The University of Texas at Arlington
CAPPA - School of Architecture

Instructor: Dennis A. Chiessa
Office: Arch 113c
Office Phone: 817.272.7483
Email Address: chiessa@uta.edu
Office Hours: MWF 5:30 pm or by appointment

Syllabus: Arch 2552 Basic Design + Drawing II Section 003
Location: Arch 215
Meeting Time: MWF 9:00 AM – 11:50 AM

Description of Course Content:

Basic Design + Drawing II: ARCHITECTURE I (3-6) 5 hours credit. A continuation of ARCH 2551 with emphasis on three-dimensional design fundamentals with small-scale spatial and architectural applications. Prerequisite: ARCH 2551. Credit or concurrent enrollment in ARCH 2304. Restricted to Architecture-intended and Interior Design-intended majors.

Pedagogy:

Teaching architecture principles focuses on developing the student's ability to understand what an architectural idea is, how it is developed, and how to implement it into a design problem. The design process is explored through experimentation. Lectures and design exercises emphasize the development of architectural skills to develop communication tools for the portrayal of design ideas.

Student Performance Criteria:

Student learning objectives are coordinated to reflect the National Architectural Accreditation Board (NAAB) Student Performance Criteria (refer SOA website). The criteria for ARCH 2551 encompasses two levels of accomplishment as follows:

1. **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.

   A.2 Design 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 alternative outcomes against relevant criteria and standards.

   A.3 Investigative Skills: Ability to gather, assess, record, and comparatively evaluate relevant information and performance in order to support conclusions related to a specific project or assignment.

   A.4 Architectural Design Skills: Ability to effectively use basic formal, organizational and environmental principles and the capacity of each to inform two and three dimensional design.

A.5 Ordering Systems Skills: Understanding of the fundamentals of both natural and formal ordering systems and the capacity of each to inform two and three dimensional design.

A.6 Use of Precedents: Ability to examine and comprehend the fundamental principles present in relevant precedents and to make informed choices about the incorporation of such principles into architecture and urban design projects.

2. **Understanding:** The capacities to classify, compare, summarize, explain and / or interpret information.

A.1 Professional Communication Skills: Ability to write and speak effectively and use representational media appropriate for both within the profession and with the general public.

Requirements:

Prerequisites: ARCH 2551, Credit or concurrent enrollment in ARCH 2304.

Required Textbooks:

Experiencing Architecture by Steen Eiler Rasmussen
Towards A New Architecture by Le Corbusier
Form, Space and Order by Francis Ching

Descriptions of major assignments:

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):

Week 1 – 3 ACAD, Precedent Analysis

Week 4 – 9 Architectural Project 1

Week 10 – 16 Architectural Project 2

Sketchbook exercises will be due every two to four weeks.

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 third of an absence. 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, preliminary reviews and process. These will be averaged out for a project grade.

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

Letter grade definitions:

A – Exceptional:

Student has strongly exceeded all requirements as provided by instructor. Design solutions reflect genuine comprehensive understanding of concepts and design vocabulary. The design solution not only meets the requirements of the project but also exceeds the scope of work. An 'A' student challenges all reading material, lectures and assignments in a consistent process through an architectural dialogue with the instructor, critics and fellow students. The design process is clearly evident throughout the entire semester with the completion of all assignments, and demonstrates an evolution of the projects on a daily basis. Final drawings and models are of impeccable craft with a strong attention to detail that clearly explains the entire thought process and design thesis. Student presents project in a professional manner clearly enunciating concepts and design solution.

B – Above average:

Student has completed all requirements as provided by instructor. Design solutions reflect strong comprehension of design objectives, vocabulary and reading assignments. The design thought process steadily improves throughout the semester as the student is well prepared for every session with new work. Student participates in most class discussions, asks appropriate questions and shows genuine interest in developing design skills. Final drawing and models are well-crafted, with attention to detail. The student presents concepts thoroughly enough to engage in a discussion that helps to improve the project.

C – Average:

Student has completed all requirements as provided by instructor. Design solutions reflect basic comprehension of design objectives, vocabulary and reading assignments. The thought process of the design reflects some improvement throughout the semester. The student is prepared for most sessions with new work. Student participates in some class discussions, asks few questions and shows little interest in developing design skills. Final drawing and models are completed to meet requirements only.

D – Poor:

Student has not completed all requirements as provided by instructor. Design solutions fail to reflect basic design principles presented in studio, and demonstrate a lack of comprehension of course material. The design process does not evolve throughout the semester, as the student is ill prepared for sessions. Student rarely participates in class discussions and shows little initiative to advance design vocabulary. Assignments are rarely completed on time. Final drawings and models are poorly crafted with little attention to detail and minimal delineation of concepts.

F – Failing:

The following, in whole or in part, constitute a failing grade: student completes only a portion of the requirements as provided by instructor; design solutions fail to reflect any basic design principles presented in studio; the student demonstrates lack of comprehension of course material; the design process does not evolve throughout the semester; the student is ill prepared for sessions; the student does not participate in class discussions, and shows no initiative to advance design vocabulary; assignments are not completed on time; final drawings and models are crafted poorly without attention to detail and lack delineation of concepts.

Final evaluation will be broken down as follows:

Attendance, daily progress, Quizzes, and Sketch Books	10 %
Exercises	20 %
Projects	70 %

Grades are final and not negotiable.

Cell Phones and Computers:

Cell phones should not be a distraction during class time. Texting, talking, watching videos, and use of social media on your phone/computer is not permitted. Computers should only be used for completing assignments. Student will be asked to leave the studio and will be counted absent if he/she violates this policy.

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://wweb.uta.edu/aao/fao/).

Disability Accommodations:

UT 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), The Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act (ADAAA),* and *Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.* 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 disability. Students are responsible for providing the instructor with official notification in the form of a letter certified by the **Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD).** Students experiencing a range of conditions (Physical, Learning, Chronic Health, Mental Health, and Sensory) that may cause diminished academic performance or other barriers to learning may seek services and/or accommodations by contacting:
The Office for Students with Disabilities, (OSD) www.uta.edu/disability or calling 817-272-3364.

Counseling and Psychological Services, (CAPS) www.uta.edu/caps/ or calling 817-272-3671.

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.

Title IX:

The University of Texas at Arlington does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, disabilities, genetic information, and/or veteran status in its educational programs or activities it operates. For more information, visit uta.edu/eos. For information regarding Title IX, visit www.uta.edu/titleIX.

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.

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 http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/resources/index.php

Additional Information:

Faculty members should feel free to incorporate any of the following information into your course syllabus or other course materials.

Library Home Page	http://www.uta.edu/library
Subject Guides.....	http://libguides.uta.edu
Subject Librarians	http://www.uta.edu/library/help/subject-librarians.php
Course Reserves	http://pulse.uta.edu/vwebv/enterCourseReserve.do
Library Tutorials	http://www.uta.edu/library/help/tutorials.php
Connecting from Off- Campus.....	http://libguides.uta.edu/offcampus
Ask A Librarian.....	http://ask.uta.edu

Emergency Phone Number: ..... 911 or 817.272.3003
Non-Emergency UTA PD:..... 817.272.3381