

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON

University of London

EXAMINATION FOR INTERNAL STUDENTS

For the following qualifications :-

M. Sc.

ESGA12: Theory in Architecture and Urban Space

COURSE CODE : ENVSGA12

DATE : 10-MAY-02

TIME : 10.00

TIME ALLOWED : 3 hours

02-C0439-3-30

© 2002 *University of London*

TURN OVER

Theory Examination Questions

ANSWER THREE QUESTIONS: 3 hours

Candidates should refer to the work of authors they have studied wherever relevant, and illustrate their answers with examples wherever possible. Candidates should also feel free to use graphical means of expression in their answers wherever they feel it is appropriate. You should take care not to use the same material or ideas in different answers, although cross referencing is acceptable.

1. In what ways can the analysis of urban grids enhance the study of cities ?
2. Discuss, with reference to cases, the proposition that spatial design can affect, either positively or adversely, the life of a) organisations or b) communities.
3. Compare and contrast two views of space from different disciplines, and suggest how each might gain theoretically from an understanding of the other. You may use space syntax as one of your cases.
4. How can the study of buildings as spatial layouts contribute to a better understanding of functional types of building ? You may confine your answer to one type of building, or a few types, if you wish, or you may attempt a more general answer.
5. *'All the various non-verbal dimensions of culture such as styles of clothing, village layout, architecture, furniture, food, cooking, music, physical gestures, postural attitudes, and so on, are organised into patterned sets so as to incorporate coded information in a manner analogous to the sounds and words and sentences of natural language.'* -Edmund Leach. Discuss and evaluate the usefulness of this generalisation when applied to architecture.
6. Discuss, with reference to two or more specific concepts, how ideas from the social sciences can usefully be brought into the study of architectural and/or urban space.
7. To *'...suppose that space has its own intrinsic natureis logically questionable and empirically unfruitful. Space is not an empty dimension along which social groupings become structured, but has to be considered in terms of its involvement in the constitution of systems of interaction.....in human geography spatial forms are always social forms'* – Anthony Giddens. Discuss
8. *'A whole history remains to be written of space - which would at the same time be a history of powers - from the great strategies of geopolitics to the little tactics of the habitat, institutional architecture from the classroom to the design of hospitals, passing via economic and political institutions'* – Michel Foucault. Discuss.

END OF PAPER