

ARCH5604.....Spring 2005

Prof. Torres-MacDonald

Advanced Architectural Design Studio

COURSE SYLLABUS

MaryAlice Torres-MacDonald, Associate Professor

mobile.: 806-470-6149 and 713-806-2548

Email: ma.torres-macdonald@ttu.edu

Office Hours: Wed. via internet from 5:00 – 6:00 pm

Friday in Dallas from 6:30 – 7:30 pm and / or by appointment.

CATALOGUE DESCRIPTION

Advanced Architectural Design Studio(6:0:12).*Synthesis of human and environmental interaction. Comprehensive architectural design of complex building types involving integration of cultural factors, programming, conceptual issues, construction technology and cost estimation.*

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This studio course focuses on advanced architectural design practices. The course is held in Dallas and allows the students participating in the college internship program an opportunity to work and take a studio course. This studio involves the student in the complexity of advanced design issues that relate to cultural influences, environmental scope and wholistic approaches to the design solution. The building projects may integrate urban context issues and reflect a more advanced level of understanding and inquiry. The interface between culture and architecture is critical in this studio. Reading and discussion on advanced architectural design issues is required. In addition to lectures by the professor, guest lectures will also be integrated into the learning environment. The studio learning environment is active and interactive. It involves participation in a team environment as well as individual work.

COURSE ORGANIZATION

WEDNESDAY: 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM

FRIDAY: 8:30 AM – 6:30 PM

LOCATION: HALFF & ASSOCIATES
8616 Northwest Plaza Dr.
Dallas, TX 75225
(Third Floor Technology Conference Room)

NOTE:

Studio will also be conducted in the Lubbock Studio, Room 507 as well as occasional site studio work at the City of Irving.

The studio will follow a three week alternating cycle between Lubbock, Dallas and Houston.

There will be a considerable amount of communication via the website and email.

Wednesday night class is from 6:00 – 9:00PM. The students will meet at the host firm and the professor will conduct studio via internet. The class has a forum established which will allow for discussion via internet. You should check your email on Wednesdays. By 2:00 pm, you will be notified of any changes that deviate from the standard meeting time of 6:00 in the class forum. All work turned in on Wednesday deadline must be posted by noon on Wednesdays. This gives me the remainder of the day to review your work for comment during studio hours.

Students in Lubbock will work from the studio of Prof. Shacklette and will adhere to studio hours for this studio on MWF.

WEB POSTING:

On the website, there will be access to student folders. You will each have a folder with your name (first name, last initial). Click the Front Page icon in Internet Explorer, enter your credentials, and start editing the page.

CLASS FORUM ACCESS:

The class forum can be accessed by going to the college website at: www.arch.ttu.edu/Architecture. You will then go to the left panel and click on Resources. Then click College Discussion Forums. Then click ARCH 5605.250. It will tell you you must be a registered user. Click the log in button and fill in the boxes as follows: first initial, last name (user name), social security number (password). Your first and last initial have no space between them.

Friday class is from 8:30AM – 6:30PM. The students and professor will meet at the host firm. The studio is located on the third floor in the technology conference room of Half Associates. The course will involve a variety of site visits to enhance the students' awareness of the urban environment and to take advantage of the opportunities to learn within the urban context. See above for clarification on studio meetings.

NOTE: ASSIGNMENTS ARE YOUR RESPONSIBILITY. IF YOU ARE ABSENT, IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO ACCESS THE ASSIGNMENT.

PEDAGOGIC OBJECTIVES

- *To become familiar with the range of attributes entailed in achieving high-quality comprehensive architectural design: built form, conceptualization, programmatic details, cost analysis and estimation, accessibility systems, cultural influences and construction technology.*
- *To become familiar with instrumental professional process of architecture;*
- *To learn the nature, strength and relevance of these and to seek to relate behavioral and organizational outcomes to them;*
- *To build abilities for working in digital environments including the production of graphic and written evidence in a timely fashion, and in lucid and publishable form.*

It is important to me that you become part of the studio environment in every sense of the word. We all learn from each other. I do not expect you to know all the answers, nor will I. But I do expect a level of respect in the studio that will help all students to get the most out of the experience. There are many views about architecture. We will look at many ways of thinking through our readings and you will formulate some ideas of your own about how the project you work on become a complete piece of architecture.

I see the journey of learning and the journey of teaching to be symbiotic and I treat the studio as such. Engage and you will be engaged.

The studio will not be the same as taking a studio in Lubbock. There are good reasons for this. You will be more experienced by being able to access your site, learn from professionals in the field and work in a different type of studio environment. I will do my best to give you as much time to work in class, especially as you are participating in teams. When I am in studio, I am there as a resource to you. I will give lectures, invite guest lectures, take you on field trips, give you desk crits if you request them, and remain as a resource of learning.

I see my role with you to be one of query. I will ask you questions to help you develop answers instead of giving you an answer to your question. Pondering and investigation are important aspects of the studio environment. I will try to probe you into thinking about the possible solutions to a design problem instead of telling you it should be done in a particular way.

NAAB CRITERIA

This course meets the following NAAB Criteria: (2,6)

- 2: Graphic Skills (ability)
- 6: Collaborative Skills (ability)

From NAAB Guide to the Student Performance Criteria:

Ability: Familiarity with specific information, including facts, definitions, concepts, rules, methods, processes or settings. Students can correctly recall information without necessarily being able to paraphrase or summarize it.

Understanding: Assimilation and comprehension of information. Students can correctly paraphrase or summarize information without necessarily being able to relate it to other material or see its full implications.

Ability: Skill in relating specific information to the accomplishment of tasks. Students can correctly select the information that is appropriate to the situation and apply it to the solution of specific problems.

For a copy of the guide in pdf format see: http://www.naab.org/usr_doc/Guide_to_SPC_with_addendum.pdf

ABSENCES

The College of Architecture follows the class attendance policy set out in the Undergraduate Catalog and the Graduate Catalog. The College supports the definition of four absences as being excessive, and constituted cause for having the student drop the class with instructor approval or receive a grade of "F". Since this studio conducts class on an alternate schedule from the typical studio course held in Lubbock, **attendance on Fridays is considered two class periods**. Therefore, the absence from one Friday class period will constitute two absences and the absence of two Friday class periods will constitute grounds for "F" in the course. Remember, we essentially have twelve Fridays in which to work.

The Texas Tech University Catalog states that a student who is absent from classes for the observance of a religious holy day will be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment scheduled for that day within a reasonable time after the absence.

The Texas Tech University Catalog states that the person responsible for a student missing class due to a trip should notify the instructors of the departure and return schedule in advance of the trip. The student may not be penalized and is responsible for the missed material.

PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

Requirements of the design projects are mandatory. Any deviations or omissions from the program will be reflected in the evaluation and grade. Requirements of the design program will be announced by the studio professor. Please see Grading Criteria section.

NOTE: WHERE APPLICABLE, THE INTERNATIONAL BUILDING CODE WILL BE USED FOR ALL PROJECTS.

GRADING CRITERIA

You have tremendous control over the grade you receive this semester. I have high expectations, but I am also realistic. I work hard to grade fairly and I take a considerable amount of time in the grading of your work. Remember, you are in graduate school and are expected to produce graduate level work. There are some key things I look for in your work:

- Comprehensiveness:
 - Is the work completed as required? Producing work that is half complete will earn you half a grade.

- Did the student work to develop the solution fully? The key here is fully. Sometimes we develop a solution, but we stop short to save time. Graduate level studio carries with it the expectation of inquiry. You should be asking yourself to look past your solutions and see the larger possibilities.
- Does the work contribute to the benefit of society? Part of the mission statement of the college addresses the fact that we work to benefit society. This will tie directly to the cultural issues in our studio project. Your solution should reflect this. The work you produce should not be focused on you, but on a solution that will enrich the life society, of the environment. This can be difficult to do after you have spent several years producing design work that was heavily focused on you. It doesn't mean that you must conform in all cases, but it does mean that you understand in which cases it is needed and in which you are allowed your individual expression (this may be through technique, process, method, etc...).
- Presentation:
 - Does the student produce their drawings clearly and in a professional manner?
 - Does the student use tools taught in the undergraduate program? Neatness counts. Providing pdf's that are fuzzy and hard to read is not acceptable.
 - Verbal presentation skills.
- Team Work:
 - Does the student contribute equally to the team efforts? This does not necessarily mean the student produces the exact amount of work. When you read about Team Building for Students you will notice that you each contribute differently. Skills need to be assessed by the team members and you need to develop (as a team) a plan for developing solutions and working together to produce them.
 - Student Evaluations. Each team member will be given the opportunity to evaluate the other team members. I find that this is critical to allowing you to make sure your team mates are as committed as you in the process required in working teams. I will also note this as a warning. In almost every case in the past, there has been one team member who receives lower evaluations from their peers. The evaluations have been consistent and have indicated that one team member is not 'pulling their weight' or contributing in an 'equal manner'. Do not think that if you do not contribute, your team members will like you too much to say so. The evaluations are done confidentially and students are expected to be honest in their evaluations of each other.
- Participation: The participation aspect of the studio involves readings, discussions and reviews. I do not want the studio to be a two way street where dialog takes place between me and one other student. I want us to dialogue as a group. Students learn not only from their instructor, but from each other.
 - Student completes reading assignments by due date.
 - Student participates actively in discussions.
 - Student is an active listener and allows others to contribute to the discussion.
 - Student engages other students in discussions.
 - Student participates in the discussions of other students work during reviews and class time.
 - Student shows respect to other students by listening to presentations (both class lectures and student review presentations).
- Level of Improvement:
 - Some students are 'A' students from the first assignment and remain as such. They produce excellent work and have high standards. Others produce 'A' work in the beginning and then seem to drop in their performance. This affects your grade. Yet, other students perform at a 'B' or 'C' level in the beginning, but work tremendously hard to improve throughout the semester. In my studio, improvement counts. An 'A' student can be an even better 'A' student. A 'B' student can become an 'A' student with hard work. My expectation is that none of you receive a C. A 'C' in studio at the graduate level is not acceptable. Therefore, average does not make the grade in graduate school. You are not accepted into graduate school if you are performing at an average level. If you have been a 'C' student in studio and have been accepted into the graduate program, you should speak to me in private about this studio. It is your responsibility to see me about your

concerns. I will work with you to help you in this studio, but you must come to me for help if you are struggling.

For each grading period, I will give you a grade based on the criteria above. The grades will be as follows:

A – Performs work beyond expectation and excels in all key areas of evaluation.

B – Performs work above average and excels in most key areas of evaluation.

C – Performs average level work and complies at an average level with key areas of evaluation.

D – Does not perform to basic standards. Student does not reach basic level in key areas of evaluation.

F – Student is producing unacceptable work that does not meet requirements of the course.

NOTE: Any grade below a B is considered not passing at the graduate level.

GRADING BREAKDOWN:

The studio will be broken into three segments of grading as follows:

Introductory Period (15%) – first three – four weeks of studio

Intermediate Period (25%)– middle four weeks of studio

Final Period (50%)– remaining weeks of studio

Participation (10%)

In some cases, your preceding grades will be outweighed by your level of improvement in the studio. If you are performing at an A level by the end of the semester, you may very well make an A in the studio. You will never be graded down any less than what is stated in this syllabus as described in the percentage breakdowns noted above.

NOTE: Attendance can alter the outcome of your grade structure as noted under "Attendance" section of syllabus.

READING REFERENCES AND REQUIRED TEXTS

NO TEXTS WILL BE REQUIRED FOR THIS COURSE, ALTHOUGH WE WILL DRAW FROM A NUMBER OF READING SOURCES.

A large part of your reading for the semester will be through a series of articles taken from a number of books and internet resources. You will either be given access to the readings as pdf's through our website, or a physical copy will be provided to you. In most, but not all cases, readings will be given out one week prior to discussion. You will be expected to participate in the discussion as this will become a portion of your grade reflected in the grade determination section. In some cases, when discussion does not warrant, a brief essay will be required. When and if this is the case, your essay will be graded for content, not grammatical issues. If you are unable to download a reading or access a reading via the internet, it is your responsibility to get this reading from a classmate or from me via email. You must provide me with at least 48 hours notice prior to the start of class on the day in which the reading is due.

The following is a list of reading sources, but others will be added as the semester progresses. This is based on the needs of the studio as a whole, and I can better determine this as I get to know the students. Occasionally, you will be asked to access a reading via the internet. In these cases, a reading assignment will be posted with the html link noted.

- *Lynch, Kevin. In A Theory of Good City Form. Cambridge: MIT Press, 1984.*
- *Barnett, Jonathan. In The Elusive City. New York: Harper and Row Publishers, 1986.*
- *Rykwert, Joseph. The Seduction of Place: The History and Future of the City. New York: Vintage Books, A Division of Random House, Inc., 2000.*
- *Seamon, David and Mugerauer, Robert, editors. Dwelling, Place and Environment: Towards a phenomenology of person and world. New York, Oxford: Columbia University Press, 1985.*
- *Jacobs, Jane. The Death and Life of Great American Cities. New York: Vintage Books, A Division of Random House, Inc., 1961.*

ADDITIONAL TEXTS YOU MAY FIND HELPFUL:

Edward Allen; Joseph Iano. The Architect's Studio Companion, John Wiley & Sons, Inc. New York 1989. You may find this at a variety of bookstores including online stores such as amazon. Below is one listing. The cost is roughly \$75. You do not need to purchase the book if you can locate a library reference to it.

http://www.law-edu.com/The_Architects_Studio_Companion_3rd_Edition_0471392359.html

PROJECTS

While the semester will break down into smaller assignments, they ultimately will all be associated with one primary project. You will have readings that will relate to the studio. You will work individually, but occasionally be asked to team with others to resolve project issues. The semester project will be broken into an introductory period and then a comprehensive segment. The introductory period will involve research and schematics.

The project will be broken into smaller assignments so as to manage the semester better. The project will involve complex city issues and will require time spent understanding these complexities. The primary project is a cultural museum for the City of Irving, Texas.

ALL NECESSARY ADDITIONS WILL BE PROVIDED BY THE PROFESSOR TO YOU VIA EMAIL OR THROUGH THE CLASS WEBSITE.

NOTE: ASSIGNMENTS ARE YOUR RESPONSIBILITY. IF YOU ARE ABSENT, IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO ACCESS THE ASSIGNMENT.

PORTFOLIO DOCUMENTATION

Students should remember to document all work as needed for your professional portfolio. A portfolio is required of all scholarship applications as well. I will ask you to produce your work in an 11"x17" format. You will be required to convert all files to pdf as well. This will allow for easy review and access to your work via the internet. It will also allow you to turn your work into me via a simple download or in studio by transferring your files on a memory key to my portable hard drive.

IMPORTANT UNIVERSITY/STUDIO DATES

January 12, Wednesday – Classes Begin at University
 January 14, Friday – Advanced Design Studio Begins
 January 17, Monday – Martin Luther King Day – University Holiday
 February 9, Wednesday – Last Day to withdraw from university and receive partial refund
 March 12, Saturday – Noon, Classes dismissed for spring vacation
 March 21, Monday – Classes resume
 March 23, Wednesday – Advanced Design Studio resumes on internet
 March 25, Friday – Advanced Design Studio resumes in Dallas
 March 28, Monday – No classes
 April 4-19 – Summer and fall semester advance registration for currently enrolled students
 April 20, Wednesday – Open registration begins
 April 29, Friday – Final Design Review – Last day of studio class
 May 4, Wednesday – Individual Study Day
 May 5 – 10 – Finals
 May 14, Saturday – Commencement

SPECIAL NOTE ON DATE:

YOUR FINAL REVIEW WILL BE HELD ON FRIDAY, April 29, 2005 AT THE City of Irving, TX.

SUPPLIES NEEDED

- Laptop

All students must provide a laptop for use during studio hours. This is critical to this studio as you will work on your laptop from the studio class. The host firm is providing us with a conference room which provides internet connections for each of you. Internet connect via high speed internet should be on your laptop and is required for this studio.

Please be certain you are prepared to work on the internet on Friday in studio. We will begin some research work and you will need access to it. If you do not know which laptop you need and are purchasing one, please see the CoA website which provide specifications for what is needed. Denny on the 9th floor can also help you. His email address is: denny.mingus@ttu.edu.

You will need the ability to:

- Convert your files to pdf format
- Store large drawing files on your laptop, a separate portable hard drive, or memory key
- Scan some images to be used in presentations and for design development work

Also needed:

- Trace Paper

Butter Paper or White Trace Paper – You can get this at any art supply store in Dallas. The White Trace is not vellum, it is trace and is the equivalent of the butter paper, but only white in color. It tends to be best because if you decide to scan an image for your presentation, you will have better readability from the white trace. If I am working with you, I expect there to be trace paper available. I don't work well off of a screen, although I am fine reviewing on a limited basis from there.

- Model Supplies

You will be required to build a model during this semester, so materials for this are considered part of your studio requirement.

- Notebook / Sketchbook for notetaking and sketching on field trips

A digital camera is useful, but not required. I will have my personal camera when we are on field trips and we can create a data source for those on our website if you would like to use my images.

Note: Other supplies may be required and you will be given a minimum of one weeks notice to acquire these.

FIELD TRIPS

Field trips are a requirement of this course. They will always be held on a Friday so as not to interfere with your internship job. The idea is to maximize your learning while away from Lubbock. There are things you can see in Dallas that you cannot access easily from Lubbock, so we want to make good use of this opportunity. The field trips will be limited outside of Dallas since they consume a great deal of studio time. There will also be studio held in Lubbock on occasion and this will be coordinated with the students.

STUDIO BEHAVIOR

Student is expected to comply with the student handbook for 2004-05. For a complete copy, please see:

http://www.studentaffairs.ttu.edu/publications/student_handbook0405.pdf

www.studentaffairs.ttu.edu/vpsa/publications/civility.htm

1. *Observe proper dress codes---casual and clean, no tee shirts, shoes- no sandals,*
2. *Do not loiter in employees work space –stay in your assigned area at all times*
3. *Be punctual, if you are late call my cell phone. 20 minutes late constitutes a tardy. Three tardies constitute one absence.*

4. *Do not stay in the building beyond 9:00 PM (Wednesday) or 6:30 PM (Friday) unless you have prior authorization.*
5. *Keep the work-space clean at all times.*

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

The Texas Tech University Catalog (p.49) states, "It is the aim of the faculty of Texas Tech University to foster a spirit of complete honesty and high standard of integrity. The attempt of students to present as their own any work that they have not honestly performed is regarded by the faculty and administration as a serious offense and renders the offenders liable to serious consequences, possibly suspension." Texas Tech University has been and will continue to be strongly committed to high ethical standards for administration, faculty, staff and students.

Cheating is defined as: Dishonest on examinations and quizzes or on written assignments, illegal possession of examinations, the use of unauthorized notes during an examination or quiz, obtaining information during an examination from the examination paper or otherwise from another student, assisting others to cheat, alteration of grade records, illegal entry to or unauthorized presence in an office are instances of cheating.

Plagiarism is defined as: Offering the work of another as one's own, without proper acknowledgment, is plagiarism: therefore any student who fails to give credit for quotations or an essentially identical expression of material taken from books, encyclopedias, magazines and other reference works, or from the themes, report or other writings of a fellow student, is guilty of plagiarism.

As defined in the Student Affairs Handbook, Part IX, Section C, a plagiarism violation includes, but is not limited to:

1. The use, by paraphrase or direct quotation, of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment:
2. The unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials.
3. Sources of information must be acknowledged in an appropriate manner. Plagiarizing work (design, drawings, etc.) or submitting work which is not your own will result in an "F" grade for the semester. See Part IX, Section E of the Student Affairs Handbook.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Any student who because of a disability may require special arrangements in order to meet course requirements should contact the instructor as soon as possible to make any necessary accommodations. Student should present appropriate verification from AccessTECH. No requirement exists that accommodations be made prior to completion of this approved university procedure.

OFFICE OF THE OMBUDSMAN

The Office of the Ombudsman is available to assist students with any conflict or problem that has to do with being a student at Texas Tech University. You may visit the Ombudsman in 202 Student Union Building or call 806-742-4791.

HOST FIRM – HALFF ASSOCIATES

The host firm is to be respected at all times. When you are in their office, you should treat this office as you would the one in which you intern or your own studio space. The firm has graciously offered us a studio for the semester and I hope you will all express your appreciation for the use of this space throughout the semester.