Assignment A07 - Design Argument
ARCH 3502  
Spring 2016  
Instructor: Glenn Hill

**TASK:** You are to write a 5 paragraph persuasive argument as to “why your Office Building is an example of a “quality work of architecture”.

1. Establish as set of Reasons and Evidence, supporting a Thesis statement (claim) as to “why your Office Building is a ‘quality work of architecture’.
2. The argument should use the form explained in the attached handout, “The 5 Paragraph Essay: The Persuasive Argument”. Use this general outline to develop your Essay.
3. Formulate three Reasons why your Office Building design is a quality work of architecture based on your aesthetic, tectonic, programmatic design response. Formulate one reason per criteria.
4. For each Reason identify three design actions, which provide supporting Evidence for your claims.
5. You will be required to read your argument during your presentation.

The Grade of this assignment will be based on Content and Composition.
FIVE Paragraph Persuasive Argument

Outline for a five paragraph essay; include these elements:

The Introduction – “Tell the reader what you are going to tell them”
1. The Opening sentence.
2. Thesis Sentence
3. Reason One – Aesthetic reason
4. Reason Two – Tectonic reason
5. Reason Three – The Program reason
6. (Transition) - This sentence should transition the reader to the Body.

The Body – “Tell Them”
First Supporting Paragraph
1. The Topic Sentence - Restate and clarify Reason One
2. Supporting Evidence (3)
3. Transition Sentence
Second Supporting Paragraph
1. The Topic Sentence - Restate and clarify Reason Two
2. Supporting Evidence (3)
3. Transition Sentence
Second Supporting Paragraph
1. The Topic Sentence - Restate and clarify Reason Three
2. Supporting Evidence (3)
3. Transition Sentence

The Conclusion-“Tell them what you told them”
Closing or Summary Paragraph
1. Restate and clarify the Thesis statement.
2. Synthesis the conclusion of the thesis through a restatement of your reasons.

Write the essay!
Think small; build the full essay gradually.
Divide your essay into sections and develop each piece separately and incrementally.

The Introductory Paragraph
- The opening paragraph sets the tone
It not only introduces the topic, but where you are going with it (the thesis). If you do a good job in the opening, you will draw your reader into your "experience." Put effort up front, and you will reap rewards.
- Write in the active voice
It is much more powerful. Do that for each sentence in the introductory essay. Unless you are writing a personal narrative, do not use the pronoun "I."
- **Varying sentence structure**  
  Review to avoid the same dull pattern of always starting with the subject of the sentence.
- **Brainstorm to find the best supporting ideas**  
  The best supporting ideas are the ones about which you have some knowledge. If you do not know about them, you cannot do a good job writing about them. Don't weaken the essay with ineffective argument.
- **Practice writing introductory paragraphs on various topics**  
  Even if you do not use them, they can be compared with the type of writing you are doing now. It is rewarding to see a pattern of progress.

**Supporting Paragraphs**
- **Write a transition to establish the sub-topic**  
  Each paragraph has to flow, one to the next.
- **Write the topic sentence**  
  The transition can be included in the topic sentence.
- **Supporting ideas, examples, details must be specific** to the sub-topic  
  The tendency in supporting paragraphs is to put in just about anything. Avoid this: the work you have made above with details and examples will help you keep focused.
- **Vary sentence structure**  
  Avoid repetitious pronouns and lists  
  Avoid beginning sentences the same way (subject + verb + direct object).

**The Ending or Summary Paragraph**
This is a difficult paragraph to write effectively. You cannot assume that the reader sees your point
- **Restate the introductory thesis/paragraph** with originality  
  Do not simply copy the first paragraph
- **Summarize your argument** with some degree of authority  
  this paragraph should leave your reader with no doubt as to your position or conclusion of logic
- **Be powerful** as this is the last thought that you are leaving with the reader.

**Edit and revise your essay**
- **Check your spelling and grammar**
  Subjects and verbs agree, and verb tenses are consistent
- **Examine your whole essay for logic**
  Thought builds and flows?  
  Avoid gaps in logic, or too much detail.
- **Review individual sentences**
  - **Use active verbs to be more descriptive**  
    Avoid passive constructions and the verb "to be"
• **Use transitional words and phrases**
  Avoid sentences beginning with pronouns, constructions as "There are....,"
  Example: "There is a need to proofread all works" becomes "Proofreading is a must."

• **Be concise**
  though vary the length and structure of sentences

**Ask a knowledgeable friend to review and comment on your essay**
and to repeat back what you are trying to say. You may be surprised.