

COMPREHENSIVE PROJECT PREPARATION

IARC 445 CRN 13124 // IARC 545 CRN 13132
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MEETING TIME: FRIDAY'S 9:00-11:50 am
CREDIT HOURS: 3
PREREQUISITES: Open to Interior Architecture Students eligible for enrollment in IARC 4/588 Winter Term 2009
GRADING SYSTEM: P/NP only
*445 - PASS requires minimum equivalent grade of C-
*545 - PASS requires minimum equivalent grade of B-

COURSE OBJECTIVES: To prepare for the Comprehensive Terminal Design Project in the winter and spring terms, this course focuses on *critical thinking and individual creativity* as a means to identify, research and prepare defining questions for sustained conceptual development and design investigation. Students will be guided through a series of varied and iterative assignments to aid in developing strong and meaningful conceptual design intentions for a new interior architecture project program. Project subjects may address the implications of theoretical, social, cultural and aesthetic design issues, as well as recognizing the importance of the existing building conditions within the surrounding urban, suburban or rural contexts. We will address and integrate information concerning user population/s, project programming, as well as beginning code and life safety issue research.

The final product for the term will be a written and graphic proposal. The written portion includes: a Statement of Intention with the critical questions to be explored in the project; a "short" and "long" program; the building history and site description; summaries of related research/case-studies/possible interviews; and a bibliography. The graphic portion includes: documentation in map format of the chosen location; different drawing formats showing neighborhood context; site and building context; existing "as-built;" and, images describing related research or inspirations. This research and writing work will be utilized, updated and added to during the following two-term design sequence.

COURSE CONTENT/METHODS: The course balances three types of work: student research, individual and group discussions, and public presentations. Students work to develop and strengthen their analysis and critique abilities through small group discussion, and through several writing exercises. Assignments aid in discovering how to formulate new ideas for design investigations, how to conceive of critical thesis questions and how to find and interpret information related to interior design program development. Methods for appropriate site and building selection as well as developing and refining project proposals are also presented to the class in various formal and less formal formats for critique and discussion.