Advanced Design Studio: Questioning the Spectacular, A phenomenological architecture

**STATEMENT:**
Through the design of a school for low vision children, this studio will explore:

- Critical writing around the commodification and spectacle in architecture
- Broad understanding of philosophical thinking of phenomenology
- Human senses and our perception of environment and built structures
- Holistic understanding of the genius loci and building’s relationship to this place.
- Full integration of Building Systems: reinforcing program, conceptual and functional ideas.
- Physical representation of sensual qualities of a place

**STUDIO OVERVIEW:**
- Charette #1: The Visual World
- Charette #2: The Auditory World
- DNC: Dialog City
- Charette #3: Tactile | Olfactory | Taste
- Charette #4: Time | Memory | Scale
- Charette #5: Precedent Studies
- Site Visit: Anchor Center for Blind Children
- Charette #6: Site Analysis
- Design of a school for low vision children

Documentation of all charettes and empirical studies will need to be professional and submitted both as 8-1/2x11 prints and digital copies.

**REQUIRED READINGS:**
- “The Eyes of the Skin” Juhani Pallasmaa
- “The Image of the City” Kevin Lynch
- “Questions of Perception, Phenomenology of Architecture” Steven Holl, Juhani Pallasmaa, Alberto Perez-Gomez
- “Phenomenology of Perception” Merleau-Ponty
- “Thinking Architecture” Peter Zumthor
- “Atmospheres” Peter Zumthor
- “The Poetics of Space” Gaston Bachelard
- “Commodification and Spectacle in Architecture” Harvard Design Magazine Reader

In-class articles to be distributed including in part:
- “Building Dwelling Thinking” Martin Heidegger
- “The Phenomenon of Place” Christian Norberg-Shulz
- “Concerning the Spiritual in Art” Kandinsky
- “The Lure of the Local, Senses of Place in a Multi-centered Society” Lucy Lippard

**Suggested References:**
- Precedents in Architecture, Clark
- Art and Visual Perception, A Psychology of the Visual Eye, Rudolf Arnheim
- “Theory of Colours” John Wolfgang van Goethe
- “Vision and Art” Margaret Livingstone

**REQUIRED LECTURES:**
Chirsto Lecture (Enhancing the spirit of a place?)

**DESCRIPTIONS:**
ARCH 6170, Advanced Design Studio: Students enter the advanced design studio after successfully completing the four core design studios and comprehensive studios. The studio focuses on integrated building and site design, and representation. The studio will integrate experiential and philosophical ideas of a holistic experience of our built environment.

ARCH 6171, Design Seminar IV:
This seminar supports fuller discussion of the key themes and concepts around the ideas of writings of phenomenology in built environment.

**OBJECTIVES:**
The course will focus on the following NAAB criteria:

- **Comprehensive design including building systems integration:** Ability to assess, select, and integrate structural systems, environmental systems, life-safety systems, building envelope systems into the building. Ability to assess, select, configure, and detail as an integral part of the design, appropriate combinations of building materials, components, and assemblies to satisfy the requirements of building programs.
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Claude-Nicholas Ledoux   Eye Reflacting the Interior of the Theater of Besancon

EVALUATION:

Evaluation will be holistic including speaking, writing, graphic and research skills (see attached grading criteria and evaluation sheet)

Research skills:
Ability to employ basic methods of data collection and analysis to inform all aspects of the programming and design process.

Collaborative Skills:
Ability to identify and assume divergent roles that maximize individual talents, and to cooperate with other students when working as members of a design team and in other settings.

Technical Documentation:
Ability to make technically precise descriptions and documentation of a proposed design for purposes of review and construction.

Rigor | Exploration:
The first half the studio, organized as a laboratory, will encourage original thought and experimentation.

Evaluations will be provided at the end of charettes.

Students with Disabilities
Students with disabilities who want academic accommodations must register with Disability Resources and Services (DRS), 177 Arts Building, 303-556-3450, TTY 303-556-4766, FAX 303-556-2074. DRS requires students to provide current and adequate documentation of their disabilities. Once a student has registered with DRS, DRS will review the documentation and assess the student’s request for academic accommodations in light of the documentation. DRS will then provide the student with a letter indicating which academic accommodations have been approved. Once you provide me with a copy of DRS’s letter, I will be happy to provide those accommodations DRS has approved.

Absences and Assignments
Except for documented health or disability reasons, excuses for absences or assignment not submitted will not be accepted. Documentation of disability or health related issues must be provided. One absence will be allowed before an academic penalty of one half grade reduction is imposed. Required assignments that are turned in late will receive one half grade reduction for every day they are late. Any student who misses quizzes and/or examinations or fails to turn in homework and/or papers will receive either a zero (0) or an F for the work missed.

Plagiarism
Students are expected to know, understand, and comply with the ethical standards of the university, including rules against plagiarism. Plagiarism is the use of another person’s ideas or words without acknowledgement. The incorporation of another person’s work into yours requires appropriate identifications and acknowledgment. The following are considered to be forms of plagiarism when the source is not noted: word-for-word copying of another person’s ideas or words; the “mosaic” (interspersing your own words here and there while, in essence, copying another’s work); the paraphrase (the rewriting of another’s work, while still using their basic ideas or theories); fabrication (inventing sources); submission of another’s work as your own; and neglecting quotation marks when including direct quotes.

Classroom Decorum
The following ground rules apply to all students and are designed to ensure a classroom environment conducive to learning for all students:

1. Pagers, beepers, cellular telephones, and handheld internet devices must be deactivated before class begins and remain deactivated throughout the entire class period.

2. Students who engage in disruptive classroom behavior will be reported to the Office of Student Life for appropriate disciplinary action under the CU-Denver Code of Student Conduct and, when appropriate, to the Auraria Campus Police for investigation of possible criminal action. The Code of Student Conduct can be found on the CU-Denver website, under Office of Student Life and Student Activities.
ARCH 6170/ 71 ADVANCED DESIGN STUDIO | SEMINAR
Fall semester 2008 syllabus
Maria Cole, Instructor
mariacole@alumni.cmu.edu

Advanced Design Studio: Questioning the Spectacular, A phenomenological architecture

Week Six: Time | Memory | Scale
September 16, 2008: Desk Crits
September 18, 2008:
Review Time | Memory Scale
Assign Precedent Studies and Site Analysis
5:30 Christo Lecture

Week Seven: Precedent Studies
September 23, 2008: Reading Day
September 25, 2008: Visit to Anchor Center
Readings: “The Phenomenon of Place” Norberg-Schulz
“The Lure of the Local” Lucy Lippard
“The Poetics of Space” Gaston Bachelard

Week Eight: Site Analysis: Understanding Genius Loci, Spirit of the place
September 30, 2008
Precedent Study Presentations
Readings: “The Image of the City” Kevin Lynch
October 1, 2008
Discuss Site Analysis

Week Nine: Final Program
October 7, 2008
Site Analysis Presentations
Assign Final Problem
Readings: “Building Dwelling Thinking” Martin Heidegger
“Heidegger’s Thinking on Architecture” Norberg-Shulz
“On Reading Heidegger” Kenneth Frampton (handout)
October 9, 2008

Week Ten
October 14, 2008
October 16, 2008

Week Eleven
October 21, 2008
October 23, 2008:

Week Twelve
October 28, 2008:
October 30, 2008: Mid Term Review

Week Thirteen
November 4, 2008: Desk Crits
November 6, 2008: Desk Crits

Week Fourteen
November 11, 2008: Desk Crits
November 13, 2008: Pin-up

Week Fifteen
November 18, 2008: Desk Crits
November 20, 2008: Desk Crits

Week Sixteen
November 25, and 27 2008: No Class:

December 1-5: Final Reviews

SCHEDULE:
Course is scheduled to meet Tuesday and Thursday 1:00 - 5:30.

Week One: The Visual World
August 12, 2008: Balloting | Set up Studio
Discussion: The Spectacle of Beijing
Review Class Policies
Readings: “The Eyes of The Skin” Juhani Pallasmaa
“The Geometry of Feeling” Juhani Pallasmaa(handout)
Kandinsky (handout)
“Phenomenology of Perception” Merleau Ponty
August 14, 2008: The Visual World
Desk Crits

Week Two: The Visual World
August 19, 2008
Readings: “Atmospheres” and “Thinking Architecture”
Desk Crits
August 21, 2008: Review: The Visual World
Assign: The Auditory World
Readings: “The Work of Architecture in the Age of Commodification” (selected readings)
“Spaces Speak, Are You Listening?: Experiencing Aural Architecture”

Week Three: DNC
August 26 and August 28, 2008:
Dialog with the Public Realm: DNC Dialog City

Week Four: The Auditory World
September 2, 2008: Desk Crits
September 4, 2008: Review: The Auditory World
Assign: Tactile | Olfactory | Taste

Week Five: Tactile | Olfactory | Taste
September 9, 2008: Desk Crits
September 11, 2008:
Review: Tactile | Olfactory | Taste
Assign: Time | Memory | Scale