Topics in Building Technology: Drawing/Building

This seminar will convene a group of students who are interested in both practicing and discussing the use of the hand and the two-dimensional surface in making and observing the built world. Computers and other digital tools will be allowed and even encouraged at times—the interaction between the mind, the hand and the tools will be a topic of discussion.

Course Objectives:

Students in this seminar will discuss and practice various drawing techniques that are related to the production of architecture. Techniques such as perspective and paraline projection will be introduced and exercises and projects will be produced. Drawing will be studied as a means and an end through the study of projective systems, graphic analysis, and issues of representation in both art and architecture.

Expected Outcomes:

It is expected that students will begin the semester with varying levels of experience in the techniques of the class. Working from those individual starting points, each student will have demonstrated improvement and will have pursued new or deepened knowledge of the skills and ideas considered in the class.

It is expected that three projects will be developed, each with discrete exercises leading up to a final product. The work will engage:

1. Existing objects or spaces that we can physically observe
2. Works of architecture and art that may not be present in our location, but for which we have documentation
3. Exploration of form and material as a means of investigation architectural ideas.

Anticipated Schedule:

Part One, four weeks: Freehand Drawing: objects and space

Part Two, five weeks: Constructed Three Dimensional Drawings: Idea and Perception

Part Three, five weeks: Projection and exploration: Rules and no rules

READINGS AND REFERENCES

Although we will mainly spend time drawing in and outside of the class hours, there may be some readings about the history and theory of the representation and investigation techniques we will be using. "How-to" texts are available in the library as well. A bibliography will be posted on Carmen.

Some of the architects, artists and writers we will consider are:

Architects
Preston Scott Cohen    Michael Young    Steven Holl
Andrew Zago    Lewis Tsurumaki Lewis    Daniel Castor
Thom Mayne    Diller and Scofidio    And others.
John Hejduk    Perry Kulper
Jesse Reiser

And, of course: Stirling, Scarpa, Kahn, Le Corbusier, Wright. And others.

**Writers:**
Robin Evans    Massimo Scolari (also and architect)    And others.
Jeff Kipnis

**Artists:**
Jan Dibbets    Bryce Marden    Picasso
Richard Diebenkorn    Richard Serra    And others.
Marcel Duchamp    Mondrian

**Equipment**
In order to produce the work for the course, students will need the following items:

- A drawing board and a large pad of good quality drawing paper. Examples will be shown in class.
- A small sketchbook dedicated to this class. The sketches in it might sometimes pertain to other work—but it should be dedicated to issues of representation.
- Constructed drawings will require the use of a means of drawing parallel lines and precise angles. Drafting equipment such as a parallel rule, adjustable triangle, drafting pencils, erasing shields, erasers, are all encouraged—a computer might be used to duplicate the hand construction, and some equipment may be available to borrow. We will discuss this in class.

**General POLICIES**

**Course Format:** Seminar meetings will be of two types: collective meetings that engage course material as a group, and sessions that engage individual efforts. Collective meetings include discussions, pin-ups and reviews. Students must check their university email daily for information related to the course. I will use Carmen to post links and disseminate some types of material and information to the group—I recommend that you subscribe to Carmen so that you get a message when updates are made to the course site.

**KSA Lecture Series:** You are expected to attend and participate in the KSA Lecture Series. The Series is an invaluable source of information made easily accessible.

**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 of an immediate family member, and both cases require written documentation: a doctor’s note or a newspaper obituary. Unexcused late projects will not be accepted, incomplete projects will be 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 can be immediately dismissed and given an “F.”

**Documentation:** Students must provide digital documentation of work at the end of the semester. The specifications will be given at the end of the semester, to be handed in to Carmen or another online location. Documentation will be due at the end of final exams. If not received as specified and in a timely manner, one grade level will be lost.

**Evaluation:** Grades will be based on engagement, effort, improvement and quality of work. Quality is a somewhat subjective category, and will be judged through class discussions, guest reviewer comments, comparison to example work shown in class, and the experience of the instructor in previous similar courses. 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:** Any student who feels s/he may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact me privately to discuss your specific needs. Please contact the Office for Disability Services at 614-292-3307 in room 150 Pomerene Hall to coordinate reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities.

**Studio Safety:** To provide the best education, the KSA must act as a community. As such, its members (faculty, students, and staff) must respect and watch out for each other. The studio is available for KSA students 24/7. The University escort service provides safe transportation to and from Knowlton Hall 7:30AM-3AM. Call 292-3322.

**Studio Behavior:** Students must work in the studio (or computing lab) during class time. Students are responsible for keeping their areas clean, their floors free from obstructions, and all studio furniture in good condition and its 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 semester. Students may, however, store material in their credenzas over winter and spring breaks. Studios are inspected on the last day of final exams – negligent students are subject to grade withholding and maintenance costs. Please also note:

1. The following items are prohibited in Knowlton Hall: non-KSA furniture, liquor, weapons, bicycles, skateboards, rollerblades, and pets.
2. The following tools are prohibited in Knowlton Hall: spray paints, foam cutter wands, welding devices, heat guns, and any flame or gaseous liquid device.
3. The following tools are prohibited in Knowlton Hall: spray paints, foam cutter wands, welding devices, heat guns, and any flame or gaseous liquid device.
4. 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.
5. Building surfaces cannot be marked, anchored to, or penetrated.
6. Installations may not occur in any part of the building except by permission of Philip Arnold, KSA Building Coordinator.
7. Power tools are restricted to the mat/fab lab except by permission of Philip Arnold, KSA Building Coordinator.
8. Loud noise is forbidden.
9. Graffiti and vandalism are grounds for disciplinary action.