



Philadelphia University
Faculty of Engineering
Department of Architecture
1st Semester, 2011/2012

Course Syllabus

Course Title: architectural design 1	Course code: 660150
Course Level:	Course prerequisite (s) and/or co-requisite (s):
Lecture Time: Su 9-13, Tu 9-12 Room: 302	Credit hours: 4

Academic Staff Specifics

Name	Rank	Office Number and Location	Office Hours	E-mail Address
Sami Khoury MSc	Teacher	No.: 61 - 312		

Course module description:

Introduction of the essential elements of form and space and the principles of their design.

Course module objectives:

- To introduce students to a completely new subject, developing and making them capable to deal with design elements, principles and tools to creative thinking.
- To transfer students cognitive and imaginative thinking to visualize drawings that express their personality, appropriate to environment and society.
- To upgrade students abilities to distinguish between alternatives and requirements.
- To provide students with means of communication and cognition and make them capable to present visual drawings.

Course / module components:

- **Books (title , author (s), publisher, year of publication)**
No limitations for books and publications for the subject. Students are advised to read list of publications (books as seen at the end of the course syllabus).
- **Support material:** students have to develop their architectural culture by visits to different local and foreign cities, new architectural complexes and landscapes in addition to web sites, reading, architectural and design magazines, etc.

- **Homework and laboratory guide:** students are requested to prepare a sketch book that contains the sketches, descriptions, analysis and drawings.

Teaching methods:

The course consists of two integrated parts: theoretical part about architectural solutions to formal problems using architectural examples of the protagonists of modernism, Le Corbusier, Mies van der Rohe, Frank Lloyd Wright and Louis Kahn. The examples are in relation to the organization of form (centralization, linearity, radial, group), roads (approach, entrance, routing), proportion (proportioning systems) and ordering principles (axis, symmetry, hierarchy, rhythm, repetition) categorized. The second part is a practical implementation (drawing, analyzing, describing and a long term project).

Learning outcomes:

- *Knowledge and understanding*
To build up abilities in design principles, means and creativity.
- *Cognitive skills (thinking and analysis)*
To make students capable of dealing with architectural design requirements.
- *Communication skills (personal and academic)*
Architectural students will be able to communicate, read, use resources (books, magazines, web sites, etc.) related to architecture, interpret and explain their designs.
- *Transferable Skills*
Training for design ideas by using proper methods.

Assessment instruments

- Sketches, description, analysis and architectural design project. Projects are evaluated by a jury committee and instructors.
- Final examination according to the following table:

<u>Allocation of Marks</u>	
Assessment Instruments	Mark
First examination (Analysis + Concept)	%20
Second examination (Mid-term presentation)	%20
Final examination (jury and discussion)	%60
Total	%100

Documentation and academic honesty

Students are requested to illustrate references extracted from books, magazine or web sites, in order to respect the copyright protection and avoid plagiarism.

Course / module academic calendar

Week	Basic and support material to be covered	Homework/reports and their due dates
(1)	Study plan presentation Requested instruments Introductory Lecture	
(2)	Arch. solutions to formal problems Analysis (sketches, description)	
(3)	Arch. solutions to formal problems Analysis (sketches, description)	
(4)	Project start	
(5)		
(6) First examination	Concept presentation	
(7)		
(8)		
(9)		
(10)		
(11) Second examination	Mid-term presentation	
(12)		
(13)		
(14)		
(15) Specimen examination (Optional)		
(16) Final Examination	Final presentation (jury and discussion)	

Expected workload:

On average, students need to spend 2 hours of study and preparation for each 50-minute lecture/tutorial.

Attendance policy:

Absence from lectures and/or tutorials shall not exceed 15%. Students who exceed the 15% limit without a medical or emergency excuse acceptable to and approved by the Dean of the relevant college/Faculty shall not be allowed to take the final examination and shall receive a mark of zero for the course. If the excuse is approved by the Dean, the student shall be considered to have withdrawn from the course.

Module references

Books

- **Francis, Ching** (2007): *Architecture: form, space and order*, third edition, John Wiley & Sons Inc., Hoboken, New Jersey.
- **Baker, Geoffrey H** (1993): *Design Strategies in Architecture and Approach to the Analyses of Form*, Van Nostrand Reinhold, New York.
- **Laseau, Paul** (1989): *Graphic Thinking for Architects and Designers*, Van Nostrand Reinhold, New York.