

ARCH 406-201, Architecture Design V, Spring 2010: Urban Hotel

Instructor: Craig Babe

Mondays: 13:50 – 15:30 & 16:00 – 16:50

Wednesdays: 13:50 – 15:30 & 16:00 – 16:50

Fridays: 13:50 – 15:30

Studio Location: ARCA 400 DC

Office: ARCA 407

Office hours: Tuesday & Thursday 08:00 – 09:30 or by appointment

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Prerequisites: Upper level classification in the BED Architectural Studies Option; ARCH 405

I. Learning Objectives and Course Overview:

Participants will be given the opportunity to build upon and strengthen their critical and analytical abilities, architectural design skills and graphic techniques. These are the types of skills required to succeed in an accredited MArch program, as well as in the designing of projects in a professional architect's office.

The studio will focus on hospitality design. The final project will be an urban hotel and mixed use project sited in Dallas.

Nunzio DeSantis, Eddie Abeyta, Daron Andrus, architects from HKS Hospitality Studio will collaborate with the studio instructor to teach the studio. Together with the instructor from Texas A&M, they will provide the participants tools and techniques to approach design architectural problems from a real-world design excellence perspective.

A site in the Dallas Arts District and a model client and program will be offered. HKS will provide on-board reviews of work at key moments, schedule to be determined, and final review.

Studio participants will work intensely on researching and understanding the organization, program, project structure and design of a contemporary hotel project.

Students will form teams of three to carry out the final project, with each member focusing on an area of the design (core and shell, function, interiors) but contributing to the whole effort.

Participants are required to purchase one 5 x 8" format blank paper artist sketchbook. Each participant will record all of their thoughts, sketches, ideas, notes etc for the studio in their sketchbook, which will become a Design Journal. Sketchbooks will be turned in at the end of the studio and will contribute to the final grade.

A Yahoo Group will be established for the studio. Each participant is required to join. Mandatory readings will be assigned and discussed in class. These readings contain model strategies, projects and presentation methods.

2. Course Requirements:

Project One, Case Study Analysis:

- Participants will divide into pairs. Three teams will each take one of the existing Arts District buildings, the other teams will each take an existing urban hotel and undertake an analysis for presentation to the group.
- Each presentation should demonstrate the following:
 - The architect's philosophy about design and they structure their solutions around a "concept."
 - The "graphic" means by which each architect communicates ideas.
 - How each of the architects approaches their projects by establishing a framework for a big idea and how the big idea gets executed.
 - The functional and programmatic layout of the projects, especially the hotels.
- Format is PowerPoint.

Project Two: Typical Guestroom Design:

- Each participant will produce a scheme for a typical guestroom.
- Format is one 24 x 48" sheet.
- Plans, Sections, & Renderings of Interior views are required.
- Layout is to the designer's discretion but should be graphically clear and compelling.

Project Three: Site, Program and Project Analysis:

- Students will divide into 6 groups (different composition than Project One) to study the following topics:
 - Parking and Traffic design
 - Codes and Standards
 - Program,
 - Sustainable Design Opportunities,
 - Site and Context,
 - Documentation of Existing Structures.
- This research will support the final project with the results being shared by each of the four teams.
- Format is PowerPoint.

Final Project: Design an Urban Hotel.

- Participants will divide into groups of two or three and begin work on the final design. Design an urban hotel on the given site and to the given program.
- Final Project, Preliminary Design Submission:
 - This review is process-oriented and participants are encouraged to present more than one tentative scheme.
 - Presentation material is informal but should give the reviewers a comprehensive view of the scheme(s) under consideration.
 - Context Model: one member from each of the teams will break away and form a team to construct a massing context model of the site during the first week.

- Massing models of tentative schemes should be presented.
- Final Project, Design Phase Submission:
- Final Project, Presentation Phase Submission:
 - Comments from the Design Phase critique are addressed.
 - Further refinement, development, and clarification of the design take place but the emphasis is on preparing a comprehensive, compelling, clear final presentation.
 - Two 30x40" boards consisting of a comprehensive graphic package including plans, sections, renderings, and diagrams
 - One of the guestroom designs shall be selected and included in the presentation. The design could be developed further.
 - Interiors of some of the main public spaces should be considered.
 - Massing Model to be laid into the context model.
- Final Project, Evaluation Criteria:
 - Concept: establishing a framework for a big idea and how the big idea is executed.
 - Site Design: relationship to site and surrounding context, handling of public space.
 - Building Exterior: character, massing, architectural expression.
 - Building Function: Arrangement of program, relationship of spaces.
 - Building Interior: Handling of public to private, relative scale of spaces, function, efficiency, light, connection to exterior, and details
 - Presentation: Clarity and accuracy of plans, sections and analysis diagrams. Graphic layout. Renderings. How the presentation reinforces and illustrates the concept.

Design Journal:

- Each participant will record all of their thoughts, sketches, ideas, notes etc for the studio in their sketchbook, which will become a Design Journal.
- Design Journals shall contain notes and sketches from the departmental lecture series.
- Design Journals shall be 5 x 8" pocket sketchbooks.

Departmental Lecture Series:

- Attendance is mandatory at the seven scheduled departmental lectures.
- Participants will take notes and make sketches in their design journals.
- The lectures will be discussed in class.

3. Schedule:

Week 1 (Week of January 18th):

- Wednesday: First day of class, Introduction of studio syllabus.
- Wednesday: Introduction of Project One, Case Study Analysis.
- Friday: School-wide design charrette. Participation mandatory. Meet at 09:00 in the studio. Project due at 03:30 pm.

Week 2 (Week of January 25th):

- Monday Wednesday Friday: Desk crits, Project One: *Case Study Analysis*.
- Monday: Departmental Lecture, Beatriz Colomina, Princeton University, 5:00 pm.

Week 3 (Week of February 1st):

- Monday: Presentation, Project One: *Case Study Analysis*.
- Wednesday: Introduction of Project Two: *Typical Guestroom Design*.
- Friday: Desk crits, Project Two.

Week 4 (Week of February 8th)

- Monday, Wednesday: Desk crits, Project Two.
- Monday: Departmental Lecture, Andreas Pedersen, B.I.G. www.big.dk/
- Friday (Tentative): Field trip to Dallas. Tours of HKS Hospitality Studio, W Hotel (front & back of house), and final project site.

Week 5, (Week of February 15th):

- Monday, Wednesday Friday: Desk crits, Project Two.
- Monday: Departmental, Lecture Sarah Whiting and Ron Witte, Rice University.

Week 6, (Week of February 23rd):

- Monday: Presentation, Project Two: *Typical Guestroom Design*.
- Monday: Introduction of Project Three: *Site, Program and Project Analysis*.
- Wednesday, Friday: Desk crits, Project Three.

Week 7 (Week of March 1st):

- Monday: Presentation of Project Three.
- Monday: Introduction of Final Project, Design an Urban Hotel.
- Monday: Departmental Lecture, Ted Flato, Lake|Flato Architects, San Antonio
- Wednesday, Friday: Desk crits, Final Project.

Week 8 (Week of March 8th):

- Monday, Wednesday: Desk crits, Final Project.
- Monday: Departmental Lecture, Nicholas Boyarsky, London, England.
- Friday: Presentation, Final Project, Preliminary Design.

Week of March 16th:

- Spring Break – no classes

Week 9 (Week of March 22nd):

- Monday, Wednesday, and Friday: Final Project, Design Phase, begins desk crits.

Week 10 (Week of March 29th):

- Monday, Wednesday: Desk crits, Final Project, Design Phase.
- Friday: Reading Day, no classes.

Week 11 (Week of April 5th):

- Monday: Presentation and Review, Final Project, Design Phase. Introduction of final Project, Presentation Phase.
- Monday: Departmental Lecture, Francois De Menil, FdM:Arch, New York, NY
- Wednesday, Friday: Desk crits, Final Project, Presentation Phase.

Week 12 (Week of April 12th):

- Monday, Wednesday, Friday: Desk crits, Final Project, Presentation Phase.

Week 13, (Week of April 19th)

- Monday, Wednesday: Desk crits, Final Project, Presentation Phase.
- Friday: Annual Rowlett Lecture, Rudder Auditorium, 1-5pm, no class, attendance is mandatory.

Week 14, (Week of April 26th):

- Monday, Wednesday: Desk crits, Final Project, Presentation Phase

Monday May 3rd: Final Project, Presentation Phase and Design Journals are due at 5:00pm in studio.

Tuesday May 4th: Final Project, Presentation Phase, review, HKS office, Dallas.

4. Grading

- Project One, Case Study Analysis: 05%
- Project Two, Typical Guestroom: 15%
- Project Three, Project Analysis: 05%
- Final Project, Preliminary Design: 10%
- Final Project, Design Phase: 35%
- Final Project, Presentation Phase: 20%

- Design Journal: 05%
- Class Participation (includes discussion of readings and departmental lectures): 5%
- Late submissions will be downgraded 2% per day.
- Unexcused absences: 0.5% will be deducted from final grade per unexcused absence. Role call will be conducted at the start of each class. Late attendance will be recorded and will accumulate into an unexcused absence(s).
- Lecture Series Attendance: Attendance is mandatory. 0.5% will be added to final grade per lecture attended. Lectures will be discussed in class.
- A = 90% and more. (Excellent grasp of course content and material as demonstrated in all course requirements. Demonstration of intellectual curiosity and openness.)
- B = 80 to 89%. (Good understanding of course content and material as demonstrated in most course requirements.)
- C = 70 to 79%. (Satisfactory completion of at least half of the course requirements)
- D = 60 to 69%. (Unsatisfactory completion of the course requirements)

5. Required Readings:

- Informal, Cecil Balmond. Prestel Verlag, Munich, Berlin, London, New York, 2002.
- Delirious New York: A Retroactive Manifesto for Manhattan, Rem Koolhaas, Monacelli, 1997
- Harvard Design School Guide to Shopping, Chuihua Judy Chung. Editor. Taschen (April 2002)
- Lewis.Tsurumaki.Lewis: Opportunistic Architecture, Paul Lewis, Marc Tsurumaki, David J. Lewis.Princeton Architectural Press; 1 edition, 2007.
- B.I.G. www.big.dk/, Bjarke Ingels: 3 warp-speed architecture tales, http://www.ted.com/talks/bjarke_ingels_3_warp_speed_architecture_tales.html
- Joshua Prince-Ramus on Seattle's library: http://www.ted.com/talks/joshua_prince_ramus_on_seattle_s_library.html
- Thom Mayne on architecture as connection: http://www.ted.com/talks/thom_mayne_on_architecture_as_connection.html
- DS+R, Diller Scofidio + Renfro, <http://www.dillerscofidio.com/>

6. Excused Absences:

Rules concerning excused absences may be found at <http://student-rules.tamu.edu/rule7.htm>. In particular, except for absences due to religious obligations, the student must notify his or her instructor in writing (acknowledged e-mail message is acceptable) prior to the date of absence if such notification is feasible. In cases where advance notification is not feasible (e.g., accident, or emergency) the student must provide notification by the end of the second working day after the absence. This notification should include an explanation of why notice could not be sent prior to the class. If the absence is excused, the instructor will either provide the student with an

opportunity to make up any submission or provide a satisfactory alternative to be completed within 30 calendar days from the last day of the absence.

7. Academic Dishonesty:

Upon discovering a suspected violation of the Aggie Honor code, the instructor will contact the Aggie Honor System office, at the earliest possible opportunity:

<http://www.tamu.edu/aggiehonor/>

8. Studio Culture at Texas A&M University: A Policy Statement:

All students, faculty, administration and staff of the Department of Architecture at Texas A&M University are dedicated to the principle that the Design Studio is the central component of an effective education in architecture.

They are equally dedicated to the belief that students and faculty must lead balanced lives and use time wisely, including time outside the design studio, to gain from all aspects of a university education and world experiences. They also believe that design is the integration of many parts, that process is as important as product, and that the act of design and of professional practice is inherently interdisciplinary, requiring active and respectful collaboration with others.

9. Studio Yahoo Group:

All students, and the instructor, and the HKS architects will make use of the following Yahoo Group to post files and send messages to the entire group.

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/arch406-501/>

Invitations will be sent out on the first day of class.

10. Studio Rules:

All spray paint, spray fixative, and spray glue is strictly prohibited in the Langford Architecture complex, except in the designated spray booth.

Studio cleanup must have been completed by the end of the last day of exams in May or participants will risk the loss of personal items.

The studio is a creative site where design thinking occurs and projects take form so some amount of disarray is to be expected and is even encouraged, however trash and other detritus will not be tolerated.