

ARCH 574 The Urban Studio

ILLINOIS SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE, UIUC

Instructor: Kevin Hinders khinders@illinois.edu

Credit: 6 hours

Term Offered: Fall 2018

Location: 224 S. Michigan Ave, Chicago Illinois

Studio Days and Time: TWTh 1:30-6

PREMISE AND DESCRIPTION

Introduction

A strategic alliance between Academia and Practice has been established in downtown Chicago. This unique 'intersection' of collaboration has yielded a new program: The Chicago Studio of the University of Illinois Urbana Champaign. This collaborative alliance resulted in a more meaningful project and a more significant experience for students and professionals compared to traditional studio approaches. The Program is located in a dedicated studio/seminar space with over 2000 square feet area on the 13th floor of the VOA, Associates, Incorporated's Chicago office located at 224 South Michigan Avenue.

The Project

The Chicago Studio has been asked by the Chicago Department of Planning and Development (DPD) to explore principles and make observations on best practices for Affordable Housing. The studio will undertake 3 to 4 different studies on 3-4 sites identified by the Chicago Housing Authority (CHA). The Chicago Housing Authority will discuss their sites and share their goals for the identified sites.

Students will meet five architecture firms who are well versed in Affordable Housing. These include: Landon Bone Baker, UrbanWorks, Booth Hansen and Weese, Langley Weese, LTD. And Stantec. These firms have agreed to work with us and share their knowledge on affordable housing in Chicago. It is anticipated these firms will participate in reviews throughout the semester.

We have also enlisted the insights of two real estate development firms: Related Midwest and Evergreen RE Group. These firms offer their experience and ideas on affordable housing and development in the city. Both firms have worked with the architects listed above.

We have also reached out to the Metropolitan Planning Council which may provide us with community advocacy contacts. This area needs further exploration and will be further explored as the sites become fixed.

Schedule

1. Students research case studies (ideally those done by the firms as well as others).

PRESENTATION OF CASE STUDIES: SEPTEMBER 20

2. Students then undertake a design for a property that we identify on CHA land.

Sites will be associated with Chicago Housing Authority properties.

MID TERM PRESENTATION OF DESIGN PROJECTS: OCTOBER 18

FINAL PRESENTATION OF DESIGN PROJECTS: NOVEMBER 15

3. From these designs the students begin to create a set of design guidelines. This would happen with the insights provided by the professional participants, including the developers.

FINAL PRESENTATION OF SEMESTER'S WORK: DEC 12- Lessons Learned- Principles and Observations of Best Practice in Affordable Housing

Grading

The School of Architecture is required to collect and archive selected student work for an upcoming accreditation visit by the National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB). For this purpose or for other uses related to publicity and display, student work in the form of drawing sheets/boards, physical models, and digital documentation may be retained by the School at the end of the semester. Students will be given an opportunity to document this work for their portfolios before it is collected.

Letter grades for this course are established as follows:

Excellent (A+, A, A-): Student's work is of exceptional quality, and solutions to the problems show a depth of understanding of the project requirements. Project is fully developed and presented well, both graphically and orally. Student has developed a strong and appropriate concept that clearly enhances the overall solution. The full potential of the problem has been realized and demonstrated.

Good (B+, B, B-): Student's work shows above-average understanding and clear potential. All project requirements are fulfilled and are clearly and concisely presented.

Fair (C+, C, C-): Student's work meets minimum course objectives and solves major problem requirements. Work shows normal understanding. Quality of project, as well as the development of knowledge and skills, is average.

Poor (D+, D, D-): Student's work shows limited understanding and/or effort. Minimum problem requirements have not been met. Quality of project, as well as development of skills, is below average. This is the lowest passing grade.

Failure (F): Student's work is unresolved, incomplete and/or unclear. Minimum course objectives or project requirements are not met, and student's work shows lack of understanding and/or effort. Quality of project or performance is not acceptable. This grade is not acceptable for degree credit.

Course Evaluations will be based on the following criteria:

Preparation for Class

1. Students shall be prepared for each class period. Faculty shall not accept a student's verbal explanation of a concept without supporting visual material as a basis for design criticism. To that end, an instructor shall not engage in critique of a student's work without two- and/or three-dimensional evidence of the development of a design, be it in a desk crit, pin-up, or review. A student should not expect to receive design critiques unless clear development of the project has been made since previous discussions.
2. Students should not expect faculty to provide concepts, ideas or designs; students must originate these.
3. Faculty shall engage in dialogue with students to facilitate the development of students'

- design ideas.
4. The studio critic's role is to extend a student's thinking and challenge a student to explore and substantiate his/her design. Critiques will prompt students to explore an in-depth understanding of the ramifications of design concepts and their development.

Attendance Policy

Attendance is required. Notification in writing must be given to instructor for approval two weeks in advance for any anticipated absence (i.e. field trips, personal, etc.) Please see the School Policy on Attendance included below. The policy states that one class due to unexcused absence effects the grade of the person missing class.

If you miss class for any reason excused or unexcused it is your responsibility to make up any work that you have missed. It is not the responsibility of the instructor to seek you out to see if you are aware of what you missed. Rather it is your responsibility to seek out the instructor to find out what you have missed.

An absence does not excuse you from the content that was presented in your absence or assignments that were due on the date of your absence.

If your **absence was excused** you must meet with the instructor to determine due dates for work you missed.

If your **absence was unexcused** you are responsible for turning work in on the previously determined due date.

School Policy on Attendance (ISoA)

1. Attendance is required at all classes and all required external events. Unexcused absences equaling the number of one week's class meetings will result in a full letter grade reduction for the semester (e.g.: three absences for a three time a week class, two for a two- time a week class, etc.). Any additional unexcused absence beyond this amount will result in a failing grade.
3. Students must attend all classes, reviews, pin-ups, lectures, field trips, etc. in their entirety. If a student arrives late or leaves early, without the consent of the instructor, (s)he is considered absent for the entire class. Repeated patterns of late arrival or early departure will be noted and considered as unexcused absences.
4. An absence may be excused for medical emergencies or family emergencies only. These emergencies must be supported by proper documentation, such as a doctor's note on letterhead or an obituary. The student is responsible for providing proper documentation for the absence to the instructor, and must do so prior to the end of the current semester. The student is also solely responsible for arranging for materials, etc. from a class (s)he has missed.
5. An absence will not be considered an excused absence if it is for any other reason including: work, vacation, or computer failure.
6. Students who wish to observe their religious holidays shall notify the faculty member by the tenth day of the semester of the date when they will be absent unless the religious holiday is observed on or before the tenth day of the semester. In such cases, the student shall notify the faculty member at least five days in advance of the date when he/she will be absent.
7. Attendance is required at all scheduled studio reviews for the full time period of the reviews.

Late Work

All assignments are due at the specified date and time indicated by the instructor. Deadlines for assignments will be strictly enforced, with late work resulting in grade penalties as follows:

1. Work submitted late (after the assigned deadline, but within 24 hours) shall be penalized one full letter grade (from B+ to C+, for example).
2. Work submitted more than 24 hours late shall be penalized two full letter grades (from B+ to D+, for example).
3. Work submitted more than 48 hours late is not acceptable and may receive a failing grade.
4. Students must have all presentation materials prepared and displayed on time for reviews. Missing a scheduled presentation time and/or not presenting at a project review without approval from the instructor is the equivalent of missing an exam, and shall be graded accordingly.

NOTE:

This syllabus is for general use. The instructor reserves the right to alter syllabus content as needed throughout the semester. Written notice via email and verbal announcement will serve to alert students to any alteration in the syllabus.