

EVDA 582 - Studio II in Architecture

Hybrid Dwelling

Winter 2015 (Full course)

(Mon), Tue, (Wed), and Fri, 14:00-18:00 hrs.

Instructors: TBD

Rooms: TBD

INTRODUCTION

The question of how to reside in the city has been a challenge, if not the most pressing one, facing modern architecture throughout its history as cities have continued to grow, intensify and transform. It could even be argued that Corbusier's entire career was dedicated to this problem - ranging from the Maison Domino to his Contemporary City for 3 Million with many of his questions continuing to mutate under the pressure of present architectural discourse. Within this context, it has become increasingly difficult, if not impossible, to consider architecture independently of the city – particularly when addressing residential designs. The problem tends to work simultaneously in two opposing and confrontational directions. From one direction, changes in the city force architecture to adapt to an ever-evolving context. From the other, changes in architectural form, program and behavior act back on the city and impacting its ongoing development. For example, the form of the suburban home is as much a logic of the city as much as it is an architectural object that acts back on the city itself. The proliferation of infill housing and high-rise condos too are as much an objective of city planners in line with densification efforts as they are a product of market demand and the desire for a particular lifestyle. These built forms produce day-to-day patterns for citizens or architectural users that are as much a diagram of architectural force as they are the city itself.

This studio begins with the assertion that the choices in forms of residential modes of living currently presented to us are both insufficient and unimaginative – posing a real threat to the future of architecture, cities and their inhabitants. The studio also acknowledges that many of our own banal assumptions about the city pose the same threat to our own designs. In response to the problem, the studio proposes an alternative in the form of a radical redistricting of the city in an effort to wake architecture from its slumber – reimagining its possible futures. Within these districts, new hybrid modes of dwelling will be explored – examining the ways in which architecture and its inhabitants might adapt to the emergent and imposed axiomatic demands of the city. Each studio section will operate within its own district of a provided master plan (addressed in the first day of class). These districts are designed to establish the context for each studio while creating a legible connection across the studio at large.

This course is the second studio in the Master of Architecture Program sequence. It examines formal, material, spatial and social aspects of urban dwelling by addressing the design of a medium-sized mixed use (residential + 1 additional program theme) project (3,000 m²) sited within the city of Calgary.

CACB STUDENT PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

The following CACB Student Performance Criteria will be covered in this course:

Primary Level: A3: Graphic Skills; A6: Human Behavior; A7: Cultural Diversity; B1: Design Skills; B3: Site Design
Secondary Level: A5: Collaborative Skills; B2: Program Preparation; B4: Sustainable Design; B5: Accessibility
D2: Ethics and Professional Judgment

OBJECTIVES

1. To develop design skills through the design of a medium sized mixed use project with a two-part (residential + 1) program.
2. To develop introductory knowledge of massing, siting, programming, and material assemblies.
3. To develop skills in architectural orthographic representation.
4. To develop speculative models of dwelling within urban environments.
5. To develop site design, graphic, concept design, and design development skills.

TEACHING APPROACH

In this studio there will be five sections, each covering the same basic material, but through different programs, sites, and pedagogical approaches (students will have the opportunity to select their section during the first class). The site analysis exercise will entail group work. The rest of the course will consist of individual work. Each studio section will inhabit a designated section of a single master plan. Each of the two primary building programs shall occupy between 33-66% of the total project area – specified at the discretion of each instructor. Each instructor will provide detailed project descriptions throughout the semester. Guidance and feedback will be provided during desk, informal, and formal reviews. The studio will be process oriented, allowing students some latitude to develop their own design methodologies within the framework provided by their instructor.

COURSE EXPECTATIONS AND MEANS OF EVALUATION

Students will be expected to follow all assignments, to be present in studio on Tuesdays and Fridays (and as otherwise required by the schedule), and attend all lectures and reviews. Students will also be expected to read any assigned readings. Detailed project descriptions will be provided throughout the term by the various instructors. The following is the general breakdown of assignments:

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| Phase 1: Site Analysis/Massing/Siting | 20% |
| Phase 2: Spatial Subdivision/Space Planning | 20% |
| Phase 3: Assemblies and Materials | 20% |
| Phase 4: Synthesized Designs/Final Review | 30% |
| Phase 5: Final Portfolio | 10% |

READINGS

Refer to detailed project handouts.

NOTES

1. Written work, term assignments and other course related work may only be submitted by e-mail if prior permission to do so has been obtained from the course instructor.
2. It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 220-8237. (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/drc/node/46>) Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course.
3. Plagiarism - Plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done expressly for that particular course when, in fact, it is not. Most commonly plagiarism exists when:(a) the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test),(b) parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author,(c) the whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source, and/or,(d) a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course(although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved. While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted. Plagiarism is an extremely serious academic offence. It is recognized that clause (d) does not prevent a graduate student incorporating work previously done by him or her in a thesis. Any suspicion of plagiarism will be reported to the Dean, and dealt with as per the regulations in the University of Calgary Graduate Calendar.
4. Information regarding the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy>) and how this impacts the receipt and delivery of course material
5. Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>)
6. Safewalk information (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>)
7. Contact Info for: Student Union (<http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/page/affordability-accessibility/su-structure/contact-info>); Graduate Student representative(<http://www.ucalgary.ca/gsa/>) and Student Ombudsman's Office (<http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/page/quality-education/academic-services/student-rights>).
8. Students will be expected to complete each of the course assignments. There will be no final exam. Students must obtain an overall passing grade to pass this course. At the discretion of the instructor, assignments submitted after the deadline **may** be penalized with the loss of a grade (e.g.: A- to B+) for each day late. The following equivalencies (the University of Calgary has no official percentage scale system) will be used in calculating grades: **A+** (95-100) Exceptional; **A** (90-94.99) Excellent; **A-** (85-89.99) Above Average; **B+** (80-84.99) Average; **B** (75-79.99) Adequate/Below Average; **B-** (70-74.99) Minimum Pass; **C+** (66-69.99) Fail; **C** (63-65.99) Fail; **C-** (60-62.99) Fail; **D+** (56-59.99) Fail; **D** (50-55.99) Fail; **F** (0-49.99) Fail.
9. A student who receives a "C+" or lower in any one course will be required to withdraw regardless of their grade point average (GPA) unless the program recommends otherwise. If the program permits the student to retake a failed course, the second grade will replace the initial grade in the calculation of the GPA, and both grades will appear on the transcript. Final grades will be reported as letter grades, with the final grade calculated according to a 4-point range. Assignments will be evaluated by percentage grades with their letter grade equivalents as shown.