Architectural Design Studios

ARCH 300 ARCHITECTURE DESIGN STUDIO I (6) Autumn

Instructors: Varies

Prerequisite: Acceptance into Undergraduate Major in Architectural Studies

Course Description:

This studio provides a sequence of exploratory design exercises and projects intended to familiarize the beginning student with fundamental technological issues in design. The sequence begins with the initial step of working with the material through modeling.

Modeling is the primary vehicle for exploring, developing, and presenting design ideas. With models, the issues of size, scale, and elemental relationships are ever present and cannot be ignored. In addition, models allow the exploration of a higher degree of complexity and experience of the three-dimensional nature of architectural forms and spaces. While models are primary in this studio, drawing exercises supplement each project in coordination with Arch 315. In these exercises, drawing is seen as an essential tool, along with modeling, to develop, refine, and communicate design ideas.

Once students gain a working understanding of the basic structural elements, patterns and systems, and experiences the making of it in model form, they proceed to a larger-scale project that requires the adaptation of the constructional system to a specific site and program. Here the human and environmental forces are brought to bear on the final design solution.

Course Objectives:

A series of exercises and projects introducing the technological aspects of design and the ordering systems which are fully capable of expression in a language appropriate for the beginning design student:
—Logic and hierarchy of structural elements and systems
—Nature of materials
—Concept of modularity
—Methods of joinery

ARCH 301 Architecture Design Studio II (6) Winter

Instructors: Varies

Prerequisite: Arch 300

Course Description:

This design studio is usually concerned with an awareness and understanding of fundamental architectural principles by means of understanding the room and the nature of enclosure. The room is characterized by its relationship to the landscape, its activity or use and its materials and methods of construction. The floor, roof, walls and openings of the room mediate between inside and outside and establish the room’s essential nature. By understanding the room, we can move to understanding a hierarchy of rooms. One way architecture, buildings and landscape (urban or natural) can be understood is a hierarchy of rooms.

Course Objectives:

To introduce students to fundamental concepts of architectural design and to develop basic design skills in two and three dimensions. The objectives are usually presented by means of a sequence of design problems which increase in spatial, programmatic and tectonic complexity throughout the quarter. All projects usually focus on places of dwelling.

ARCH 372 Architecture Design Studio III (6) Spring

Instructors: Varies

Prerequisite: Arch 301

Course Description:

This design studio typically addresses the development of architectural principles introduced in Arch 300 and Arch 301. Project vary but often address residential or institutional programs and involve the integration of
space, form, structure, function and material. Issues of human use in relationship to program and function are considered in detail.

Course Objectives:

The studio builds on skills and concepts from earlier studios. This studio address issues of spatial composition, site constraints, selection and detailing of building materials.

ARCH 400, 401, 402 Architectural Design Studio IV-VI (6) Autumn, Winter, Spring

Instructors: Varies

Prerequisite: Arch 300, 301, 302

Course Description:

The architectural design studios at this level are the fourth, fifth and sixth studios in the undergraduate curriculum. The focus of each studio varies. Topics may include architecture and the public realm, architecture in the landscape, architecture and technology, architecture and housing, or any similar topics.

Special studios that maybe offered at this level include (check with Department for current offerings):

Architecture in Rome: A vertical design studio (with graduate students) in Rome, Italy, housed in the University of Washington Rome Center in the Palazzo Pio. Typically the studio is an urban project on a site within the Aurelian walls of Rome. The course links studies of history and morphology with contemporary design. Usually offered Autumn Quarter. (Link to UW Rome Center)

Design/Build Mexico: A vertical studio (with graduate students) in the informal settlements surrounding Cuernavaca, Mexico, housed in facilities in Cuernavaca. Students design and build institutional buildings working with the residents of the informal settlements (squatter communities); past projects have included elementary school, a medical clinic, and a library. The course links design to technology and to cultural issues and engages students directly with the local community. (Link to Design/Build Projects in Mexico)

Furniture: A 400-level (or occasionally vertical) studio that involves the design and execution of a piece of furniture. The predominant material is wood, although projects have included plastics, glass, metal, and others. The studio stresses the relationship between design and making. Usually offered Winter Quarter for Graduate Students, and Spring Quarter for Undergraduate Students. (Link to Furniture Studio)

Design/Build Seattle: A Seattle-based (vertical with graduate students) design/build studio that integrates design/build education with community service by working for nonprofit organizations on tight budgets. The design/build studios provide direct "hands-on" experience as participants design and build the complete project in ten weeks. Projects have been carried out at various parks, school and other locations in the region. Usually offered Spring Quarter. (Link to Design/Build Projects Seattle)

Digital Design: Digital design studios at the 400 level or vertical (with graduate students) address a variety of topics and design issues arising from information technology, computing and architecture. Topics are selected each quarter by the instructor and have included computing and design methods, issues of representation, cyberspace, embedded computing and "smart" components, and the like. The studio is offered in the advanced digital design studio space in the basement of Architecture Hall. (Link to Digital Design Studio)

ARCH 403 Architectural Design Studio (6) Summer

*Also known as Arch 506

Instructors: Varies

Prerequisite: Arch 300, 301, 302

Course Description:

The architectural design studio offered in summer quarter may be substituted for one of the other 400-level studios (Arch 400, 401, 402) in the undergraduate curriculum.

The focus of the 403 studio varies from summer to summer. A special studio that may be offered (check with Department to verify current status) is:

American Indian Straw Bale Houseing Design/Build: The students design and build the straw bale house for needy tribal members of three major reservations (Pine Ridge, Crow, Norther Cheyenne) in the states of
Sout Dakota and Montana. The studio emphasizes the development of sustainable, culturally relevant houses that address the economic, social, available materials, and building skills of each community. The students of this studio gain experience with real clients, construction management, material testing and hands-on construction.

This studio works in a build/design model. Students first learn the strawbale technology by participating in a two-week build of a house designed by the previous year’s studio (at the UW) to apply this knowledge to the design of next year’s prototype. A year-round research program funded by UW, client states and the NSF provides much of the material research and offers interested students the opportunity to continue their involvement.

---

**AR 292**

**Architectural Design Studio I**

**Faculty**  
Timothy E.G. McDonald

**Course**  
6 sh, MWF, 1:40 - 6:00, Fall Semester

**Course Audience**  
Second year architecture students

**Prerequisite Courses**  
Arch 0011, Arch 0012, Arch 0031, Arch 0032

**Co-requisite**  
Arch 0151

**Catalog Description**  
Continued development of a creative architectural design process, spatial analysis, function, circulation in relation to modest building types, primarily in rural settings. Emphasis is placed on spatial relationships, site planning and the sense of structure.

**NAAB Criteria Addressed**  

**Course Objectives**  
The second year design studio experience generally has two objectives:

- to introduce the student to the expressive and communicative potential of architectural assemblages, and to place an emphasis on the making of an artifact.
- The use of space as a form of communicating ideas to others is explored through the introduction of concepts of culture and the establishment of meaning. The second year studio continues the investigation of formal compositional principles that were introduced in the First Year Studio work and extends this work with the introduction of tectonics. In the Fall semester the vehicle for this investigation is a place for dwelling.

**Course Organization**  
The course runs three days per week for three and one half hours each day. The studio is augmented by a 1 1/2 hour CAD workshop. All second year sections are coordinated around the same subject matter and schedule. There is generally one sketch project, case studies, and two major projects of relevant dwelling building types within in primarily rural setting. (other, more specific references related to individual projects and studio instructors vary and are held on reserve in the architecture library)

**Course Reading**  
Calvino, Italo. *Invisible Cities*

**Selected References**  
Reference material is kept on reserve in the Architecture Library.

---

**AR 293**

**Architectural Design Studio II**
Faculty: Timothy E.G. McDonald
Course: 6 sh, MWF, 1:40 - 6:00, Fall Semester
Audience: Second year architecture students

Prerequisite Courses: Arch 0011, Arch 0012, Arch 0031, Arch 0032, Arch 0131, Arch 0152

Catalog Description: Continued development of a creative architectural design process and techniques of medium sized building types, in primarily an urban setting, involving consideration of program, space, site context, structure, and mechanical equipment systems.

NAAB Criteria Addressed: see explanation of criteria

Objectives: The second year design studio experience generally has two objectives: to introduce the student to the expressive and communicative potential of architectural assemblages, and to place an emphasis on the making of an artifact. The link between culture and architectural expression is at the heart of the Spring semester. The study problems vary from year to year but the vehicle for this investigation is primarily framed by the introduction and challenges of an urban site and an institutional program. This program is organizationally simple and readily experienced by the student.

Organization: The course runs three days per week for three and one half hours each day. The studio is augmented by a 1 1/2 hour CAD workshop. The CAD work continues focus on 3-D modeling and introduces 2-D imaging and desktop publishing software, along with scanning, collage and page layout instruction.

Reading: Calvino, Italo. Invisible Cities
Boyer, Christine, City of Collective Memory
Rossi, Aldo, Architecture and the City
Sennett, Richard, The Fall of Public Man

(Other, more specific references related to individual projects and studio instructors vary and are held on reserve in the architecture library)

AR 394
Architectural Design Studio III

Faculty: Sally Harrison
Course: 6 shc, MWF, 2:30-6:00PM
Audience: A required course for all architecture majors in the 5 year Bachelor of Architecture program.

Prerequisite Courses: Arch 0131 and Arch 0132

Knowledge: A basic understanding of architectural design including the ability to design small buildings to specific programmatic and functional requirements.

Catalog Description: Urban design and planning methods, goal formulation, site planning, landscape and environmental design activity applied to existing urban environments. Establishment of urban design guidelines. analysis, programming, and urban space design.

NAAB Criteria Addressed: see explanation of criteria

Objectives: The studio has three broad objectives:
(1) to expose the students to the unique mix of social, economic, and physical processes which have made and are continuously reshaping the city,
(2) to give the students a foundation and specific techniques to employ in research on urban form and in critical analysis, and
(3) through this exposure, to generate urban form and architectural design grounded in both intuitive and measurable conceptions of the inhabited environment.

Organization: This is a multi-section studio, with three or four closely coordinated sections.

Course: 6 shc, MWF, 2:30-6:00PM, Fall Semester
urban design issues. They then break up into smaller teams to propose urban design master plans to respond to these issues, and in the last several weeks of the semester work individually on a building/site design problem set in the context of their master plan.

**Course Text**
Reading list

**Current Readings**
Anderson, Stanford, On Streets; Halprin, Lawrence, Cities; Bacon, Edmund, Design of Cities; Lynch, Kevin, Image of the City; Katz, Peter, The New Urbanism; Krier, Rob, Urban Space; Rossi, Aldo, The Architecture of the City; Cullen, Gorden, The Concise Townscape; Norberg-Schulz, Christian, Genius Loci; Hertzberger, Herman, Lessons for Students in Architecture

**AR 395**
**Architectural Design Studio IV**

**Faculty** C. William Fox

**Course Hours** 6 shc, MWF, 2:30-6:00PM

**Course** A required course for all majors in the 5 year Bachelor of Architecture program and an architectural elective for majors in the 4 year Bachelor of Science (Professional Option) program.

**Prerequisite Courses**
Arch 152, and Arch 231 or 234

**Prerequisite Knowledge**
General understanding of building materials and methods of construction, structural design, and environmental control systems.

**Catalog Description**
Upper level design studio in which 3rd year students register to take part in the vertical design studio. Each vertical studio section addresses a full range of architectural issues and design projects which are brought to a high level of resolution; each studio section includes 3rd and 4th students in the B. Arch and B.S. in Architecture/Professional programs. The focus of each studio varies to present a number of different areas of study, with at least one section focusing upon issues addressed in Arch 0331. Students returning from Rome campus (where they have completed Arch 234) must be placed in studio section to fulfill the requirements of the fall semester studio which they have missed.

**NAAB Criteria Addressed**

**Course Objectives**
The objectives of the studio are to give the students at upper levels of the program the opportunity to deal with a variety of specialized issues which they are allowed to choose through a selection process. The issues always include theoretical, urban design, compositional and technological concerns but each instructor formulates his or her own thematic design problem within this framework and so the degree of involvement with specific architectural issues varies with each studio section. Since the fourth year and 3rd year students work together in these studio sections, each student finds him or herself in the additional role of working with others with whom they are unfamiliar.

**Course Organization**
The course is organized to initially allow the students to choose the area of study which they wish to pursue. This is accomplished by having each instructor prepare a studio program which is distributed to the students on the first class meeting.

The students select and submit their 1st, 2nd and 3rd choices to the instructors who caucus to form studio sections, of 15 students each, which will primarily respond to the students’ selections and secondarily balance the sections.

**Course Text**
Primary text varies with each studio section

**Current Readings**
Readings also vary for each studio section

**AR 496**
**Architectural Design Studio V**

**Faculty** J. Brooke Harrington

**Course Hours** 6 shc, MWF, 2:30-6:00PM, Fall Semester

**Course** A required course for all architecture majors in the 5 year Bachelor of Architecture program, the 4 year Bachelor of Science (Professional Curriculum Option) and an architectural elective course for all architecture majors in the 4 year Bachelor of Science (Technical Option).

**Prerequisite Courses**
Arch 0152, Arch 0232, Arch 0251 and Arch 0252. Co-requisite: Arch 0351 (Environmental Systems)
Courses
Prerequisite Knowledge
Skills in graphic presentation, design analysis and synthesis, basic understanding of structural systems and construction methods and materials.

Catalog Description
The design of medium scale buildings, emphasizing the nature of materials, integration of structural and environmental systems, and their influence on architectural expression.

NAAB Criteria Addressed

Course Objectives
The objectives are to give the student a better understanding of the available opportunities, in the design of a building, to manipulate the spatial composition and to organize and compose material elements and systems to reinforce the conceptual composition. Within this setting, it is also intended to have the students learn and design to satisfy normal regulatory requirements and to generate a greater awareness of how the art and craft of building can influence, and in many ways control, the design synthesis of a building.

Course Organization
The course is conducted in a studio format with two or three design problems issued and one integral or separate research problem. Research, analysis and other special investigations occur during the studio and lectures are given which focus on the issues. The final projects are of a longer duration and are developed in detail.

AR 497
Architectural Design Studio VI

Faculty C. William Fox
Course Hours 6 shc, MWF, 2:30-6:00PM, Spring Semester
Course Audience A required course for all majors in the 5 year Bachelor of Architecture program and an architectural elective for majors in the 4 year Bachelor of Science (Professional Option) program.
Prerequisite Courses Arch 0331 and Arch 0351
Prerequisite Knowledge General understanding of building materials and methods of construction, structural design, and environmental control systems.
Catalog Description Upper level design studio in which 4th year students register to take part in the vertical design studio. See description of Arch 0232 for more details.
NAAB Criteria Addressed

Course Objectives
The objectives of the studio are to give the students at upper levels of the program the opportunity to deal with a variety of specialized issues which they are allowed to choose through a selection process. The issues always include theoretical, urban design, compositional and technological concerns but each instructor formulates his or her own thematic design problem within this framework and so the degree of involvement with specific architectural issues varies with each studio section. Since the fourth year and 3rd year students work together in these studio sections, each student finds him or herself in the additional role of working with others with whom they are unfamiliar.

Course Organization
The course is organized to initially allow the students to choose the area of study which they wish to pursue. This is accomplished by having each instructor prepare a studio program which is distributed to the students on the first class meeting. The students select and submit their 1st, 2nd and 3rd choices to the instructors who caucus to form studio sections, of 15 students each, which will primarily respond to the students' selections and secondarily balance the sections.

Course Text Primary text varies with each studio section
Selected Readings Readings also vary for each studio section

AR 598
Architectural Design Studio VII

Faculty Emanuel Kelly
Course 6 shc, MWF, 2:30 to 6:00, Fall Semester

Course Audience Fifth-Year Bachelor-of-Architecture Program Design Students

Prerequisite Courses Arch 0332 and permission of coordinating instructor. Successful completion of four years of the required curriculum in the 5-year program

Co-requisite Courses Arch W441 and Arch 0442

Prerequisite Knowledge Analysis, synthesis, judgment and graphical communication techniques in the field of architectural design

Catalog Projects synthesizing four years of architectural education as a preparation for architectural thesis. Projects demonstrate a students' ability to crystallize and communicate concepts of architectural design in the physical environment.

NAAB Criteria Addressed see explanation of criteria


Course Objectives In each exercise, the intention is for the student to grasp an understanding of the architectural issues of a given problem, establish a point of view (concept), and explore the development of that concept or concepts through design. The end objective is presenting a design as the result of an investigation. This studio along with the theory seminar and thesis preparation course has the responsibility of preparing students for the sustained independent investigation required for thesis. This studio also has the responsibility of allowing students to demonstrate existing design skills, including: building/project planning; building siting / urban design; building technology/tectonics; the student's general ability to conceive, develop and present a design; aesthetic character.

Course Organization The design studio is divided into sections of 15 students or fewer. The semester is divided into two design exercises, each lasting 7 weeks and each with a different instructor. The project or exercise has three phases: first, discovering what should be investigated; second, translating an investigation into a design; and third, presenting a design as a result of an investigation. Students are required to present work in progress at scheduled pin-ups and to formally present at mid-term and final juries.

AR 599 Graduation Project

Faculty

Course Hours 6 shc, MWF, 2:30 to 6:00, Fall Semester

Course Audience Fifth-Year Bachelor-of-Architecture Program Design Students

Prerequisite Courses Arch 0332 and permission of coordinating instructor. Successful completion of four years of the required curriculum in the 5-year program

Co-requisite Courses Arch W441 and Arch 0442

Prerequisite Knowledge Analysis, synthesis, judgment and graphical communication techniques in the field of architectural design

Catalog Projects synthesizing four years of architectural education as a preparation for architectural thesis. Projects demonstrate a students' ability to crystallize and communicate concepts of architectural design in the physical environment.

NAAB Criteria Addressed see explanation of criteria


Course Objectives In each exercise, the intention is for the student to grasp an understanding of the architectural issues of a given problem, establish a point of view (concept), and explore the development of that concept or concepts through design. The end objective is presenting a design as the result of an investigation. This studio along with the theory seminar and thesis preparation course has the responsibility of preparing students for the sustained independent investigation required for thesis. This studio also has the responsibility of allowing students to demonstrate existing design skills, including: building/project planning; building siting / urban design; building technology/tectonics; the student's general ability to conceive, develop and present a design; aesthetic character.
The design studio is divided into sections of 15 students or fewer. The semester is divided into two design exercises, each lasting 7 weeks and each with a different instructor. The project or exercise has three phases: first, discovering what should be investigated; second, translating an investigation into a design; and third, presenting a design as a result of an investigation.

Students are required to present work in progress at scheduled pin-ups and to formally present at mid-term and final juries.