This seminar explores 10 important contemporary architects for the principles and lessons they may provide for us as mentors:

**Design Process**
What process models have architects used to guide the thousand-fold decisions that form the basis of any building design? What characteristics do they share? In what order should design proceed?

**Architectural Ethic**
Is there such a thing as principles of duty associated with architecture?

**Design Principles**
What is the basis of good design? What does a conscientious body of considerations for design include? Are there recurring principles that apply to every building design?

**Vision**
What role does personal experience, intuition, or artistic license play regarding the conception of a building design?

**Media as Method**
What roles do the different types of drawings/models/precedents play regarding design process? Does the order in which we design suggest the scale of the media we use? What is the special province of the plan, the section, the facade?

**Critical Writings on Architecture**
What writings, lectures, essays or statements of manifesto help to define the architect’s architectural ethic? How is this influenced by history, culture, methods and materials of construction?

**Beauty**
Are there design principles associated with achieving beauty in architecture? Or is beauty purely a subjective matter? Does a conscientious design process help or hinder poetic effect? In short, how do we train ourselves (our design process) to achieve the one objective all architects claim is central to their mission: to design a place that will inspire and affect people in a deep and meaningful way?

**Seminar Structure**
Class will be conducted on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 10:00-11:20, Room 279, Lawrence Hall.

Readings will be assigned on a weekly basis and reviewed in class the following week. Each class will consist of lecture material and student discussion.

Each student will be required to choose an architect from a list distributed in class and write an in-depth analysis of that architect’s key buildings, design principles and design process. The content and format of the analysis will be assigned in class.