

ARCH5604-252 Comprehensive Design Studio

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Studio Brief:

PROJECT:

This comprehensive design studio will engage in the redevelopment of the Houston Astrodome. Client partners, The Houston AIA are seeking student ideas for addressing potential uses for the facility that once housed Houston's professional baseball and football teams. There is potential for this structure to be converted into a convention hotel or a film studio. Students will investigate the possibilities of this through a comprehensive design solution which includes design research, project programming, and complete design studies. The project solution will represent the student's ability to produce a comprehensive architectural project based on: design research, building programming, site design, structural, environmental, and building envelope systems, in addition to life-safety provisions. This knowledge will be expressed through representative drawings including wall and building sections, details, plans (site and floor), perspectives, along with other descriptive forms of graphic representation. Existing autocad drawings of the current structure will be provided as a starting point for schematic design studies.

Astrodome: Architect: Herman Lloyd & W.B. Morgan, and Wilson, Crane, Morris & Anderson, 1964. Inspired by then mayor Roy Hoeffinz's visit to Rome where he learned that the Colosseum had a valeria installed to shield spectators from the sun. The structure stands 18 stories tall and consumes 9 1/2 acres standing 710 feet in height. Field playing surface is 25 feet below street level. Ranked 134 of 150 favorite architectural structures in the US through an AIA poll.

FORMAT & REQUIREMENTS:

The studio is taught as an electronic/distance learning studio and is intended particularly for students involved in the Practicum + Studio Program. Students enrolled in the College of Architecture taking courses in Lubbock may also register for this studio. The studio meets Wednesday nights from 6-9pm and Fridays all day (9am – 6pm) through electronic medium. Students must plan to attend studio via an electronic format for the full duration of studio meeting times. Three primary electronic methods are utilized to support communication – Skype (an electronic telephone program free through online download at: www.skype.com), GoTo Meeting (an online meeting source which will enable students work to be reviewed and edited in 'real time' through electronic desk crits with instructor) and a studio website housed through the college's network. The studio will meet online as a class, therefore, attendance is required. Students must have readily accessible internet access equal to or surpassing broadband width. Student work will be posted into an electronic folder located on the studio website for each class period. Students will keep an electronic sketchbook viewable online throughout the semester. Studio requires two site visits to Houston. Final review will take place in Lubbock and electronically, in Houston.