ARCH 2410: ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN I

AUSTIN E. KNOWLTON SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE  THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

Architecture 2410 is the first studio of the second year of the undergraduate architecture curriculum at the Knowlton School of Architecture. Following the preparatory first year of general education requirements, the second year begins the architecture curriculum in earnest. The curriculum can be summarized as follows: second year studios focus on issues of technique with support courses in graphics and architectural history, third year studios focus on issues of materiality with support courses in construction and structures, and fourth year studios focus on issues of organization with support seminars in technology and history / theory.

TECHNIQUE

Essential to architectural design is a facility with and understanding of the techniques that comprise its practice. Architects, after all, do not make buildings; they use various techniques to make drawings and models of buildings. Drawings and models abstract the world, foregrounding some aspects of it while placing others in the background. A model, for example, provides a better sense of a project’s massing than a plan, while a plan gives a better sense of a project’s organization, and neither can evoke the spatial experience of a perspective. Effectively deploying techniques requires the development of skills, but more importantly, it requires the marshaling of those skills with a fluid intelligence as the designer abstracts from the world while engaging with the world. Design is not the illustration of thought or action; it is a mode of thought in action.

Following the student’s developing skills in the concurrent representation course sequence, second year projects begin with an emphasis on techniques of modeling and drawing accompanied by critical inquiry and move to large-scale installations in the spring semester. Thus, the spring semester project completes a cycle of abstraction and engagement and provides a bridge to the third year’s emphasis on material issues.

POLICIES

Format
Studio meetings will generally be of two types: collective pin-ups and smaller group discussions. Individual desk critiques may happen occasionally; when they do they will typically be at the end of a project. Students should be prepared to be in studio for the entirety of class time and must be ready to present at the beginning of class. Studios are based upon ongoing research. Successful completion of assignments and requirements are subject to the discoveries of previous work. All communication with the studio instructor should be carefully considered, as it will be critical to evolving directions and assignments. Students must check their university email daily.

Deadlines
Students who miss deadlines due to valid extenuating circumstances may submit the required work at a date agreed upon with the instructor. University regulations limit such circumstances to serious personal illness and death in the immediate family, and both cases require written documentation: a doctor’s note or a newspaper obituary. Unexcused late projects are not accepted, incomplete projects are evaluated in relation to their degree of completion, and a student is present only if he or she presents sufficient work to the instructor. A student will be warned by email after the first unexcused absence; a student’s grade will drop one letter grade after the second unexcused absence; and a student with three unexcused absences will be immediately dismissed and given an “F.”

Documentation
Students must provide hardcopy and digital reproductions of all final projects. Hardcopy reproductions will consist of images of all final models and 8.5x11 reproductions of all presentation drawings. Digital reproductions of both models (as jpegs) and drawings (as PDFs) will be stored on CD’s, one CD per student. Students must place documentation in their instructor’s KSA office mailboxes by 5 PM Friday, December 6. Failure to meet this deadline will result in a grade of "incomplete."

Evaluation
Studio work is both individual and collective. Criteria of evaluation include not only individual design excellence, but also a student’s contributions to the studio through collective research, documentation and discussions. Grading is based on a comparison with other students in the course, with students who have taken the course previously, and with the instructors’ expectations relative to the objectives of the course. Projects are reviewed by juries that may
include instructors or designers from both within or outside of the KSA. For an "A", the student must satisfy the course objectives excellently; for a "B", in an above average manner; for a "C" in an average manner; for a "D" in the lowest acceptable manner; and an "F" denotes that the student has not satisfied the course objectives.

Sexual Harassment
O.S.U.’s Sexual Harassment policy, which applies to all faculty, staff, and students, includes lewd remarks and inappropriate comments made in the studio environment, classroom, and computer labs as well as the "display of inappropriate sexually oriented materials in a location where others can see it." Students can file a complaint by contacting Student Judicial Affairs at 292-0748. Sanctions include reprimand, suspension, and dismissal from the University.

Students with Disabilities
If a student requires accommodation for a disability, he or she should immediately arrange an appointment with the professors and the Office for Disability Services. At the appointment, the professors, disability counselors, and student can discuss the course format, anticipate needs and decide upon accommodations. Professors rely on the Office for Disability Services for assistance in verifying the need for accommodations and developing accommodation strategies.

Student Safety
University escort service provides safe transportation 7:30AM-3AM. Call 292-3322.

Studio Behavior
Students must work in the studio, because of the collaborative nature of research and the shared development of techniques. Students are responsible for keeping their areas clean, their floors free from obstructions, and all studio furniture in good condition and original location. All presentation materials must be removed from review spaces following reviews and all studio materials must be removed from the building at the close of every quarter. Students may, however, store material in their credenzas over winter and spring breaks.

Studies are inspected on the last day of final exams – negligent students are subject to grade withholding and maintenance costs. Also note:

• The following items are prohibited in Knowlton Hall: non-KSA furniture, liquor, weapons, bicycles, skateboards, rollerblades, and pets.
• The following tools are prohibited in Knowlton Hall: spray paints, foam cutter wands, welding devices, heat guns, and any flame or gaseous liquid device.
• The following safety compliances must be observed: electrical power cords cannot be connected in a series or extend over traffic areas; fire extinguishers must remain accessible and in full view; access to stairwells, corridors, and aisles must maintain a 44” clear width and handrails must be unobstructed.
• Building surfaces cannot be marked, anchored to, or penetrated.
• Installations may not occur in any part of the building except by permission of the KSA Building Coordinator.
• Power tools are restricted to the shop except when permission is granted by the KSA Building Coordinator.
• Loud noise is forbidden.
• Graffiti and vandalism are grounds for disciplinary action.

KSA STUDIO CULTURE POLICIES

The Knowlton School of Architecture (KSA) educates students to shape and serve the architectural profession, contribute to the intellectual and creative purposes of the University, and promote the improvement of design on the campus, in the region, and in the world. KSA is a learning environment that values optimism, respect, collaboration, engagement, and innovation.

Studio
The design studio is a central feature of the KSA architecture curriculum and a unique educational model. It is a place of exchange: studio projects are common ground for discussion and all studio members participate in their evolution.
Critique is intrinsic to project development and an opportunity for students to join with peers, faculty, and guest critics in an open spirit of innovation. Critique also allows students to appreciate how their work can be interpreted from different, often unanticipated, perspectives.

Intellectual Diversity
KSA values the intellectual diversity of its faculty and students, and supports diverse approaches to studio instruction. A respect for individual rights is the foundation of an intellectual community, and all members of the community conduct themselves with the highest ethical principles and regard for others.

Collaboration
Design studios promote collaborative learning experiences that strengthen design solutions and anticipate professional practice. Students working jointly on one design problem learn how to work with others in successful collaboration. Students working on individual design solutions learn from and are supported by peers outside class time as well as faculty during class time. KSA values the involvement of other disciplines and professionals who contribute knowledge from unique perspectives.

Interdisciplinary Opportunity
KSA supports and encourages interdisciplinary research and design opportunities through which students acquire a broad range of skills and experiences.

Leadership
Students are encouraged to engage in school and community organizations and have a variety of opportunities to do so through active roles in committees, events, and service projects. Involvement in organizations such as AIAS, SERVitecture, and Habitat for Humanity enhance the learning environment and expand abilities.

Healthy Lifestyle
KSA recognizes that time management is central to a rewarding design education and a healthy lifestyle. KSA encourages faculty to guide students in developing the capacity to reconcile competing demands in their work and lives, while encouraging students to engage the wide range of opportunities available at The Ohio State University.

Integrity
KSA holds its students to the highest standards of academic integrity in their school work and ethical conduct in their daily lives. These standards are to guide behavior in all aspects of school life: fulfilling course assignments, maintaining buildings and equipment, interacting with peers, staff, and faculty; and behavior within the building and the broader academic and civic community.

SCHEDULE

TBD