

TEXAS A&M
UNIVERSITY
Department of Architecture

Syllabus

Course: ARCH 489 Sec. 503/505
Semester: Spring 2010
Schedule: Monday, 6:10pm - 7:40pm, Langford Rm. C111
Instructor: Valerian Miranda Ph.D v-miranda@tamu.edu Rm. 006 Williams (TR 9-10)

Assistants: Jennifer Marshall jenlalexander@tamu.edu
 Heather Davis hdavis@tamu.edu

I. Catalog Description

(ENDS 112) Environmental Responsibilities and Design. (0-2). Credit 1. An introduction to ethical issues related to the design professions. Prerequisite(s): Lower division classification (ENDS, ENDL) in the BED Architectural Studies Option.

II. Introduction

Identifying, articulating and communicating ethical issues are becoming increasingly important as the design professions encounter more diverse populations of clients and collaborators. This course introduces ethical issues as they relate to the built environment and design professions and is intended to begin a dialog and spark a student's continuing interest in design ethics.

III. Objectives

Upon completing this course the student should be able to:

- Identify and articulate ethical questions related to the built environment from commonly encountered contexts.
- Summarize key factors supporting ethical approaches to multiple dimensions of a project's environmental context.
- Communicate the challenges and potential strategies towards addressing ethical issues in a project's environmental context.
- Evaluate and improve his/her own written communications as well as those authored by others.

IV. Course Schedule

WEEK 1 Jan.25	Class Introduction Assignment #1: Awareness of Ethics
WEEK 2 Feb. 01	Lecture: AIA Code of Ethics
WEEK 3 Feb. 08	Lecture: Cradle to Cradle Introduction Assignment #2: "Cradle to Cradle" Synopsis Assignment #1 due
WEEK 4 Feb. 15	Lecture: William McDonough Draft for #2 due
WEEK 5 Feb. 22	Lecture: Janine Benyus
WEEK 6 Mar. 01	Lecture: Tim Brown Peer review comments for #2 due
WEEK 7 Mar. 08	Lecture: Ethics of Sustainability / Ethics & Sustainability Assignment #3: Sustainable campus plan Final Assignment #2 due
WEEK 8 Mar.15	Spring Break
WEEK 9 Mar. 22	Lecture: design e ² Draft for #3 due
WEEK 10 Mar. 29	Lecture: design e ²
WEEK 11 Apr. 05	Lecture: Your Carbon footprint Peer review comments for #3 due
WEEK 12 Apr. 12	Lecture: Conclusion lecture
WEEK 13 Apr. 19	Assignment #3 presentations Final Assignment #3 due
WEEK 14 Apr. 26	Assignment #3 presentations
WEEK 15 May 03	Assignment #3 presentations

V. Performance Evaluation

- Since this is a writing intensive course, assignments submitted (including drafts) with spelling or grammatical errors will receive automatic **20 point deduction**.
- Late assignments will incur a penalty of **one letter grade per week**.
- Excused absences are described in the Aggie Honor Code and Student Conduct Code. **Three unexcused absences will result in a failing grade.**
- Letter grades will be based on the evaluation of each assignment, attendance and class participation as follows:

Assignment 1 : 15%

Assignment 2	: 25%
Assignment 3	: 50%
Attendance/participation	: 10%

Letter grades are based on the following standard:

- A ... excellent performance in all work, clearly superior work well beyond stated requirements and expectations.
- B ... good performance in all work, satisfying all stated requirements and expectations.
- C ... satisfactory completion of all work.
- D ... below average, unsatisfactory performance.
- F ... failure: substandard work throughout.

VI. Required Texts:

- *Cradle to Cradle*, William McDonough and Michael Braungart, North Point Press, 2002.

References

- *Writing Workshop: The Essential Guide*, Ralph Fletcher, JoAnn Portalupi; Heinemann; Sep. 2001.
- *A Rulebook for Arguments*, Anthony Weston, Hackett Pub Co; Nov. 2008.
- *The Bedford Handbook*, Diana Hacker, Nancy Summers, Bedford/St. Martin's; Oct. 2009
- *Architectural Design and Ethics*, Tom Fisher; Elsevier Press; 2008.

VII. Cost

In addition to the required texts, each student is expected to keep a note book for class notes, etc..

VIII. POLICIES

Statement on Disability

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA): The Americans with Disabilities Act is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe that you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Department of Student Life, Services for Students with Disabilities in RM. 126, Koldus Bldg., or call 845-1637.

Scholastic Dishonesty :

Access to information is becoming easier by the day. Plagiarism does not benefit anybody in the long term. Credit the work of others just as you would like your work to be recognized. Any form of scholastic dishonesty will not be tolerated.

“ An Aggie does not lie, cheat or steal nor tolerates those who do.”

Access to information is becoming easier by the day. Plagiarism does not benefit anybody in the long term. Credit the work of others just as you would like your work to be recognized. Any form of scholastic dishonesty will not be tolerated. For more information on Scholastic Dishonesty and its consequences please refer to Texas A&M University Student Rules and <http://www.tamu.edu/aggiehonor>.

TO BE RETURNED TO THE INSTRUCTOR

NOTE: After you have read the entire syllabus handed out in class, please clarify with the instructor any of your questions regarding the syllabus, workload, what is expected of you, grading criteria, etc.. Then sign and date the declaration below, detach this sheet and hand it back to the instructor.

DECLARATION

I have read and understood the syllabus for ARCH 489 - 503/505, Spring 2010, handed to me in class.

NAME (capitals): _____

SIGNATURE : _____

UIN : _____

TAMU e-mail : _____

DATE : _____