

48689 Design Skills Workshop

DSW is a summer course for incoming SoA graduate students to establish a baseline of technical skills appropriate to the expectations of the design culture at SoA. There are two parts to the course: DSW Part 1, Representation & Computation, is an online-only series of workshops, assignments, and tutorials on digital design skills delivered remotely. Organized around four short design exercises, students will demonstrate the fundamentals of 2D graphics (Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign), architectural drafting (Rhino), 3D modeling (Rhino), and parametric modeling (Grasshopper). Through weekly assignments, workshops/lectures, and mandatory individual critique sessions, Part 1 of the course will establish a baseline of digital design communication and generative design skills while setting certain expectations about studio culture and work rigor at SoA. This part of the course isn't only about learning software skills but more importantly about establishing a consistent work quality and ethic across the cohort. DSW Part 2, Fabrication, is a series of hands-on introduction to the woodwork machineries, laser cutter, CNC router, 3D printer, vacuum former, general policies and procedures of the ArchSHOP and Digital Fabrication Laboratory (dFAB) facilities. DSW will cover specific tools and workflows to equip students with the foundational skills for solving design problems through the use of technical tools. All SoA graduate students are expected to be familiar with the protocols and workflows covered in DSW.