ARCH 283 -- ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN I -- W 2015
MWF 8:00-11:50
6 CREDITS

ARCHITECTURE 283 is an intensive twelve-hour-per-week studio course sequence organized around a series of design exercises that range in length from one day to four weeks to one term. The initial design challenge focuses on the introduction of basic design principles and compositional elements. This is followed by exercises that involve increasingly more comprehensive and complex issues of architectural design. All of the exercises build the development of a basic architectural language so that students gain experience in the use of architectural elements and design principles, and in making architectural design decisions.

The focus of ARCH 283 revolves around concepts that are fundamental to architectural design: architectural elements, place-making, spatial ordering, human activities and needs, and the iterative nature of the design process itself. At the same time, students are introduced to methods that enable them to develop their own problem-solving processes. They include hands-on making and drawing activities, verbal and graphic articulation of ideas and analyses, and observation studies. Case studies and the use of library resources are incorporated to expose students to the nature of architectural form, to expand students’ awareness of the diversity of possibilities inherent in architecture, and to introduce the key role of precedents in the architectural design process. The drawing skills and methods introduced in ARCH 202 will be reinforced in studio.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES
In this introductory studio, students learn about and apply the following:
• the attitude, awareness and work ethic required in the studio and in the design process;
• design problem-solving through idea generation, use of precedents, personal experience and observation, group discussions and critiques, research and analysis;
• a vocabulary of physical elements and design principles;
• place making, spatial ordering, accommodating human activities and needs;
• the nature of materials and forms employed in built environment.

TEXTS
REQUIRED
Architecture Form, Space and Order, Second Edition, Francis Ching
Building Construction Illustrated, Francis Ching
RECOMMENDED
Twenty Buildings Every Architect Should Understand, Simon Unwin

INSTRUCTORS
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