

The University of Texas at Arlington
School of Architecture

Instructor: Dennis A. Chiessa
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Office Hours: MWF 5:00 pm or by appointment

Syllabus: Arch 2551 Basic Design + Drawing I Sections 004 and 005
Location: Arch 215 and 215A
Meeting Time: MWF 9:00 AM – 11:50 AM
MWF 2:00 PM – 4:50 PM

Description of Course Content:

An introduction to design, design drawing, and color theory utilizing lectures and studio exercises. Two- and three-dimensional studio exercises develop a sensibility to design fundamentals and vocabulary. Emphasis on form, color, texture, and spatial determinants. Prerequisite: Credit or concurrent enrollment in ARCH 2303. Restricted to Architecture-intended and Interior Design-intended majors.

Student Learning Outcomes:

The criteria encompass two levels of accomplishment.

Ability:

Skill in using specific information to accomplish a task in correctly selecting the appropriate information, and in applying it to the solution of a specific problem.

Understanding:

The assimilation and comprehension of information without necessarily being able to see its full implication.

Speaking and writing skills: ability to read, write, listen, and speak effectively.

Critical Thinking Skills: ability to raise clear and precise questions, use abstract ideas to interpret information, consider diverse points of view, reach well-reasoned conclusions, and test them against relevant criteria and standards.

Graphics Skills: ability to use appropriate representational media, including freehand drawing and computer technology, to convey essential formal elements at each stage of the programming and design process.

Research Skills: Ability to gather, assess, record, and apply relevant information in architectural coursework.

Formal Ordering Systems: understanding of the fundamentals of visual perception and the principles and systems of order that inform two and three dimensional design, architectural composition, and urban design.

Fundamental Design Skills: Ability to use basic architectural principles in the design of buildings, interior spaces, and sites.

Use of Precedents: Ability to incorporate relevant precedents into architecture and urban design projects.

Required Textbooks:

Form, Space and Order by Francis Ching

Architectural Drawing: A Visual Compendium of Types and Methods by Rendow Yee

Recommended Texts:

Collage and Architecture by Jennifer A. E. Shields

Course Materials: The following is a **REQUIRED** supply list 2551 and are mandatory for each studio class.

Color pencils – Prismacolor
Compass set with inking adapter
Cutting Mat – 12" x 18" minimum
Drawing Board: Wood or MDF 31" x 42" with surface protection (hot press crescent board or vinyl board cover mount with handle for carrying)
Drafting brush
Drafting Leads 2H, H, HB, B, 2B, 4B
Drafting Powder
Drafting Tape
Drafting Vellum – 36" x 50 yards 100 % cotton fiber
Erasers – soft white
Erasing Shield
French Curves with inking edge
Glue (tacky glue)
Ink – black and red
Lead Holders
Lead Pointer
Markers / sketching pens
Metal straight edge
Parallel Bar 42" (Mayline is strongly recommended)
Pastels – chalk grey scale series
Pencils – 2H – 6B
Pencil sharpener
Sandpaper – 100 grit or finer
Sanding sponges (absolutely necessary – fine grit)
Scales: Architects and Engineering, 18"
Sketchbook 8.5 x 11 hardbound (no exceptions)
Technical Pens – 4x0, 3x0, 2x0, 0, 1, 2, 3 (Koh-I-Noor 3165-SP-7 Set of 7 Rapidograph Pens or acceptable option)
Templates: Circle with inking edge and House Plan Fixture Template 1/8" = 1' and 1/4" = 1' scales
The Chopper
Tool Box
Tracing paper – 12" yellow
Triangles:
Adjustable 8" or 10" with inking edge
30/60 8" or 10"
45/45 4" and 8" or 10"

X-Acto Knife
X-Acto blades #11 pack of 100

Basswood as necessary
Chipboard as necessary
White mounting board
Strathmore 400 series
White museum board
Scale lumber basswood

Note: while this list is as comprehensive as possible, please realize that it cannot guarantee all your supply needs. Throughout the semester, each project will require additional material as needed.

Descriptions of major assignments and examinations:

There will be no exams in this section; however, quizzes may be given periodically covering material presented in lectures and assignments. As quizzes may be given without announcement, students should review lecture notes and assigned readings prior to attending class. It is the student's responsibility to ask questions for a better understanding of information covered.

There will be multiple exercises accompanied by larger projects throughout the semester. Assignments are designed for students to display their understanding of course material and objectives. Sketch book projects will be assigned in addition to exercises and projects.

Sketching is an essential part of architecture. Not only do we communicate ideas through sketching, we also remember, learn, and solve problems. Each student will be required to maintain a comprehensive documentation of exercises and projects on trace paper and complete assigned sketchbook projects in their sketch book (unless instructed otherwise).

Schedule (tentative):

Formal Strategy and Terminology Exercises	8.25.2014 – 9.12.2014
Historical Precedent Drawing Exercise	9.05.2014 – 10.03.2014
Collage + Analysis Exercises	9.12.2014 – 9.26.2014
3D Kit of Parts	9.26.2014 – 10.10.2014
Architectural Project (s)	10.10.2014 – 12.03.2014

Attendance:

Attendance is mandatory. Three absences are allowed, after which you will be advised to withdraw from the class. For each additional absence students will receive a one letter grade reduction from his/her overall course grade. Students are expected to attend every studio session and all pin ups and reviews. Excuses are unacceptable for incomplete work and absences.

Students are expected to be in studio during the entire class session. Being tardy, leaving early, or disappearing for extended periods of time during class will amount to the equivalent of one absence per 2 occasions. Students will be considered late if they are not in class at the moment attendance is called.

The studio space is set up as a learning environment, working in studio is mandatory during class time and strongly encouraged outside of class time.

Other Requirements:

We will be making some field trips during the semester, you are expected to be there. Carpool is recommended. You will be given at least a two week notice when this happens. You will usually sketch on site, so it is very important to be there.

Coming to class without tools or things to work on/with will result in conference and student will be advised to go get his/her things to work on and will be counted absent.

Grading:

Exercises will receive two letter grades: one for execution of design principles and one for quality of presentation and technical skills. These will be based on a 10 point basis – 5 for each of the above.

Projects will receive grades for: design, craftsmanship of drawings and models, and preliminary reviews and process.

Each assignment is equally important to further develop overall comprehension of course material and is considered mandatory.

Excellent craftsmanship is essential in architecture and will be a component of consideration for assignment evaluations. Craftsmanship helps develop architectural skills including attention to detail, articulation, and an understanding of jointure and connection. Craftsmanship is an important factor in model building, but also includes precision in drawing.

Work is due at the commencement of class on the assigned date. **Late work shall not be accepted.**

All evaluations of work shall be based on the students' design comprehension, mastery of course material, and the ability to communicate design thesis through dialogue, and visual presentation.

A – Exceptional

B – Above Average

C – Average

D – Poor

F – Failing

Final evaluation will be broken down as follows:

Attendance and daily progress	10 %
Quizzes	5 %
Sketch Book assignments	10 %
Exercises	25 %
Projects	50 %

If there are no quizzes then that 5 % will be absorbed by other categories. **Grades are final and not negotiable.**

Drop Policy:

Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering.

Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance. Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (<http://web.uta.edu/aao/fao/>).

Americans with Disabilities Act:

The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including the *Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*. All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Any student requiring an accommodation for this course must provide the instructor with official documentation in the form of a letter certified by the staff in the Office for Students with Disabilities, University Hall 102. Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at www.uta.edu/disability or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

Academic Integrity:

Students enrolled in this course are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington's tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.

I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.

UT Arlington faculty members may employ the Honor Code as they see fit in their courses, including (but not limited to) having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System *Regents' Rule* 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university's standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student's suspension or expulsion from the University.

Student Support Services:

UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at

University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to resources@uta.edu, or view the information at www.uta.edu/resources.

Electronic Communication:

UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php>.

Student Feedback Survey:

At the end of each term, students enrolled in classes categorized as “lecture,” “seminar,” or “laboratory” shall be directed to complete an online Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student’s feedback enters the SFS database anonymously and is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. UT Arlington’s effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law; students are strongly urged to participate. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.

Final Review Week:

A period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week *unless specified in the class syllabus*. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.

Emergency Exit Procedures: Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit, which is located on the southwest corner of the building. When exiting the building during an emergency, one should never take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist handicapped individuals.