

## **SYLLABUS**

### **ARC|ARI 310K: DESIGN 1 | SUMMER 2020**

*MTWThF 9am-12pm*

### **ONLINE USING ZOOM**

## **INSTRUCTOR**

Joyce Rosner

[jrosner@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:jrosner@austin.utexas.edu)

*Appointments for office hours should be setup by emailing instructor(s).*

## **TEACHING ASSISTANT**

Stefan Brits

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## **APPROACH**

The projects and exercises explored during the course of this term are intended to provide the student with a foundation in the perceptual, conceptual and technique-based skills necessary for subsequent design work in architecture / interior design. Sequentially linked projects will begin by introducing a question, tested through a series of variables and end with a possible design response. Projects have been devised to encourage many avenues of inquiry with students taking responsibility in framing their own investigations, as well as taking responsibility for their overall progress leading to their final design resolution.

While most of your work will be done digitally, you will be required to keep a sketchbook in order to develop freehand drawing skills. You will also be encouraged to make rough physical models occasionally. All work will be submitted on a daily basis for review through UT Box.

## **LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

- To guide students in forming a foundation on which their own values will be developed
- To provide students with a basis through which to view, assimilate, evaluate, and implement design ideas
- To introduce students to design in the realm of the senses
- To encourage an understanding of form as a dependent variable or as a consequence of multiple considerations

Self-motivation is necessary to succeed in this class and subsequent design studios. As a creative endeavor, the process of design is one of exploration rather than explication; as such, it is defined by questions, not answers.

Class time will take place online using Zoom through Canvas. You will be expected to be present at those meeting during which we will discuss any new assignments, answer questions, and talk about specific projects. Class time is intended for the exchange of ideas and approaches. You will also be given time during class to work and for us to review work individually.

Because learning from each other is such an important part of the design studio, you will be asked to upload current work to a box folder to which we will invite you. This will allow all of you to view all of the work that is being produced.

Design studio is a significant time commitment! There may be both group and individual work. Likewise, work will be discussed in groups and individually and project evaluations will be subject to both faculty review as well as peer review.

Always look for ways to bring something extra to your studio work. In addition to pursuing the paths laid out by your instructor you should constantly seek additional inputs to your design process. That means anything from bringing in related material to finding a video from which the class might benefit.

Our school has developed a Studio Culture Policy: <http://soa.utexas.edu/architecture/culture>

## **STUDIO CULTURE**

The School of Architecture believes in the value of the design studio model. Studio learning encourages dialogue, collaboration, risk-taking, innovation, and learning-by-doing. The studio, whether in person or virtually, offers an environment where students can come together to ask questions and make proposals, which are developed and discussed among classmates, faculty, visiting professionals, and the public-at-large. Studio learning offers intensive one-on-one instruction from faculty members, and provides the opportunity for each student to develop his/her critical thinking skills and spatial and material sensibilities. The design studio offers a synthetic form of education, where project-based learning becomes the foundation for developing an understanding of and commitment to the school's core values — broadmindedness, interconnectivity, professionalism, exploration and activism — all in service of architecture's fundamental mission: to improve the quality of the built and natural environments.

Even though we won't all be meeting together in the same location, it is still important that you communicate with each other about your projects. You will have some time during class to "talk" to each other and should continue that practice outside of class as well. You will also be able to schedule your own Zoom meetings with each other by going to [utexas.zoom.us](https://utexas.zoom.us) and signing in with your utedid and password.

<https://soa.utexas.edu/programs/architecture/architecture-studio-culture>

## **EVALUATION CRITERIA**

While each project contains certain quantifiable elements for evaluation, a significant portion of each grade is derived from broader and more subjective criteria.

Student work will be evaluated according to its rigor and evolution over the semester. Grades are subject to deductions for late arrivals, absences, and late or incomplete work at the discretion of the instructor.

Grading for an assignment is broken into four components, each of which is given roughly equal weight:

**Pursuit:** the consistent and rigorous development and testing of ideas.

- The ability to formulate a query or thesis and pursue a self-determined concomitant method of inquiry
- The ability to identify and implement various processual mechanisms (software, sketch drawing and models, etc.) in the development of the design
- Initiative as demonstrated in work ethic – Does the student do what is asked; go beyond what is asked; direct their own efforts; eager to produce the next iteration of the design?

**Grasp:** the ideas and understanding of the project at hand and integration of knowledge introduced in companion courses.

- A strong and clearly stated design objective
- Spatial acuity as demonstrated in plan – including reasonable disposition of programmatic elements – and sectional development
- Synthetic and critical thinking; the ability to holistically organize a project as demonstrated through creative engagement with issues of materiality, structures and construction, structural and environmental system integration, building materials and assembly, sustainable practices, etc. in support of the design objective
- Structural competence and material sensitivity as demonstrated in wall thickness, floor plates, and assembly

**Resolution:** of the design objective; the demonstration of competence, completeness, and finesse in the final design presentation.

- Quality of presentation; clarity of communication; appropriateness of media strategy and level of skill displayed through the work presented at all stages of the design process; technical documentation

**Engagement:** the active participation in studio activities, leadership, collaboration, group discussions and reviews.

A student must earn a letter grade of C or better in order for the course to count towards a degree in the School of Architecture and to progress in to the next studio. A letter grade of C- will not satisfy degree requirements

## GRADE DESCRIPTIONS

<b>A/A-</b>	<b>Excellent</b>
	Project surpasses expectations in terms of inventiveness, appropriateness, visual language, conceptual rigor, craft, and personal development. Student pursues concepts and techniques above and beyond what is discussed in class. Project is complete on all levels.
<b>B+/B/B-</b>	<b>Above Average</b>
	Project is thorough, well presented, diligently pursued, and successfully completed. Student pursues ideas and suggestions presented in class and puts in effort to resolve required projects. Project is complete on all levels and demonstrates potential for excellence.
<b>C+/C</b>	<b>Average</b>
	Project meets the minimum requirements. Suggestions made in class and not pursued with dedication and rigor. Project is incomplete in one or more areas.
<b>C-/D+/D/D-</b>	<b>Poor</b>
	Project is incomplete. Basic grasp of skill is lacking, visual clarity or logic of presentation are not level-appropriate. Student does not demonstrate the required competence and knowledge base.
<b>F</b>	<b>Fail</b>
	Project is unresolved. Minimum objectives are not met. Performance is not acceptable. Note that this grade will be assigned when students have excessive unexcused absences.
<b>X</b>	<b>Excused Incomplete</b>

Can be given only for legitimate reasons of illness or family emergency. Simply not completing work on time is not an adequate cause for assigning this evaluation. It may only be used after consultation with the Associate Deans' offices and with an agreement as to a new completion date. Work must be completed before the second week of the next semester in which the student is enrolling, according to the School of Architecture policy.

Incomplete coursework must be completed prior to the beginning of the following semester. ALL GRADES ARE SUBJECT TO DEDUCTIONS FOR ABSENCES, LATE WORK AND LATE ARRIVALS.

## **ATTENDANCE**

Punctual and regular attendance is mandatory. Participation is expected. With three (3) unexcused absences, the student's final grade for the course will be lowered by a full letter grade. The final grade will be lowered by a full letter grade for each unexcused absence thereafter. Aside from religious observances, absences are only excused with written documentation of a medical issue or family emergency. The student is responsible for completing work missed due to excused absences and initiating communication with the instructor to determine due dates.

If a student is late (5 minutes after the start of class) three (3) times, it will be counted as one (1) unexcused absence. Students should notify the instructor prior to class if lateness or absence is known in advance. Students must notify instructors directly regarding lateness or absences; asking a classmate to inform the instructor is not acceptable.

## **RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCES**

A student shall be excused from attending classes of other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for the purpose. A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence. University policy requires students to notify each of their instructors as far in advance of the absence as possible so that arrangements can be made.

By UT Austin policy, you must notify the instructor of the pending absence at least fourteen days prior to the date of a religious holy day. If you must miss a class, an examination, an assignment, or a project in order to observe a religious holy day, you will be given an opportunity to complete the missed work within a reasonable time after the absence.

## **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

Students who violate University policy on academic integrity are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and/or dismissal from the University. Since such dishonesty harms the individual, all students, and the integrity of the University, policies on academic integrity will be strictly enforced. Refer to the Student Conduct and Academic Integrity website for official University policies and procedures on academic integrity: <http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/conduct/academicintegrity.php>. University Code of Conduct: <http://catalog.utexas.edu/general-information/the-university/#universitycodeofconduct>

## **HONOR CODE**

*"As a student of The University of Texas at Austin, I shall abide by the core values of the University and uphold academic integrity."*

## UNIVERSITY CODE OF CONDUCT

*"The core values of The University of Texas at Austin are learning, discovery, freedom, leadership, individual opportunity, and responsibility. Each member of the University is expected to uphold these values through integrity, honesty, trust, fairness, and respect towards peers and community."*

## MENTAL HEALTH AND SUPPORT SERVICES

Taking care of your general well-being is an important step in being a successful student. If stress, test anxiety, racing thoughts, feeling unmotivated, or anything else is getting in your way, there are options available for help:

- In-house CARE counselor (see below)
- For immediate support
  - Visit/call the Counseling and Mental Health Center (CMHC):  
M-F 8am-5pm | SSB, 5<sup>th</sup> floor | 512-471-3515 | [cmhc.utexas.edu](http://cmhc.utexas.edu)
  - CMHC Crisis Line:  
24/7 | 512-471-2255 | [cmhc.utexas.edu/24hourcounseling.html](http://cmhc.utexas.edu/24hourcounseling.html)
- Free services at CMHC:
  - Brief assessments and referral services: [cmhc.utexas.edu/gettingstarted.html](http://cmhc.utexas.edu/gettingstarted.html)
  - Mental health & wellness articles: [cmhc.utexas.edu/commonconcerns.html](http://cmhc.utexas.edu/commonconcerns.html)
  - MindBody Lab: [cmhc.utexas.edu/mindbodylab.html](http://cmhc.utexas.edu/mindbodylab.html)
  - Classes, workshops, and groups: [cmhc.utexas.edu/groups.html](http://cmhc.utexas.edu/groups.html)

## STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Students with disabilities who require special accommodations must obtain a letter that documents the disability from the Services for Students with Disabilities area of the Office of the Dean of Students (471-6259 voice or 471-4641 TTY for users who are deaf or hard of hearing). This letter should be presented to the instructor in each course at the beginning of the semester and accommodations needed should be discussed at that time.

<http://diversity.utexas.edu/disability/>

## STUDIO SECURITY, SAFETY, AND SUSTAINABILITY

The studio is an exceptional learning environment. Since it is a place for all, it necessitates the careful attention to the needs of everyone. Since it is a place for all, it necessitates the careful attention to the needs of everyone. Please see your instructor if problems that you are unable to resolve on your own arise. Security is a necessary component for a studio that is accessible to you and your colleagues 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Do not leave your studio without your studio key and do not leave your studio unlocked. Hold yourself and your studio mates accountable for the security of your shared space.

The studio is an opportunity to apply sustainability principles, being mindful to recycle and reuse to reduce material consumption at UTSOA. Recyclable materials should be placed in blue bins or any other containers with white bags. The Material Exchange, a give-and-take system for students to donate materials and take what they need for studio and fabrication coursework, is available throughout the semester to all UT students in the UTSOA Technology Lab. All unwanted, reusable materials should be brought to the Material Exchange station in the Technology Lab at the end of the semester.

## BCAL

Concerns regarding the safety or behavior of fellow students, Teaching Assistants (TA), or Professors can be reported to the Behavior Concerns Advice Line (BCAL): 512-232-5050. Calls can be made anonymously. If something doesn't feel right, it probably isn't. Trust your instincts and share your concerns.

## EMERGENCY EVACUATION

In the case of emergency evacuation:

- Occupants of buildings on The University of Texas at Austin campus are required to evacuate buildings when a fire alarm is activated. Alarm activation or announcement requires exiting and assembling outside.
- Students should familiarize themselves with all exit doors of each classroom and building they may occupy. Remember that the nearest exit door may not be the one used when entering the building.
- Students requiring assistance in evacuation shall inform their instructor in writing during the first week of class. In the event of an evacuation, follow the instruction of faculty or class instructors.
- Reentry into a building is prohibited unless given instructions by the following: Austin Fire Department, The University of Texas at Austin Police Department, or Fire Prevention Services offices.

Information regarding emergency evacuation routes and emergency procedures can be found at:

[www.utexas.edu/emergency](http://www.utexas.edu/emergency).

*Be courteous. Be smart.*