accomodate me,
accomodate we.

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M.Arch +3
This piece examines the way in which spaces are adapted to suit all body types. People with differing abilities are often addressed through industry standard building conventions that include a ramp, elevator, and automatic door to name a few.

My analysis embodies the ways in which interior spaces can be re-imagined thus addressing the needs of different body types, shapes and colors. This starts with the pieces’ spherical entryways that allow for comfortable entry for all shapes and sizes. The project includes rooms that feature embedded seating addressing circulation. This adaptation accommodates those who cannot access a traditional desk. I myself suffered from an injury in my teens where I now use an ergonomic desk. I understand the needs of those who may not appear outwardly as having different abilities or “disabilities” as society calls it. We often are predetermined as “not being capable” of getting things accomplished without accommodations when in fact we have thrived in situations where accommodations were never offered.

Finally, representation in the built environment matters. It influences which groups’ needs are met and are not. When we as designers choose to address and reflect diversity in our urban and regional plans, we shape the way those communities do or do not develop. My first semester at USC, I used abstraction of figures to represent society. These figures included different shapes of arms, hands, and legs symbolizing people that might have loss a leg in battle or an arm in an accident. I made sure to use colors of people who were ambiguously raced or had variety of skin tone to reflect changing demographics and blending communities of color.

I hope to convey the idea that architectural forms and mediums do not have to remain singular. A stairway can lead to a slide to accommodate different bodies. There is no “standard” convention to address diversity. The year is 2020...diversity is everywhere.