

ARC 2304

Architectural Design Four

Spring 2021

Introduction

Architectural Design 4 is the final studio in the lower-division sequence. In this studio, we will re-visit subjects and techniques cultivated in your previous three studios. We will continue the study of context, referencing and developing the issues and strategies that informed your work in Design 3. This is critical to engaging the assignments in Design 4, as we will be introducing new ideas, catalysts and methods of inquiry that are simultaneously reliant upon and extend beyond the foundational skills of D1, D2 and D3.

The primary conceptual issues of the term revolve around context, architectural language, issues of representation and synthesis of program, space, tectonics and occupation. Additionally, this studio will reinforce the importance of an iterative design process – you should expect to think through making, and rethinking by remaking. There will be an emphasis on hybrid digital/analog methods as well as an exploration of digital media and refined methods of physical modeling.

Goals and Objectives

- To develop and refine an architectural language.
- To engage “program” as a generator for design thinking
- To reinforce and refine the design process / methodology, particularly an iterative process
- To examine methods of research and analysis which inform the development of architectural projects.
- To develop a broad understanding of context as a body of knowledge and a source for architectural ideas.
- To become more aware of the discipline of architecture and the associated instruments of investigation and representation.
- To develop the ability to work between appropriate analog and digital techniques.
- To engage and understand physical and digital modeling / drawings as inter-dependent processes.

Analytical Goals

- Develop communication skills that will enable you to evaluate complex contextual situations. You will be asked to collect, categorize, visualize, and manipulate information gathered from direct visual observation as well as from more distant sources. This more syntactic approach will be one of your first experiences regarding broader systemic analysis.
- Begin to construct the analytical activity as foregrounding design processes. This will establish a more comprehensive link between visual analysis and architecture.
- Establish that analytical activity can also be a programming strategy. This will connect context to program through analysis.

Projects and Schedule

Project 1: Vertical Datum / Derived context / Interstitial space / Lightness [7 weeks +/-]

Using the lessons from the first exercise, this project will address generative issues and relationships, infusing program as an active generator to spatial thinking. The project will be due prior to spring break, with a tentative review scheduled for **Friday, February 26**. Project development will oscillate between model and drawing, with emphasis on sectional development, generative programming, nodes of activity, and connective tectonic systems.

Project 2: Horizontal Datum / Constructed Landscape / Horizontality / Section [6 weeks +/-]

This project will begin the week before spring break, and pick up in intensity of work with the return from spring break and run for the remainder of the semester (approximately 5 weeks). This project will reinvest in the relationship of program as a generator and the potentials of operating within a specific context. There will be specific investment in developing a clear set of programmatic intentions, coupled with the architectural marking of site. This project will end with a formal review during class, scheduled for **Friday, April 9**. Pin-up up will occur the following week (April 14-16), Studios are required to be cleaned of all student materials and equipment by Monday, April 26.

Methodology

The studio will employ all reasonable means of study within the design process, including but not limited to hand sketching, orthographic drawing, montage/collage, physical and/or virtual modeling, digital image manipulation, etc. You are expected to give your fullest effort in this regard, and while this effort does not, in itself, guarantee excellent work, it does offer the greatest opportunity for design development through a rigorous process. As part of this process, you will be expected to record your work in a sketchbook, referencing your own understanding your own work.

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Selected texts and articles will accompany the specific projects, as will the respective class discussions and presentations. Student participation is highly encouraged and will be reflected in grading.

Attendance and Demeanor (for all sections)

The studio will meet Monday, Wednesday, and Friday in a three-period session each day, either in the morning (periods 4-6) or the afternoon (periods 7-9) depending on the section. Given the interactive nature of the studio environment, **attendance during this time is mandatory**. Failure to attend class or excessive tardiness will be reflected in your grade. **Three unexcused absences** will be grounds for immediate grade reduction and **four unexcused absences** will be grounds for failure. For an absence to be counted as excused, it must be registered at the earliest convenience possible and fall within reasonable expectations for excusal, such as illness (doctor's note is required), family emergencies, etc. It is your responsibility to get the assignments from your fellow students. Chronic lateness or leaving early will also affect your grade and tardiness of greater than 20 minutes will be counted as an unexcused absence. One note regarding reviews: It is never permissible to miss a review, nor is it acceptable to be late or to leave early during a review without prior consultation.

It is essential that you conduct yourself in an appropriate manner during all studio sessions and when working/interacting with one another outside of studio hours. Respect the fact that the work atmosphere must accommodate a range of tastes of music, language, public conduct and so forth. Regarding in-class behavior and etiquette, you are expected to be attentive to the exercises and discussions. This includes silencing your cell phones, avoiding in-coming calls that are not an emergency, avoiding texts and other social media distractions, etc. If you want undivided attention to your work, then you should afford the same attention to the daily activities of the studio. When working in studio outside of class, please respect the wishes of your fellow classmates by avoiding loud, boisterous or otherwise distracting activities (loud music, dancing, long personal cell-phone conversations, etc.). If you are requested to adjust your behavior, please do so. Be both courteous toward and tolerant of your peers. Remember, the studio is an academic workplace; it is not an extension of your private house or apartment.

Course Delivery:

This studio will be conducted with two synchronous methods of delivery, one face to face, and second online. Every attempt will be made to keep the two approaches in alignment in terms of exercises and resources, with the same degree of feedback, discussion and focus and with the same attention to course goals and objectives. Professional and courteous conduct and mutual respect is expected of all students in the studio during all sessions and communications.

Face to face instruction requirements:

There are specific issues for those in face to face sections regarding room use, from the University of Florida:

In response to COVID-19, the following policies and requirements are in place to maintain your learning environment and to enhance the safety of our in-classroom interactions.

- You are required to wear approved face coverings at all times during class and within buildings. Following and enforcing these policies and requirements are all of our responsibility. Failure to do so will lead to a report to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution.
- This course has been assigned a physical classroom with enough capacity to maintain physical distancing (6 feet between individuals) requirements. Please utilize designated seats and maintain appropriate spacing between students. Please do not move desks or stations.
- Sanitizing supplies are available in the classroom if you wish to wipe down your desks prior to sitting down and at the end of the class.
- Follow your instructor's guidance on how to enter and exit the classroom. Practice physical distancing to the extent possible when entering and exiting the classroom.
- If you are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms ([Click here for guidance from the CDC on symptoms of coronavirus](#)), please use the UF Health screening system and follow the instructions on whether you are able to attend class. [Click here for UF Health guidance on what to do if you have been exposed to or are experiencing Covid-19 symptoms](#).
- Course materials will be provided to you with an excused absence, and you will be given a reasonable amount of time to make up work. [Find more information in the university attendance policies](#).

Additionally, the College of Design, Construction and Planning has provided [guidelines for studio use and conduct](#), provided as an addendum to this syllabus. Please familiarize yourself with these guidelines and follow them as closely as possible.

Additional noted regarding Room Use

Since many students are working in the same room it is essential that you work quietly and unobtrusively, that you respect your fellow student's work, and that you clean up after you are finished. Please note that the College has a clear policy on the use of spray paints and other aerosols (matte spray for example). Aerosols are only to be used in the painting booth provided by the college for these purposes. Spray painting, or the use of any other sort of aerosol spray, is not allowed in the Architecture Building, Rinker Hall and in Fine Arts C, **except within the spray booth found in Room 211 of Fine Arts C**. Students violating this policy will be referred to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action.

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Online Delivery:

Online education is part of this studio and we will embrace its advantages. If you are part of the online section, you are expected to follow the same policies regarding attendance, conduct, sharing of work, etc. You are also expected to keep your camera on when possible, and actively engage in discussions and debates. All students will work in an online format at times. This will mean that all students will be expected to post work as requested to an online studio board (Miro is the likely destination). Though day-to-day studio sessions will not be recorded, specific discussions, presentations and reviews may be recorded. Students who participate with their camera engaged or utilize a profile image are agreeing to have their video or image recorded. If you are unwilling to consent to have your profile or video image recorded, be sure to keep your camera off and do not use a profile image. Likewise, students who un-mute during class and participate orally are agreeing to have their voices recorded. If you are not willing to consent to have your voice recorded during class, you will need to keep your mute button activated and communicate exclusively using the "chat" feature, which allows students to type questions and comments live. The chat will not be recorded or shared. As in all courses, unauthorized recording and unauthorized sharing of recorded materials is prohibited.

Communication

The studio environment is often one of open communication, and the very nature of critique is dependent on the open and sincere exchange of ideas. In this regard, you are encouraged to ask questions about assignments, exercises, concepts, methods, and expectations during class. It is likely that your classmates have similar questions. Emails are always welcome, as are visits during office hours (please try to send a note in advance). That noted, there may be more private communications that are necessary. If so, please reach out via email or Canvas to request an appointment.

Grading

Your efforts and evaluation on the cumulative body of work will account for 90% of your final grade. The remaining 10% will be based on in-class participation, attendance, effort and progress, and general attitude. While it may seem that the majority of your efforts will be reflected within the final product of each project, do keep in mind that the day-to-day interaction in studio and during presentations will have a significant impact on your final grade. The following listing of project grades should help to understand their breakdown and grading criteria.

To clarify the system of grading for studio classes:

A	Outstanding work only	C	Average Work
A-	Close to outstanding	C-	Average Work with some problems
B+	Very Good Work	D+	Poor Work with some effort
B	Good Work	D	Poor Work
B-	Good work with some problems	E	Grossly Deficient Work
C+	Slightly Above Average Work		

UF Grading Policy

Information on UF's grading policy for assigning grade points can be found at the following location:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

Grading Scale

Letter Grade	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	E
Numeric Grade	93-100	90-92	87-89	83-86	80-82	77-79	73-76	70-72	67-69	63-66	60-62	0-59
Quality Points	4.0	3.67	3.33	3.0	2.67	2.33	2.0	1.67	1.33	1.0	0.67	0.0

Safety

Woodshop orientations will be conducted in-class at the beginning of the term, and each of you will be encouraged to attend. If you choose to use the woodshop, please use every precaution. Please be aware of safety issues with tools, materials, or sprays you have not used before, and do not hesitate to ask for a refresher course. Please note that power tools are prohibited in the studio.

Policy on Retaining Work

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Please note that the University of Florida, College of Design, Construction, and Planning policy states that student's work may be retained indefinitely for academic purposes. You should be prepared for the instructor to ask that it be exhibited or photographed during or after the term. Having your work retained for photography or exhibition is evidence of its quality and value to the School. Not to worry, you will be able either to retrieve your original work or retrieve it temporarily to make copies or photograph it for your own personal purposes.

Regarding accommodations for students with disabilities

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the University of Florida Disability Resource Center by providing appropriate documentation (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/). Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

Online Course Evaluations

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. [Click here for guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner.](#) Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via ufl.bluer.com/ufl/. [Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students here.](#)

Required Texts

There is no specific textual source for this studio other than the following request:

A good dictionary – Random House, Webster, etc. – We are indifferent to specific brands and open to online resources and/or apps.

Other articles, essays, books, and other media resources may be required at specific moments during each project and will be made available, either in the studio directly, on reserve in the library, or posted to Canvas (if that resource is available for studio).

Academic Honesty

Students in the School of Architecture are expected to adhere to all University of Florida academic honesty policies. Failure to do so will result in lowered grades and/or referral to the University Honor Court. Since the University's policies are necessarily generalized, the School of Architecture further clarifies academic honesty within the specific setting of design education. The following acts are considered to be academic dishonesty:

1. Plagiarism/misrepresentation

There shall be no question of what your work is and what someone else's is. This applies to all aspects of student performance, including but not limited to

- CAD drawings and construction details
- design guidelines (written and graphic)
- design, planning, and management projects or portions of projects
- class reports and papers (again, both written and graphic information)
- any assignment where sole authorship is indicated, such as take-home tests, individual projects, etc.

Examples of inappropriate activities include:

- copying graphics for a report without crediting the original source
- representing someone else's work as your own (using existing CAD construction details, tracing drawings, etc.)
- allowing someone else to represent your work as his own

Given the collaborative nature of design studios, interaction between students is desirable, but the intention and degree of assistance must be appropriate. For example, it is appropriate to discuss the assignment/method/software program/course materials—but it is not appropriate to solve or resolve a large portion of the project together.

The importance of precedent and learning from past works is a necessary part of most design processes. Again, it is the intent and degree of "borrowing" ideas that is at question.

Anything not original must be paraphrased and cited, or quoted; using accepted style formats such as APA, MLA, Chicago Manual of Style, etc. This includes information obtained from the Internet, public documents, graphics, and personal interviews as well as more traditional written sources. Proper crediting of all information that is not common knowledge is necessary for academic honesty as well as for professionalism. (For example, analysis drawings and/or text should cite the sources from which data was obtained so that if questions arise later, they can be quickly and accurately answered.)

2. Multiple submissions of the same or similar work without prior approval

If the instructors understand that you are doing a paper associated with your thesis or senior project topic, then doing similar work for two different classes is acceptable—if the instructors agree to it. If a single paper is submitted for one class, then later is submitted for another, and the instructors expect original work, then the multiple submission is inappropriate.

3. Falsifying information

Examples include:

- misrepresenting reasons why work cannot be done as requested
- changing or leaving out data, such as manipulating statistics for a research project, or ignoring/hiding inconvenient but vital site information. (However, for educational purposes only, certain aspects of the "real world" may be jointly agreed upon as not being pertinent to the academic goals of the course, such as not dealing with specific project parameters or budget, changing the program, etc.)
- altering work after it has been submitted
- hiding, destroying, or otherwise making materials unavailable (hiding reference materials, not sharing materials with other students, etc.)

Counseling + Emergency Contacts

Health and Wellness:

U Matter, We Care: If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu, 352-392-1575, or visit [U Matter, We Care website](#) to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.

Counseling and Wellness Center: [Visit the Counseling and Wellness Center website](#) or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.

Student Health Care Center: Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need, or [visit the Student Health Care Center website](#).

University Police Department: [Visit UF Police Department website](#) or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).

UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center: For immediate medical care call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; [Visit the UF Health Emergency Room and Trauma Center website](#).

Academic Resources

E-learning technical support: Contact the [UF Computing Help Desk](#) at 352-392-4357 or via e-mail at helpdesk@ufl.edu.

Career Connections Center: Reitz Union Suite 1300, 352-392-1601. Career assistance and counseling services.

Library Support: Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

Teaching Center: Broward Hall, 352-392-2010 or to make an appointment 352- 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring.

Writing Studio: 2215 Turlington Hall, 352-846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.

Student Complaints On-Campus: [Visit the Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code webpage for more information](#).

On-Line Students Complaints: [View the Distance Learning Student Complaint Process](#).
