

University of Southern California
School of Architecture

ARCHITECTURE 106x – WORKSHOP IN ARCHITECTURE (2 UNITS)

Fall 2017, course 11202, Tuesdays 2:00 pm - 3:50 pm, WAH B7

Faculty: Susanna Woo Seierup Contact: seierup@usc.edu
Office hours: Tuesdays 11:00-12:00 pm, and by appointment

This course utilizes Blackboard online. Log in using your USC username and password at: <https://blackboard.usc.edu/>

Introduction and Purpose

This course is an introduction to the processes involved in the creation and understanding of architecture. The workshop, designed for architecture minors and non-architecture majors, is a project-based laboratory involving drawing and model making, with no previous design or drawing experience needed.

The course is structured around projects executed in class throughout the semester, a series of readings and responses, visits to sites of architectural interest and a term paper.

In this class, you will develop:

- A preliminary architectural vocabulary
- Basic 2D and 3D technical and freehand drawing skills
- Basic model making skills
- An understanding of the methods through which architecture communicates ideas and intentions
- An understanding of the role which architectural history plays in shaping the work of contemporary architects
- An understanding of how the architect conceives, creates and executes a project

Most of the learning in this course happens in class, through workshop projects and through exchange of ideas with your instructor and classmates. Therefore, participation and engagement in class are required. There is a natural progression to the classes; projects and readings build upon each other. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to meet with the instructor for instructions and materials to complete the missed assignment before the next class.

Course Requirements and Grading

Evaluation of workshop projects is based on effort, following instructions, exploration of course concepts, critical engagement in the process, neatness and care in execution of the projects.

General grade criteria:

- A Work that shows excellence in every aspect described above
- B Good quality work that may be deficient in some areas
- C Satisfactory work with obvious deficiencies
- D Minimal work necessary to pass
- F Failing work, not passing

Final course grade breakdown:

Workshop projects	50%
Final option (writing or drawing)	20%
Term paper	20%
Class participation and homework	10%

University Policies

Statement on Religious Observances: The University recognizes the diversity of our community and the potential for conflicts involving academic activities and personal religious observation. The university provides a guide to such observances for reference and suggests that any concerns about lack of attendance or inability to participate fully in the course activity be fully aired at the start of the term. As a general principle students should be excused from class for these events if properly documented and if provisions can be made to accommodate the absence and make up the lost work. Constraints on participation that conflict with adequate participation in the course and cannot be resolved to the satisfaction of the faculty and the student need to be identified prior to the drop add date for registration. After the drop add date the University and the School of Architecture shall be the sole arbiter of what constitutes appropriate attendance and participation in a given course. A list of university recognized religious holidays can be found at: http://www.usc.edu/programs/religious_life/calendar/

Statement for Students with Disabilities: Any student requesting academic accommodations based on a disability is required to register with Disability Services and Programs (DSP) each semester. A letter of verification for approved accommodations can be obtained from DSP. Please make sure this letter is delivered to the instructor as early in the semester as possible. DSP is located in STU 301 and is open 8:30AM-5PM, Monday through Friday. The phone number for DSP is (213) 740-0776.

Statement on Academic Integrity: USC seeks to maintain an optimal learning environment. General principles of academic honesty include the concept of respect for the intellectual property of others, the expectation that individual work will be submitted unless otherwise allowed by an instructor, and the obligations both to protect one's own academic work from misuse by others as well as to avoid using another's work as one's own. All students are expected to understand and abide by these principles. For assistance in avoiding plagiarism, see: http://www.usc.edu/student-affairs/student-conduct/ug_plag.htm. Scampus, the Student Guidebook, contains the Student Conduct Code in Section 11.00, while the recommended sanctions are located in Appendix A: <http://www.usc.edu/dept/publications/SCAMPUS/gov/>. Students will be referred to the Office of Student Judicial Affairs and Community Standards for further review, should there be any suspicion of academic dishonesty. The Review process can be found at: <http://www.usc.edu/student-affairs/SJACS/>

Schedule (subject to change)

*readings will be posted online at <https://blackboard.usc.edu/>

Phase 1: Observation and freehand skill development

- Week 01, 8/22: **WORKSHOP 1:** *Blind Drawing #1, Blind Drawing #2*
READING for Week 02: Peter Zumthor, "A Way of Looking at Things", *A+U*, February 1998, pp. 6-24.
HOMEWORK: collect 12 sticks and 12 stones (**see SUPPLY LIST on back page for specifics, as well as other supplies needed by next week**)
- Week 02, 8/29: **WORKSHOP 2:** *Sticks and Stones Model*
READING for Week 04: Francis D. K. Ching, *Architecture: Form, Space and Order*, Chapter 3: Form and Space, pp. 91-99; Leland M. Roth, *Understanding Architecture: Its Elements, History and Meaning*, Introduction, pp. 3-10.
HOMEWORK: Purchase all **remaining** supplies on supply list.
- Week 03, 9/5: **WORKSHOP 3:** *Negative Space Drawing*
READING for Week 04: Leland M. Roth, *Understanding Architecture: Its Elements, History and Meaning*, Chapter 1: "Commodite": How Does the Building Function?, pp. 11-23 and Chapter 3: "Delight": Space in Architecture, pp. 55-66.
- Week 04, 9/12: **LECTURE 1:** Observing Architecture: Prehistory to Renaissance
READING for Week 05: Jonathan F. P. Rose, "Come Together: Integrating Design", *Harvard Design Magazine*, Fall 2007/Winter 2008, pp. 60-64.

Week 05, 9/19: **SITE VISIT:** TBD
READING for Week 06: Leland M. Roth, *Understanding Architecture: Its Elements, History and Meaning*, Chapter 4: "Delight": Seeing Architecture, pp. 67-102.

Phase 2: Architectural program and orthographic drawing

Week 06, 9/26: **WORKSHOP 4:** Sticks and Cubes Model: Exploring Architectural Program
READING for Week 07: Jonathan Friedman, *Creation in Space: Fundamentals of Architecture*, "Projecting", pp. 38-39 and "Planimetrics", pp. 150-151. **Have available for reference at the next two class sessions.**

Week 07, 10/3: **WORKSHOP 5a:** *Plan, Section and Elevation Drawings*
DISCUSSION OF TERM PAPER REQUIREMENTS
READING for Week 08: Leland M. Roth, *Understanding Architecture: Its Elements, History and Meaning*, Chapter 2: "Firmeness": Structure, or How Does the Building Stand Up? pp. 25-54

Week 08, 10/10: **WORKSHOP 5b:** *Plan, Section and Elevation Drawings*
READING for Week 09: Steen Eiler Rasmussen, *Experiencing Architecture*, Chapter V: Scale and Proportion, pp. 104-126.

Week 09, 10/17: **LECTURE 2:** Observing Architecture: Pre-modern to contemporary
READING for Week 10: TBD

Week 10, 10/24: **FILM and in-class response**
READING for Week 11: Francis D. K. Ching, *Architecture: Form, Space and Order*, Chapter 4: Organization, pp. 176-189.

Phase 3: Integrating program and site; perspective drawing

Week 11, 10/31: **WORKSHOP 6a:** *Final Project: Designing with Site and Program*
READING for Week 12: Leland M. Roth, *Understanding Architecture: Its Elements, History and Meaning*, Chapter 7: Architecture: Part of the Natural Environment. pp. 136-151.

Week 12, 11/7: **WORKSHOP 6b:** *Final Project: Designing with Site and Program*
READING for Weeks 13 and Week 14: TBD

Week 13, 11/14: **WORKSHOP 7a:** *Perspective Drawing*

Week 14, 11/21: **WORKSHOP 7b:** *Perspective Drawing*

Week 15, 11/30: **DUE: Term Paper**
Final Project presentation and review

Final Exam (Time slot used for project turn-in): Thursday, Dec 7, 2016, 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

SUPPLY LIST

Found Items:

1. 12 sticks: approximately 6" long with approximately 1/4" diameter
2. 12 stones: approximately 1" diameter

Items to Purchase:

	Item	Description	Recommended Brand
3.	Drawing Pad	14" x 17", 24 sheets max.	Strathmore, must be wire-bound at top
4.	Fine point, felt-tip pen	black, non-permanent ink	Pilot Razor Point, Niji Stylist, etc.
5.	Foam core board	20" x 30" x 3/16" thick WHITE	
6.	White tacky glue	2 or 4 oz., quick-drying	Aleen's Quick Dry (silver bottle)
7.	THIN artists tape	1/4" in width	(white ARTISTS TAPE is good)
8.	6 (six) Basswood sticks	1/4" x 1/4" x 24"	
9.	Retractable blade knife	light-duty, snap-off blades	X-Acto X3244 or Olfa standard duty
10.	Metal ruler with cork back	18" long (additional 6" or 12" ruler can be useful but is optional)	
11.	Pencil	4H, wood barrel	Prismacolor, Mars or Staedtler
12.	Pencil	2H, wood barrel	Prismacolor, Mars or Staedtler
13.	Pencil	HB, wood barrel	Prismacolor, Mars or Staedtler
14.	Eraser	white plastic	Magic Rub, Mars or Staedtler, Pentel
15.	Pencil sharpener	with receptacle	

