

48.105

Course Description

The study of architecture is a complicated one. What is architecture? If you asked any number of architects, each response would be different and all equally appropriate. Why are the responses so different? That's a long and complicated discussion and one that will take you a lifetime to understand.

This semester is about developing an architectural instinct. This studio will focus on how to evaluate an architectural idea(s) through analysis and representation. We will start the semester with a series of projects that will introduce the timeless compositional methods that architects consider when designing a memorable piece of architecture. These themes are not necessarily answers on what to do, but are ways for you to start your career in architecture including how to work within it, how to build upon it, and how to critically appreciate the architectural works to which you will be introduced.

Creating a work of architecture is time intensive. Do not ever underestimate this statement. Learning skills and techniques of representation, in addition to the iterative study of a problem, will lead to great moments of personal accomplishment but will take time. One gets out of architecture exactly what one puts into architecture. Be prepared to confront this hard lesson every day.

This semester will consist of 4 project themes. Each will introduce a new topic that will be reiterated by the next assigned project. The objective of this studio is to gain a basic understanding of these topics. Each consecutive studio will continue to add new topics to this fundamental framework.

Prerequisite: 48.100