

Course Number: **ARC4930**
Course Title: **Architectural Research I: Special Studies**
Term: Offered Spring, Summer, and Fall Semesters
Credits: Variable, 1-6 credits
Grading Scheme: Letter grade or satisfactory/unsatisfactory (at discretion of student and faculty).
Meeting Times: As arranged with faculty.
Meeting Locations: As arranged with faculty.

Instructor: ARC faculty, as arranged with student.

Office Location: Refer to <https://dcp.ufl.edu/faculty/> for faculty office locations.
Email Address: Refer to <https://dcp.ufl.edu/faculty/> for faculty email addresses.
Telephone Number: Refer to <https://dcp.ufl.edu/faculty/architecture/> for faculty telephone numbers.

Teaching Assistant: Not applicable
TA Contact Info: Not applicable

Office hours: Refer to schedules posted on doors of faculty offices.

SYLLABUS

01. COURSE DESCRIPTION

The UF Undergraduate Course Catalog describes this course as follows: "Special studies adjusted to individual needs of undergraduate students."¹ This course is a special study of the discipline of architecture. It requires an independent inquiry into specific aspects of architectural design and research, with outputs and outcomes determined by individual faculty.

02. COURSE OBJECTIVES AND/OR GOALS

Course objectives and/or goals are developed by individual faculty and articulated through the "Individual/Special Studies Contract" that is jointly signed by faculty and students prior to the beginning of the semester. While specific objectives and goals will vary, all these special studies courses:

- Engage an area of architectural research and inquiry at an advanced level of work within existing undergraduate courses, or with an independent inquiry into architectural topics not otherwise covered in .
- Contribute to the exploration and development of the discipline of architecture.

03. WEEKLY COURSE SCHEDULE OF TOPICS AND ASSIGNMENTS

Weekly course schedule of topics will vary based on the projects developed by students. Students should consult with their faculty to create a structure and sequence of research activities. These may include (but are not limited to):

- Literature reviews
- Case study research and/or detailed study of precedent projects
- Ethical conduct of any work involving human subjects, in accordance with the UF Institutional Review Board (IRB)
- Iterative design thinking, evidenced through research work completed over the course of the semester
- Writing, speculative drawings, physical model-building, digital modelling, and/or large-scale installations, as deemed appropriate for the research work being conducted

04. METHODS BY WHICH STUDENTS WILL BE EVALUATED AND THEIR GRADE DETERMINED

Students will be evaluated by their faculty. Specific deliverables are articulated in the "Individual/Special Studies Contract" that is jointly signed by faculty and students prior to the beginning of the semester.

05. CLASS ATTENDANCE, MAKE-UP EXAMS, AND OTHER WORK

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in the course are consistent with university policies. See *UF Academic Policies and Resources* for more information regarding University Attendance Policies. <https://go.ufl.edu/syllabuspolicies>

¹ UF Undergraduate Catalog, Architecture: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/courses/architecture/>

06. LIST OF ALL REQUIRED AND RECOMMENDED TEXTBOOKS

This class does not have any required textbooks. Recommendations for supplemental reference materials, books, case studies, and precedent projects will be provided by individual faculty.

07. MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES FEES

This course includes and "Additional Course Fee" of \$10.00.

08. UF UNDERGRADUATE SCHOOL GRADING POLICIES FOR ASSIGNING GRADE POINTS

	Letter Grade	Numeric Grade	Grade Points	Qualitative Description
PASSING GRADES	A	100% to 94.0%	4.0	<i>Outstanding work only</i>
	A-	< 94.0% to 90.0%	3.67	<i>Close to outstanding</i>
	B+	< 90.0% to 87.0%	3.33	<i>Very good work</i>
	B	< 87.0% to 84.0%	3.0	<i>Good work</i>
	B-	< 84.0% to 80.0%	2.67	<i>Good work with some problems</i>
	C+	< 80.0% to 77.0%	2.33	<i>Slightly above average work</i>
	C	< 77.0% to 74.0%	2.0	<i>Average work</i>
FAILING GRADES	C-	< 74.0% to 70.0%	1.67	<i>Average work with some problems</i>
	D+	< 70.0% to 67.0%	1.33	<i>Poor work with some effort</i>
	D	< 67.0% to 64.0%	1.0	<i>Poor work</i>
	D-	< 64.0% to 61.0%	0.67	<i>Poor work with some problems</i>
	E	< 61.0% to 0.0%	0.0	<i>Inadequate work</i>

SUPPLEMENTAL COURSE INFORMATION

09. COURSE TECHNOLOGY

The UF Canvas e-learning portal will be used for sharing of certain common references available in electronic format. It will be accessible at <http://elearning.ufl.edu/>. Notify your faculty if you do not have access to the course. We will also use Zoom for synchronous online learning across multiple classroom locations. Links to the class Zoom meetings will be provided through Canvas.

10. UNIVERSITY POLICY ON ACADEMIC INTEGRITY + ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states: "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: 'On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.'" The Conduct Code specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. See the UF Conduct Code website for more information: <https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/process/student-conduct-code/>. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor in this class.

SUPPLEMENTAL SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE STATEMENTS:



Plagiarism includes the direct copying of text/images from other sources as well as minor alterations of work created by others (mirroring, application of visual effects/filters/distortions, etc.). Plagiarism is a serious offense and can lead to failure of the course and/or premature dismissal from the Graduate School. We expect that the work you prepare is wholly your own, created this semester for this course. You are expected to provide appropriate citations and/or credit for images, text references, and design influences, where appropriate. If you have any questions or concerns at any time, please consult your instructors.

Students in the School of Architecture are expected to adhere to all University of Florida academic honesty policies. 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:

A. Plagiarism / Misrepresentation

There should be no ambiguity around what work is your own as opposed to work created by others. 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 (written and graphic information)
- Any assignment where sole authorship is indicated or expected, 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.)
- Using the work of others with minor alterations (mirroring, application of visual effects/filters/distortions, etc.)
- Allowing someone else to represent your work as his/her 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 explicitly 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 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.

B. 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.

C. 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. In some cases, 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. These exclusions should always be explicitly articulated.
- Altering work after it has been submitted
- Hiding, destroying, or otherwise making materials unavailable (hiding reference materials, not sharing materials with other students, etc.)