



Course Number: DSGN 201

Course Name: Introduction to Design Thinking Studio I

Classroom: [REDACTED]

Instructor: Dr. Brian R. Sinclair, Chad Connery, Lauren Fehr

- Emails: brian.sinclair@ucalgary.ca, chad.connery@ucalgary.ca, lauren.fehr@ucalgary.ca
- Office Hours and Location: Student meetings outside studio time are by appointment.
- Instructor Email Policy: Please note that all course communications must occur through your @ucalgary email. Instructors will respond to emails sent via students' @ucalgary emails as soon as possible, usually within 48 hours.

Teaching Assistant: Nooshin Esmaeili

- Email: nooshin.esmaeili@ucalgary.ca

Class Dates: Mandatory In-Person Tuesdays and Fridays, Fall 2023, 2:00pm to 3:50pm

Course Description:

A foundational introduction to design thinking as applied to the built environment of buildings, cities, and landscapes. Emphasizes visual/spatial two- and three-dimensional abstract design thinking and problem-solving skills.

- This course is a studio offering where students will learn the fundamental principles and practices of environmental design. It covers a range of basic knowledge and preliminary skills needed to begin to design within the built environment. A broad range of scales are explored, including landscapes, buildings and interiors.
- Studio methods are both quantitative and qualitative, including an array of research or analytical approaches to understanding, then finding solutions for, design problems.
- Academic Calendar description:
<https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/design.html#48336>
- Course Hours: 3 units; (0-4)

Requisites: See [Section 3.3.5](#) of the Academic Calendar for more information regarding School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape courses.

- Prerequisite(s): Admission to the Bachelor of Design in City Innovation program.

- Corequisite(s): DSGN 211 Introduction to Visual and Communication Studies

Course Delivery:

- Studio classes will be delivered in-person.

Course Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course, students will develop knowledge and abilities as follows:

- Develop initial approaches for analysis of environments + sites in order to design.
- Basic awareness of human needs + functional programming as fundamental to design.
- Knowledge of the scales of activity and nature of interventions regarding design.
- Ability to conceptually envision + spatially think as basic parameters of design.
- Capacity to professionally communicate design ideas, visually and verbally.

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Learning Resources:

- Required textbook:
Francis DK Ching. Architecture: Form, Space and Order. 5th edition. John Wiley & Sons Inc.: New Jersey. 2023
- Technology requirements:
 - To successfully engage in their learning experiences at the University of Calgary, students are required to have reliable access to digital technology, including broadband internet access. The following details provide a basic level of computing – please refer to the School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape for additional information, including specialized software that may be relevant to given programs of study.
 - A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security, and malware updates;
 - A current web browser;
 - Webcam (built-in or external);
 - Microphone and speaker (built-in or external), or headset with microphone;
 - Current antivirus and/or firewall software;
 - Microsoft Office software including Word, Excel and Powerpoint.
 - [Student IT Resources](#)
- BDCI Makerspace Training Requirement:
 - This studio requires the use of the BDCI Makerspace. Students must complete all relevant online/in-person University of Calgary safety courses and the online Trajectory Safety training course to be granted access to the BDCI Makerspace.

Special Budgetary Requirements:

- The studio course requires the purchase of a 'BDCI Toolkit' to accomplish the pedagogical outcomes of the DSGN 201 and future design studio courses throughout the BDCI Program. Its pricing at approximately \$250 (two hundred & fifty dollars) is achieved through wholesale bulk purchasing, intended to maximize equitable access. All students in DSGN 201 are required to purchase these basic tools for hand or analog work, such as for manual drawing, model making, material studies, etc. Students must acquire their kits by the start date of the studio. A complete description of the toolset, as well as details around acquisition, will be provided by the studio instructors.
- Students will also be required to obtain materials and supplies for models, drawings and/or presentations over the semester. Such materials could be items such as card stock, millboard, foam blocks, basswood, or other such goods used in drawing, modelling and presentations. These materials will be available within the school and/or at local art supply shops. Students will be responsible for securing such materials for use in their design projects.

Classroom Conduct and Related Information:

The BDCI Studio and other SAPL/University-provided facilities and equipment are governed by the University's Student Non-Academic Misconduct Policy. Professional and courteous behavior is expected at all times. For more information, please refer to Appendix 1: Prohibited Conduct, including the following categories: 1. Protection of Individuals; 2. Protection of Property; 3. Protection of University Functions, Activities and Services; 4. False Information and Identification; 5. Possession or Use of Dangerous Objects, Drugs or Alcohol; 6. Aiding in the Commission of an Offence; 7. Contravention of Other Laws and University Policies; and 8. Failure to Comply with a Sanction.

Assessment Components:

The University policy on grading and related matters is described in [F.1](#) and [F.2](#) of the Academic Calendar. In determining the overall grade in the course, the following weights will be used:

Assessment Method	Description	Weight	Assignment Type
A1. Path + Gate	Simple Design Exercise	20%	Individual
A2. Pavilion in a Park	Addressing Inside-Outside	30%	Group
A3. Small Dwelling	Fundamental Work-Live Project	40%	Individual
A4. Participation	Engagement + Journal	10%	Individual

- Assessment and Evaluation Information:
 - Assessment in the studio will be based on competency and completeness of assignments, including following requirements for deliverables, adhering to standards for graphics, and meeting quality of design, delineation and communication.
- Attendance + Participation Expectations:

- Students are expected to attend and come prepared to meaningfully engage in all class sessions. This includes producing or preparing content necessary for discussion and contributing to individual and class-wide discussions and/or conversations/assessments with the Course Instructors.
- Excused Absences:
 - In the event of an exceptional circumstance (e.g., illness, bereavement, etc.) or an exceptional opportunity (e.g., varsity athletic competition, national conference or awards ceremony, pow wow, etc.) up to four excused absences (for courses that meet twice or more per week) and up to two excused absences (for courses that meet once per week) are allowable per semester before jeopardizing one's own course grade and ability to pass the course. However, any such accommodations must be approved by the Instructors with advance notice by the student.
- Unexcused Absences:
 - Attendance at all class sessions and participation in all assessments is mandatory. Unexcused absences in excess of two per semester (for courses that meet twice per week) and one per semester (for courses that meet once per week) are grounds for failure in the course.
- Total Number of Absences:
 - The combined total number of excused or unexcused absences per semester cannot exceed four per semester (for courses that meet twice per week) or two per semester (for courses that meet once per week). Any number in excess are grounds for failure in the course.
- Guidelines for Assignments:
 - All assignments (e.g., projects, papers, presentations, etc.) must be turned in on time. Late assignments will lose a letter grade every 24 hours after the submission date/time. Late assignments submitted more than four days late constitute automatic failure. Late assignments with a valid excuse, as defined by the University's guidelines or with advance prior notification to the instructors, may be considered without penalty upon review of the student's attendance and participation record.
 - Please let your instructors know immediately if you cannot meet the deadlines specified. You may be required to provide supporting documentation, as per [Section M.1](#) of the Academic Calendar to support your request.
- Guidelines for Assessments:
 - Attendance and live participation for the entire duration of course assessments are mandatory (e.g., pin up review, midterm review, final review or exam, etc.) and must be completed in person unless otherwise stated. If a student is unable to participate live due to unforeseen circumstances, please inform the Course Instructors in advance. Missed assessments with a valid excuse, as defined by the University's guidelines or with advance prior notification to the instructors, may be considered without penalty upon review of the student's attendance and participation

record. Failure to be present for a course assessment as a result of an unexcused absence are grounds for failure in the course.

- Guidelines for Submitting Assignments:
 - All assignments must be submitted digitally, to the course D2L Dropbox, by the specified due date/time. In some cases, hard copies may be required to also be submitted.
- Final Examinations:
 - There is no Final Examination in DSGN 201.
- Expectations for Writing:
 - <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-2.html>
 - All written components of assignments must use proper grammar and correct spelling. Formatting requirements, as specified by the instructors, must be followed. Citations and references must be consistent and follow guidelines as noted by instructors.
- Criteria that must be met to pass: All assignments are required to be completed and passed in order to successfully complete the studio. In cases where an assignment receives a failing grade, the instructors may offer the opportunity to revise the assignment for reevaluation purposes.

Flexible Grade Option (CG Grade):

As per [Section 3.5.1](#) of the Academic Calendar, the School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape will not permit the Flexible Grade Option (CG Grade) for any course offered by the School.

Grading Scale:

Grade	Grade Point Value	4-Point Range	Percent	Description
A+	4.00	4.00	95-100	Outstanding - evaluated by instructor
A	4.00	3.85-4.00	90-94.99	Excellent - superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of the subject matter
A-	3.70	3.50-3.84	85-89.99	Very good performance
B+	3.30	3.15-3.49	80-84.99	Good performance
B	3.00	2.85-3.14	75-79.99	Satisfactory performance
B-	2.70	2.50-2.84	70-74.99	
C+	2.30	2.15-2.49	65-69.99	

C	2.00	1.85-2.14	60-64.99	
C-	1.70	1.50-1.84	55-59.99	Minimum grade requirement for prerequisite courses.
D+	1.30	1.15-1.49	50-54.99	
D	1.00	0.50-1.14	45-49.99	
F	0.00	0-0.49	0-44.99	

Topic Areas and Detailed Class Schedule:

The following is a topic outline, or general schedule, of our semester. It is subject to change in consideration of many dynamic factors, such as guest availability, emerging opportunities, need for content review & reinforcement, etc. Instructors will update the class over the term as any changes are required.

Course Schedule Date	Topic	Assignments/Due Dates
Sept 5 - 8	Orientation	Introductions + Walking Tour
Sept 12	Course + Instructors Introductions + Site Visit	A1. Path + Gate Assignment Distributed
Sept 15	Path + Gate Overview + Working Session	
Sept 19	Working Session	
Sept 22	Working Session	
Sept 26	Reviews Parts 1	A1. Due (SEPT 25 8PM D2L)
Sept 29	Reviews Parts 2	
Saturday, September 30	National Day for Truth and Reconciliation	
Oct 2	Pavilion in a Park Overview	A2. Pavilion in a Park Assignment Distributed
Oct 6	Site Visit	
Monday, October 9	Thanksgiving Day, no classes	
Oct 10	Working Session	
Oct 13	Working Session	
Oct 17	Working Session	
Oct 20	Working Session	
Oct 24 - 27	Reviews Parts 1 & 2	A2. Due (OCT 23 8PM D2L)
Oct 31	Small Dwelling Overview	A3. Small Dwelling Assignment Distributed

Nov 3	Site Visit	
Nov 7	Working Session	
Nov 10	Guest Lecture + Working Session	
Saturday, November 11	Remembrance Day	
Monday, November 13	Remembrance Day, observed (no classes)	
Nov 13 - 17	Term Break, no classes	
Nov 21 - 24	Working Session	
Nov 24	Working Session	
Nov 28	Reviews Part 1	A3. Due (Nov 27 8pm D2L)
Dec 1	Reviews Part 2	
Dec 5	Reflecting Back Looking Ahead	Last Day for Studio
Wednesday, December 6	Last day of Fall Semester classes	
Saturday, December 9	Start of Exams	No Final Exam in DSGN 201

Scheduled Out-of-Class Activities:

- There are no scheduled out of class activities for DSGN 201.

University of Calgary Policies and Supports:

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY COVID-19 UPDATES AND PROCEDURES

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/risk/emergency-management/covid-19-response/covidsafe-campus>

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

<https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/access/prospective-students/academic-accommodations>

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures listed below. The student accommodation policy can be found at:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-accommodation-policy>

Students needing an accommodation because of a disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Accommodation-for-Students-with-Disabilities-Procedure.pdf>

Students needing an accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfil requirements for a graduate degree, based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to their instructor (contact information on first page above).

[Student Accessibility Services](#) will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/.

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

Academic Misconduct refers to student behavior which compromises proper assessment of a student's academic activities and includes: cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism; unauthorized assistance; failure to comply with an instructor's expectations regarding conduct required of students completing academic assessments in their courses; and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.

For information on the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedures please visit:

- Student Academic Misconduct Policy: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-academic-misconduct-policy>
- Student Academic Misconduct Procedure: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-academic-misconduct-procedure>

Additional information is available on the Academic Integrity Website at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity>.

COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/acceptable-use-material-protected-copyright-policy>) and requirements of the Copyright Act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks, etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>).

INSTRUCTOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY

Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information

related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary.

SEXUAL AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE POLICY

The University recognizes that all members of the University Community should be able to learn, work, teach and live in an environment where they are free from harassment, discrimination, and violence. The University of Calgary's Sexual and Gender-Based Violence Policy guides us in how we respond to incidents of sexual and/or gender-based violence, including supports available to those who have experienced or witnessed sexual/gender-based violence, or those who are alleged to have committed sexual/gender-based violence. It provides clear response procedures and timelines, defines complex concepts, and addresses incidents that occur off-campus in certain circumstances. Please see the policy available at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/sexual-and-gender-based-violence-policy>.

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UNIVERSITY STUDENT APPEALS OFFICE

If a student has a concern about a grade that they have received, they should refer to Section I of the Undergraduate Calendar (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-3.html>) which describes how to have a grade reappraised. In addition, the student should refer to the SAPL's Procedure for reappraisal of grades.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Please visit the Registrar's website at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines> for additional important information on the following:

- Wellness and Mental Health Resources
- Student Success
- Student Ombuds Office
- Student Union (SU) Information
- Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Information
- Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points
- Safewalk