical compliance to all the communication and learning tools to be used during the course.
Weeks 1-8	Lessons 1-8 (use of electronic texts and multimedia resources) Individual and group activities Quiz
Week 3	Individual project due
Week 7	Group project due
Week 8	Final Exam

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

Students are required to actively participate in on-line discussions, forums and chats, to participate in individual and collaborative activities, and to meet deadlines for assignments.

Students are required to be familiar and comply with [Academic policy of AVC](#).

Individual Project Description: Every student is required to work on an individual project and submit a project report by the specified date. The project should reflect the material covered and developed throughout the course. Students must consult in advance with the online instructor regarding the topic and content of the project. A student who chooses a project topic early in the course will have a strong advantage as he/she will be able to use the class discussions and other activities in the formulation of their project.

Group Project Description: Group project assignment has a comparative dimension to it. Students will study the history of Armenian architectural relics; will present Armenian architectural values available in their home countries.

Team members will decide together the types of their work format using Word or PowerPoint or other digital media to make reports drawing the parallels between the performed comparisons and studies.

Student performance will be evaluated based upon total points accumulated throughout the term according to the following:

20% - participation

25% - individual project

25 % - group project

30% - final exam

Grades will be assigned by letters according to [AVC Grading Policy](#).

LATE ASSIGNMENT POLICY

You are expected to complete assignments in a reasonable period of time. This prevents you from getting too far behind in the course and allows the instructor to assign grades in a consistent manner. Late assignments will result in a 10% deduction in the grade for the assignment (if the assignment is submitted a week late from the deadline) unless the student receives prior approval from the instructor. Assignments submitted later than 2 weeks after the assigned deadline are accepted (feedback only) but are not graded. Exceptions to this policy are allowed only in unusual cases.

For enrollment, please complete your [enrollment application](#).



AC 332: Introduction to Armenian Architecture – Part 2 (in English): 3 credits

TERMS ([Click for the Academic Calendar](#))

HOURLY BREAKDOWN OF THE REQUIRED PARTICIPATION (HOURS/WEEK)

Audio – visual and text based resources	1 – 2 hours
Discussions, individual and collaborative activities	2 – 3 hours
Quizzes and assignments	1 – 2 hours
Expected commitment per week	4 –7 hours

Participants will:

- Exchange posts with their peers and interact using discussion – forums, chats, Skype, audio/video conferencing;
- Review and discuss online and text based resources;
- Work collaboratively in small groups and individually, using a spectrum of online tools.

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

Armenian architecture is considered to be a major component of the world culture with its monuments and the significant role it played in the development of world architecture.

The course consists of eight lessons and introduces detailed description of medieval and modern Armenian Architecture.

The course has been designed to be accessible to a wider audience. The course is based on and develops the theories and works of Toros Toramanyan et al on the history of Armenian Architecture. It also evolves the aspects of the first textbook on Armenian Architecture by V. Harutyunyan.

COURSE MATERIALS

No hardcopy texts are required. Selected online resources will be included as a part of the lessons. Students are required to read/listen/view all material and complete all assignments.

The online resources are drawn from the publicly available specialized literature, academic curricula, studies of Armenian and foreign authors, multilingual works and publications.

The electronic resources are designed for university and pre-university students, architecture researchers and adult learners.

COURSE SOURCES

- Cuneo P. Armenian Architecture (in Italian). 1-2 volumes, (Rome, 1988).
- History of Armenian Architecture in 6 volumes (in Armenian). 1-3 volumes, (Yerevan, 1996, 2004 and 2002).
- Harutyunyan V. M. Armenian Monuments (in Armenian, English, French). (Beirut, 1975).
- Harutyunyan V. M History of Armenian Architecture (in Armenian). (Yerevan, 1992).
- Hasratyan M. Early-Christian Armenian Architecture (in Russian and English). (Moscow, 2000).
- Khalpakhchyan H. Armenian Architecture, General History of Architecture: 12 volumes. (in Russian). (Leningrad-Moscow: 1966), pp.197-299.
- Khalpakhchyan H. Secular Architecture of Medieval Armenia (in Russian). (Yerevan, 1971).



- Mnatcakanyan S.Kh. Architecture of Armenian church porch (in Russian). (Yerevan, 1952).
- Mnatcakanyan S.Kh. Cross-type domed compositions in Armenia and Byzantium in v-vii centuries (in Russian). (Yerevan,1989).
- Mnatcakanyan S. S. Early Medieval Armenian Memorials (in Armenian). (Yerevan, 1982).
- Sahinyan A. Ancient buildings of Garni (in Armenian and Russian). (Yerevan, 1988).
- Sahinyan A. Basilic Architecture of Kasagh (in Armenian). (Yerevan, 1955).
- Tokarski N. Armenian Architecture (iv-xiv centuries) (in Russian).(Yerevan, 1961).
- Tormanyan T. Topics on History of Armenian Architecture (in Armenian). 1-2 volumes, (Yerevan, 1942-1948).
- Tormanyan T. Zvartnotc, Gagkashen (in Armenian). (Yerevan, 1984).

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completion of the course, students will have familiarity with the medieval and modern Armenian architecture and architectural monuments. The chronology of significant events in the history of Armenian architecture gives knowledge about architectural developments in each historical epoch.

TOPICS COVERED

- The medieval schools of Armenian architecture;
- Late medieval Armenian architecture;
- Modern architecture and city-building (19th century);
- Architecture of Soviet Armenia: Foundation phase and World War II (1920-1945);
- Armenian architecture after the end of World War II and before the declaration of independence;
- Armenian architecture during the years of independence;
- Armenian architectural monuments in Diaspora.

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

The electronic resources have been designed for user-friendly access and comprehension by a broad audience. Activities and online discussions are supported by the online instructor to engage students in study and in-depth analysis of Armenian Architectural History. Individual and group projects are designed to engage students in research giving them opportunity to collaborate and share the gained information with their peers.

COURSE SCHEDULE

The course lasts for nine weeks, including the orientation week. Each week requires student commitment throughout at least five days.

Week 0	Orientation week: Students become familiar with the Student Manual, complete the Learning Style questionnaire, complete their profile, introduce themselves to one another, participate in introductory discussion forum, and identify the time zone in which they are working. Students will also familiarize and verify the technical compliance to all the communication and learning tools to be used during the course.
Weeks 1-8	Lessons 1-8 (use of electronic texts and multimedia resources) Individual and group activities Quiz
Week 3	Individual project due
Week 7	Group project due
Week 8	Final Exam

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

Students are required to actively participate in on-line discussions, forums and chats, to participate in individual and collaborative activities, and to meet deadlines for assignments.

Students are required to be familiar and comply with [Academic policy of AVC](#).



Individual Project Description: Every student is required to work on an individual project and submit a project report by the specified date. The project should reflect the material covered and developed throughout the course. Students must consult in advance with the online instructor regarding the topic and content of the project. A student who chooses a project topic early in the course will have a strong advantage as he/she will be able to use the class discussions and other activities in the formulation of their project.

Group Project Description: Group project assignment has a comparative dimension to it. Students will study the history of Armenian architectural relics; will present Armenian architectural values available in their home countries.

Team members will decide together the types of their work format using Word or PowerPoint or other digital media to make reports drawing the parallels between the performed comparisons and studies.

Student performance will be evaluated based upon total points accumulated throughout the term according to the following:

20% - participation

25% - individual project

25 % - group project

30% - final exam

Grades will be assigned by letters according to [AVC Grading Policy](#).

LATE ASSIGNMENT POLICY

You are expected to complete assignments in a reasonable period of time. This prevents you from getting too far behind in the course and allows the instructor to assign grades in a consistent manner. Late assignments will result in a 10% deduction in the grade for the assignment (if the assignment is submitted a week late from the deadline) unless the student receives prior approval from the instructor. Assignments submitted later than 2 weeks after the assigned deadline are accepted (feedback only) but are not graded. Exceptions to this policy are allowed only in unusual cases.

For enrollment, please complete your [enrollment application](#).



Architecture content providers

Core material of the Armenian Culture courses is based on the works of the following renowned scholar:

- Dr. David Kertmenjyan (Professor, State Engineering University of Armenia, Yerevan, Armenia)



MUSIC

The courses introduce to students the history of Armenian music and present the main components and features of the music culture. Students will be familiarized with folk music, works of musical folklore, and works of “gusan” and “asugh” of Medieval Armenia. The students will gain knowledge about the Medieval Armenian musical ritual manuscripts, the notation system and its further developments, Armenian compositional art of the 19th century, as well as national Armenian classical music and compositional works of famous Armenian musicians. The course is rich with various samples of Armenian musical culture, as well as the musical fragments of Armenian famous composers.

AC 342: Introduction to Armenian Music – Part 1 (in English): 3 credits

TERMS ([Click for the Academic Calendar](#))

HOURLY BREAKDOWN OF THE REQUIRED PARTICIPATION (HOURS/WEEK)

Audio – visual and text based resources	1 – 2 hours
Discussions, individual and collaborative activities	2 – 3 hours
Quizzes and assignments	1 – 2 hours
Expected commitment per week	4 –7 hours

Participants will:

- Exchange posts with their peers and interact using discussion – forums, chats, Skype, audio/video conferencing;
- Review and discuss online and text based resources;
- Work collaboratively in small groups and individually, using a spectrum of online tools.

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

The main goal of this course is to introduce students to the history of Armenian music and present the main components and features of the music culture. The lessons are divided into two major parts: monodic music and composing art. Students will be familiarized with three main sub-branches of monodic music: folk music or works of musical folklore, works of Armenian professional folk music known as “gusan” and “asugh” of Medieval Armenia. The musical poetic art of Medieval Armenia is known in our times as religious or spiritual music.

The course has been designed to be accessible to a wider audience.

COURSE MATERIALS

No hardcopy texts are required. Selected online resources will be included as a part of the lessons. Students are required to read/listen/view all material and complete all assignments.

The online resources are drawn from the publicly available specialized literature, academic curricula, studies of Armenian and foreign authors, multilingual works and publications.

LEARNING OUTCOMES



Upon completion of the course, students will have familiarity with one of the components of Armenian culture, namely the music. Student will have knowledge to correctly classify and describe the main parts of music culture, its emergence, endurance and development.

TOPICS COVERED

- Introduction (the classification and overview of main branches of Armenian music).
- Armenian folk art, Armenian musical folklore.
- The study of four types of Armenian Show Romanization musical folklore.
- Work songs.
- Ritual songs.
- Historical and epic songs.
- The historical review of formation and development of Armenian religious music.
- Armenian religious music.

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

The electronic resources have been designed for user-friendly access and comprehension by a broad audience. Activities and online discussions are supported by the online instructor to engage students in study and in-depth analysis of the history of Armenian music. Individual and group projects are designed to engage students in research giving them opportunity to collaborate and share the gained information with their peers.

COURSE SCHEDULE

The course lasts for nine weeks, including the orientation week. Each week requires student commitment throughout at least five days.

Week 0	Orientation week: Students become familiar with the Student Manual, complete the Learning Style questionnaire, complete their profile, introduce themselves to one another, participate in introductory discussion forum, and identify the time zone in which they are working. Students will also familiarize and verify the technical compliance to all the communication and learning tools to be used during the course.
Weeks 1-8	Lessons 1-8 (use of electronic texts and multimedia resources) Individual and group activities Quiz
Week 3	Individual project due
Week 7	Group project due
Week 8	Final Exam

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

Students are required to actively participate in on-line discussions, forums and chats, to participate in individual and collaborative activities, and to meet deadlines for assignments.

Students are required to be familiar and comply with [Academic policy of AVC](#).

Individual Project Description: Every student is required to work on an individual project and submit a project report by the specified date. The project should reflect the material covered and developed throughout the course. Students must consult in advance with the online instructor regarding the topic and content of the project. A student who chooses a project topic early in the course will have a strong advantage as he/she will be able to use the class discussions and other activities in the formulation of their project.

Group Project Description: Group project assignment has a comparative dimension to it. Students will study the history of Armenian music; will present values of Armenian music available in their home countries. Team members will decide together the types of their work format using Word or PowerPoint or other digital media to make reports drawing the parallels between the performed comparisons and studies.

Armenian Culture Course Syllabi

Please visit [AVC website](#) for any possible updates on the document.



Student performance will be evaluated based upon total points accumulated throughout the term according to the following:

- 20% - participation
- 25% - individual project
- 25 % - group project
- 30% - final exam

Grades will be assigned by letters according to [AVC Grading Policy](#).

LATE ASSIGNMENT POLICY

You are expected to complete assignments in a reasonable period of time. This prevents you from getting too far behind in the course and allows the instructor to assign grades in a consistent manner. Late assignments will result in a 10% deduction in the grade for the assignment (if the assignment is submitted a week late from the deadline) unless the student receives prior approval from the instructor. Assignments submitted later than 2 weeks after the assigned deadline are accepted (feedback only) but are not graded. Exceptions to this policy are allowed only in unusual cases.

For enrollment, please complete your [enrollment application](#).



AC 352: Introduction to Armenian Music – Part 2 (in English): 3 credits

TERMS ([Click for the Academic Calendar](#))

HOURLY BREAKDOWN OF THE REQUIRED PARTICIPATION (HOURS/WEEK)

Audio – visual and text based resources	1 – 2 hours
Discussions, individual and collaborative activities	2 – 3 hours
Quizzes and assignments	1 – 2 hours
Expected commitment per week	4 –7 hours

Participants will:

- Exchange posts with their peers and interact using discussion – forums, chats, Skype, audio/video conferencing;
- Review and discuss online and text based resources;
- Work collaboratively in small groups and individually, using a spectrum of online tools.

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

The goal of the course is to introduce to students the history of Armenian music and the main components and features of the music culture. Students will be familiarized with Medieval Armenian musical ritual manuscripts, notation system and its further developments, Armenian compositional art of the 19th century, as well as national Armenian classical music and compositional works of famous Armenian musicians. Students will learn about new trends in composition art.

The course has been designed to be accessible to a wider audience. The course is rich with various samples of Armenian musical culture, as well as the musical fragments of Armenian famous composers.

COURSE MATERIALS

No hardcopy texts are required. Selected online resources will be included as a part of the lessons. Students are required to read/listen/view all material and complete all assignments.

The online resources are drawn from the publicly available specialized literature, academic curricula, studies of Armenian and foreign authors, multilingual works and publications.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completion of the course, students will have familiarity with the musical manuscripts of Medieval Armenia, Armenian ritual music and notation system. Student will have knowledge about the work and life of the famous Armenian composers Komitas, Chukhajyan, Christopher Kara-Murza, and others.

TOPICS COVERED

- Armenian Medieval musical-ritual manuscripts
- Notation system of Armenian spiritual music
- Armenian compositional art. Armenian musical culture in the second half of the 19th century, (part 1)
- Armenian compositional art. Armenian musical culture in the second half of the 19th century, (part 2)
- Komitas
- Armenian professional music (composer's art)
- Aram Khachaturyan, his contemporaries and followers
- Armenian compositional art of 60-70's and its trend.



TEACHING METHODOLOGY

The electronic resources have been designed for user-friendly access and comprehension by a broad audience. Activities and online discussions are supported by the online instructor to engage students in study and in-depth analysis of the history of Armenian music. Individual and group projects are designed to engage students in research giving them opportunity to collaborate and share the gained information with their peers.

COURSE SCHEDULE

The course lasts for nine weeks, including the orientation week. Each week requires student commitment throughout at least five days.

Week 0	Orientation week: Students become familiar with the Student Manual, complete the Learning Style questionnaire, complete their profile, introduce themselves to one another, participate in introductory discussion forum, and identify the time zone in which they are working. Students will also familiarize and verify the technical compliance to all the communication and learning tools to be used during the course.
Weeks 1-8	Lessons 1-8 (use of electronic texts and multimedia resources) Individual and group activities Quiz
Week 3	Individual project due
Week 7	Group project due
Week 8	Final Exam

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

Students are required to actively participate in on-line discussions, forums and chats, to participate in individual and collaborative activities, and to meet deadlines for assignments.

Students are required to be familiar and comply with [Academic policy of AVC](#).

Individual Project Description: Every student is required to work on an individual project and submit a project report by the specified date. The project should reflect the material covered and developed throughout the course. Students must consult in advance with the online instructor regarding the topic and content of the project. A student who chooses a project topic early in the course will have a strong advantage as he/she will be able to use the class discussions and other activities in the formulation of their project.

Group Project Description: Group project assignment has a comparative dimension to it. Group project assignment has a comparative dimension to it. Students will study the history of Armenian music; will present values of Armenian music available in their home countries.

Team members will decide together the types of their work format using Word or PowerPoint or other digital media to make reports drawing the parallels between the performed comparisons and studies.

Student performance will be evaluated based upon total points accumulated throughout the term according to the following:

20% - participation

25% - individual project

25 % - group project

30% - final exam

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LATE ASSIGNMENT POLICY

You are expected to complete assignments in a reasonable period of time. This prevents you from getting too far behind in the course and allows the instructor to assign grades in a consistent manner. Late assignments will



result in a 10% deduction in the grade for the assignment (if the assignment is submitted a week late from the deadline) unless the student receives prior approval from the instructor. Assignments submitted later than 2 weeks after the assigned deadline are accepted (feedback only) but are not graded. Exceptions to this policy are allowed only in unusual cases.

For enrollment, please complete your [enrollment application](#).



Music content providers

Core material of the Armenian Culture courses is based on the works of the following renowned scholars:

- Dr. Mher Navoyan (Professor, Yerevan State Conservatory, Yerevan, Armenia),
- Dr. Alina Pahlevanyan (Professor, Yerevan State Conservatory, Yerevan, Armenia),
- Dr. Araksia Saryan (Professor, Yerevan State Conservatory, Yerevan, Armenia),
- Dr. Tatevik Shakhkulyan (Professor, Yerevan State Conservatory, Yerevan, Armenia).