



SYLLABUS

CARC 481 Semester Away Preparatory Seminar for Students spending Fall'10 / Spring'11 away from C.S.

COURSE: CARC 481.- Semester Away Preparatory Seminar (1 Credit Hour) **SEMESTER:** Spring 2010
SCHEDULE: Friday 08:00 am, Geren Auditorium (B in Langford)
COORDINATION: Dr. Elton Abbott, AIA eabbott@arkitex.com
Assistant Dean, College of Architecture Office: 202h, Langford A

I. DESCRIPTION

Preparatory seminar for selected College of Architecture study away and internships; topics include introduction to the language, culture and history of study abroad location. To be taken on a satisfactory/unsatisfactory basis.

II. INTRODUCTION

The College of Architecture at Texas A&M University instituted a “Semester Away” requirement for its three undergraduate degree programs in fall 2002. The Semester Away Program was designed to meet the college’s larger obligation to promote the parallel development of its students. This obligation includes the development of their professional understanding and capabilities, as well as the fulfillment of their need to be civilized, educated people. Study abroad fits both of these agendas.

Though the “Semester Away Program” encourages students to study in another country, students can fulfill the requirement by enrolling in a domestic internship and/or coursework at other selected universities. The requirement, in our view, is not an add-on luxury. It is an integral part of a student’s education — as important as mathematics, history and learning to write. It helps students become more civilized individuals while enhancing their tolerance for difference and uniqueness. Another benefit of studying abroad is that the experience changes the student’s context of learning, challenging them to make significant adjustments in all aspects of their intellectual life. Value systems, habits of study, and routines of daily life, are all brought into a new focus, and the student learns ‘how to learn’ by adjusting to his or her new situation.

“No education is complete if one is only immersed in one’s own culture.” (Tom Regan, Former Dean)

III. OBJECTIVES

At the end of the semester the students will be expected to display:

- Awareness of the learning opportunities that they are likely to encounter in a “semester away”.
- Understanding of their responsibility as ambassadors of their country, state and institution in a larger context, which can imply another institution, state, and/or country.
- Ability to perform academic activities in a context different from their own.

IV. COURSE SCHEDULE & METHODOLOGY

The class will meet Friday morning, 8:00 am. A number of subjects will be addressed in each session. Some meetings will be conducted as a single gathering relevant to all participants. Other meetings may be divided by disciplines and/or the location of the program that the students will be attending. Additional information will be provided in class. Although this class is “pass-fail”, unexcused absences will result in failure. **Requirements for attendance in this course align with the official Texas A&M Rule on Attendance found here:**
<http://student-rules.tamu.edu/rule07>

You must attend all sessions and sign-in on roster, regardless of your semester-away preference.

THE AMERICAN WITH DISABILITIES ACT

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) 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 you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact Disability Services, in Cain Hall, Room B118, or call 845-1637. For additional information visit <http://disability.tamu.edu>.

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SCHOLASTIC DISHONESTY

As commonly defined, plagiarism consists of passing off as one’s own the ideas, work, writings, etc., which belong to another. In accordance with this definition, you are committing plagiarism if you copy the work of another person and turn it in as your own, even if you should have the permission of that person. Plagiarism is one of the worst academic sins, for the plagiarist destroys the trust among colleagues without which research cannot be safely communicated. If you have questions regarding plagiarism, please consult the latest issue of the Texas A&M University Student Rules, under the section “Scholastic Dishonesty”.

"An Aggie does not lie, cheat or steal, or tolerate those who do." Refer to the Honor Council Rules and Procedures on the web <http://www.tamu.edu/aggiehonor>