At the end of each term, students, faculty, guest critics and members of the community participate in the U-SoA Annual Final Review, a tradition that has long defined architectural education in North America. The public aspects of the event are essential ingredients, from the spectacle of the work on display to the animated exchanges between students, faculty and jury members. The jury’s comments are meant to guide the students in their learning process. They are most valuable when they depart from individual projects to launch a broader discussion of the ideas that animate the school and position it in the ongoing public debate. The U-SoA Annual Final Review demonstrates the relevance of the issues we tackle with our students and showcases the diverse ways in which we engage them.

We customarily hold the reviews at a public venue outside the University of Miami’s Coral Gables campus so as to engage the larger community in this annual ritual. We make an exception of the 2018 event, taking the opportunity to use the new Thomas P. Murphy Studio Building for the first time before its official inauguration with classes this fall. Designed by Arquitectonica and built by Coastal Construction, this latest addition to the U-SoA campus provides various amenities including a new digital fabrication lab and most importantly, the large-room setting for co-creation. The building will be ready for the reviews but still without most of its furniture: a tabula rasa for the animated spectacle of student presentations and public debate. I can’t think of a more fitting way to celebrate the review process and its long standing tradition at U-SoA.

Rodolphe El-Khoury
Dean, School of Architecture
University of Miami
AGENDA

DAY 1   WED. 4.25.18
9am - 12:30pm FIRST YEAR UNDERGRADUATE MURPHY/KORACH
/ Frank Martínez (c), Juan Calvo, Cristina Canton, Victor Deupi, Oscar Machado

DAY 2   FRI. 4.27.18
9am - 12:30pm SECOND YEAR UNDERGRADUATE MURPHY
/ Edgar Sarli (c), Germaine Barnes, Alice Cîmring, Steven Fett, Eric Firley

9am - 6pm PAIR PROGRAM MURPHY
/ Wyn Bradley

DAY 3   SAT. 4.28.18
9am - 2pm THIRD YEAR UNDERGRADUATE MURPHY
/ Armando Montero (c), Jacob Brillhart, Jose Gelabert-Navía, Jorge Hernandez, David Trautman

DAY 4   MON. 4.30.18
All Day Sessions
9am - 6pm UPPER LEVEL STUDIO > GRADUATE AND UNDERGRADUATE MURPHY/KORACH
/ Rocco Ceo, Sonia Chao, Joanna Lombard, Patrick Reuter, Mauro Turín, Veruska Vasconez

DAY 5   TUES. 5.1.18
All Day Sessions
9am - 6pm UPPER LEVEL STUDIO > GRADUATE AND UNDERGRADUATE MURPHY
/ Adib Cure, Teofilo Victoria, Yizhou Zhao

THESIS MURPHY
/ Jean-François Lejeune (c), Germaine Barnes, Victor Deupi, Joanna Lombard, Zhao Pei, Allan T. Shulman

6 - 8pm FINAL REVIEW RECEPTION & DESIGN STUDIO AWARDS MURPHY TERRACE

DAY 6   WED. 5.9.18
10am - 2pm UPPER LEVEL STUDIO > ROME IN ROME
/ Jaime Correa, Cayetana Churtichaga
STUDIO NAME
ARC 102: Architecture Design II

The City as a Work of Art: DWELLING, PUBLIC SQUARE and a COMMUNITY HALL, Whitehead Street & Angela Street, Key West, Florida

COORDINATOR
Frank Martinez

INSTRUCTORS
Victor Deupi
Cristina Canton
Oscar Machado
Juan Calvo

STUDIO DESCRIPTION
Project 1 is the design of an array of new dwellings (building types), in the 400 section of Angela Street and along Whitehead Street with the goal of restoring the lost urban fabric and pedestrian liveliness of the neighborhood. The project program invites questions of how the relation of civic and private uses might be defined and spatially related, both at the scale of the building and at the scale of the larger urban environment. Furthermore, the studio will address the question of how to develop a memorable and appropriate architectural character specifically suited to Key West, a city with a rich Cultural and Architectural Heritage. The city may be understood as if it were an open book in which to read the aims and ambitions of its inhabitants and ancestors. Consequently, the primary purpose is to understand why it is important to preserve the City in all it embodies, and when it falls into disrepair, understand why the role of the architect and that of the single architecture project in restoring both an order that serves its inhabitants and a conception of Civic Art. Following the studio’s design proposals to reconstitute the fabric of the built environment on Whitehead and Angela Street, Project 2 is the design a small public Square and Community Hall on the reserved plot of land at this same juncture in the city. This new use and programmatic proposal for the site seeks to provide the inhabitants of the neighborhood and the City, a small place for leisure, play, meditation and congregation, in a manner appropriate with Key West and its urban history. The site confronts us with a series of complex urban and architectural issues ranging from the notion of the role of Public Space & Building, as a generator of Urban Form, to the influence of folklore and culture in the definition of the contemporary city. Moreover, basic principles of architecture and city building, essential for the construction of a modern city shall be explored.
STUDIO NAME
ARC 204: Architecture Design IV
Downtown Aquatics Center
COORDINATOR
Edgar Sarli
INSTRUCTORS
Alice Cimring
Germane Barnes
Steven Fett
Eric Firley

STUDIO DESCRIPTION
According to the Downtown Development Authority, since the year 2000, the population growth in the area has been of approximately 25% every 5 years. The average age of the residents is 35 years old, and Greater Downtown Miami residents are primarily young professionals. The latest DDA Demographics Report shows that 70% of the residents exercise weekly. Despite the fact that many condominium towers have rooftop pools, and the existence of a small number of public swimming pools, one of the most underserviced sports in the area is swimming. Almost all swimming facilities in the area are open to the elements, and in consequence, there are several days of the year when the facilities need to be closed to the public for safety reasons.

The project is to design a swimming facility with an envelope that would allow it to function even during bad weather conditions. The swimming hall does not need to be air-conditioned; rather, it should be naturally ventilated. During bad weather forecasts, it should offer users the same level of safety and comfort as an enclosed space. The site located on the west side NM 2nd Avenue between 1st and 2nd Street, and is composed of six lots property of Miami Dade County. The designated use under Miami 21 is CI - Civic Institutional.

STUDENTS

SECTION 21: SARLI
Faris Al Aswad
Mikayla Paris Allen
Megan Browne
Michael Sean Cannon
Soﬁa Francisca Contreras Ojeda
Ryan Paul Danuissis
Gladys Amelia Espinal Vasquez
Soﬁa A Kiblisky
Gretchen Suzanne Lemon
Maria Isabel Lira Adrian Morgan
Christopher O’Brien

SECTION 22: CIMRING
Lutfah Kh J A M Al-Saadikh
Emily Paige Fusilero
Okan Andrew Has
Daniel Bradley Kamb
Alexandra Morgan Kopil
Jichu Li
Karlie Ann Lobitz
Soﬁa Karina Silva Cadena
Yemin Yan

SECTION 23: BARNES
Yasser Talal J Alkhalifa
Maaryam F KH J H Alanzl
Tiffani Banks
Svetlana Gidashka
Clarissa Hellebrand Blasini

SECTION 24: FETT
Christian T. Meyer
Olivia Tower Schilling

SECTION 25: FIRLEY
Valentina Vyacheslavna Dimitryuk
Sharig Ishaque
Jheanelle Christina
Leonard Miller
Daniel Eduadu Rodriguez Levy
Nanah Lilia Morgan Ley
Tanner Wall
Naoran Wong
“At first glance, cities don’t seem to offer much space for growing food. But every building taking up space on the ground has an empty roof that’s full of potential.”

- Tim Blanke, Tower Garden Developer
I have explored two elements: the development history of Miami International Airport, shown as both a visual and a written timeline, and the design progress of the South, North and Central terminals. I highlight the improvements Miami International Airport has made over the years and compare the three main terminals based on: materials used, integration of new technology and the types of retail concessions available. My study concludes with a vision for a hyper-localized, passenger-focused new travel experience at MIA.
RESEARCH PROJECT 4: Rising Above Sea Level

This research addresses the means and methods for a real solution to the threat of sea level rise. More than just providing resilience methods and idealistic proposals for a new city. This proposal involves government, developer, and resident participation in the creation of newly developed communities in untapped higher ground areas of Miami-Dade County.

Ashley Zambrano with Kobi Karp Architecture

RESEARCH PROJECT 5: Miami Beach Bayfront, 3 Case Studies

Miami Beach is facing major water related infrastructure issues, in trying to combat them, the city is readdressing zoning laws and incorporating resilient design. This study follows the developments made and illustrates, through three case studies, the consequences we will face if we don’t work together to change.
STUDIO NAME
ARC 586/686: Coconut Grove Market (Elective)

Urban Prototyping // Creative Placemaking

INSTRUCTOR
James Brazil, Visiting Professor

TEACHING ASSISTANTS
Shruti Khandelwal
Chao Wang
Xiang Li

STUDIO DESCRIPTION
The Urban Prototyping // Creative Placemaking research-design-build course is intended for students interested in exploring new forms of architectural production that investigate how design, art and technology can serve as tools for civic participation. The course conceived a response to challenges experienced in connecting food, people and place during the development of the MKTplace project.

MKTplace is a community-driven prepared food market and public space project that serves to activate vacant space in underserved neighborhoods by providing inexpensive incubator space and a venue for community events, arts and culture, and everyday socializing. MKTplace is a product of the Third Place Project initiated by Dr. Charles Bohl, Director of the U-SoA MRED+U program, and funded by the Knight Foundation. MKTplace was launched to unleash the power of placemaking to create great gathering places that can act as a catalyst for community building and economic exchange.

The prototype that was developed can be considered as an “activator” in which we proposed to develop a butterfly building, a light and movable pavilion which may activate temporary public space around the concept of food - an urban activator!

The Food Wheel is this urban activator, a nomadic-rolling device that hosts two mobile food vendors whilst deploying a series of playful yet functional marketplace furniture. The 8ft (d) x 7ft (w) wheel unfolds on either side a vertical edible garden-cum-herb bar and information point-cum-video projection zone.

Drawing inspiration from creative placemaking design-art initiatives of the MKTplace, students designed and developed a fabrication information model (FIM) in which the entire prototype could be unfolded and manufactured by computer numerical controlled (CNC) milling machines in one afternoon. The total project time-frame was 8 weeks; 2 weeks design, 1 week material testing/logistics, 1 week fabrication and 4 weeks assembly.

STUDENTS
Yasser Talal I Abualfaraj
Maaryam F KH J H Alanzi
Catherine Batista
Emily Paige Fusilero
Jacob Gardner
John Heinrich
Beltran Lozano Martinez
Madison Taylor Seip
Sofia Karina Silva Cadena
Gabriel Jean-Paul Soomar
STUDIO NAME
ARC 306: Architecture Design VI

COORDINATOR
Armando Montero

INSTRUCTORS
Jorge Hernandez
David Trautman
Jose Gelabert-Navia
Jacob Brillhart

STUDIO DESCRIPTION
Goombay Plaza is an Interdisciplinary project located in the heart of what has been called the "West Grove", an area settled by Bahamian immigrants seeking economic opportunity in the 1870s. Teams comprised of students from the School of Architecture BArch program as well as students from the Master in Real Estate Development + Urbanism, along with students from the Law and Business schools closely explored a multitude of development options possible on the site.

The site is owned by "Grovites United to Survive", a group of community residents many with ties to early settlers and concerned with preserving and enhancing the community of West Grove. The Mixed Use project included a public market or food hall that serves as a business incubator for the community. The architecture students in this course develop the project comprehensively from concept to a fully developed design project that integrate in a synergistic way the program, with code requirements, building systems, structures and sustainable practices.

STUDENTS

SECTION 31: MONTERO
Shaad F S M Alhajri
Youssef A E O M Alkhamees
Sarah Mashhour A Alnoman
Shuai X N O S Alshuail
Jacob Ronald Crociati
Regyne Heurtelou
Daniella Huen
Joshua Max Kleinberg
Rachael Liberman
Julia Rose Zollner

SECTION 32: HERNANDEZ
Ahmed Alaseer
Abdulaziz Ghannam M Alghannam
Siyu Deng
Juan Sebastian Ochoa Echeverry
Sheng Dian
Hector Gonzalo Valdivia
Hannah Vichlis-Zubizarreta
Tianyu Wang

SECTION 33: TRAUTMAN
Mario Osvaldo Alecio
Bernate Augustine
Laura Cellette Beltran
Yasmine Benchekroun
Juan Marcos Guareschi Mujica
David C Holmes
Sydney Rose Maubert
Shannar O'Connor
Sol Perchik

SECTION 34: GELABERT-NAVIA
Moises Nissim Abbo Mizrachi
Felipe Manuel Arias Manais
Maan Mansour A Ezmirly
Beltran Lozano Martinez
Claudia Vanessa Silva
Emily Camila Suarez-Ayelles
Andrea Szapiro
Ali Tanriyar
Jingyi Xu

SECTION 35: BRILLHART
Jesse Alvarez
Amanda Marie Arrizabalaga
Michael Sean Smith Burke
Kyle Joseph Ferry
Frances Gelbart
Elsa Hiraldi
Fioriana Maria Larche
Israel Martinez Jr.
Julia Ann Murdoch
Tomas Taplas

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Julia Ann Murdoch
Tomas Taplas
STUDIO NAME
ARC 605: First Year Graduate Architecture Design and Theory
RISD Nature Lab & Artist Housing - A New Arts and Housing Facility for RISD, Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, Rhode Island

INSTRUCTOR
Rocco Ceo

STUDIO DESCRIPTION
The studio is looking at how architectural form is informed by thoughtful consideration of materials and methods of construction in a dense urban environment, rich in material, stylistic and typological history.

The studio will also engage notions of containment, display, and the production of meaning in architecture. Parallel to this work will be the question of how nature is represented in the city through the pursuit of an institutional program in need of identity, on a campus that has traditionally been resistant to the notion of center or conformity. An attempt will be made to look at what constitutes the language of this institution’s identity and how it may be addressed in an unprecedented program that mixes public and private space.

STUDENTS
Mohammad Alsaeed
Tori Cohen
Celeste Desiano
Alexis Guillen
Laura Leichtman
Mario Ostolaza Guitian
Dylan Rzepka
Angela Villada
Fuhong Wang
Jiayi Wang
Yibo Zhang
STUDIO NAME
ARC 407-510, 608-609: Architecture Design

Havana: the challenges and opportunities of preserving the past the rehabilitation of the historic Casa Sarra, El Malecón Tradicional, La Habana, Cuba

INSTRUCTOR
Sonia Chao

STUDIO DESCRIPTION
This studio project concentrated on the opportunities and challenges of rehabilitating the historic Casa Sarra, and of designing an adjoining infill building within the surrounding historic fabric. The project site is located on the waterfront, at block #11, along the historic Malecón Tradicional. Students became aware of international canons and the tools employed to guide preservation initiatives, as well as Havana’s Integral Management Model, employed by the preservation Office of Havana (OHC), on interventions within the World Heritage Site. The course focused on the relationship between preservation, economic development, and climate change. Students employed the recently emitted form-based, preservation-minded urban codes: El Malecón Tradicional, Plan Especial de Rehabilitación Integral.

STUDENTS
Samantha Schneider
Frank Noska
Jessica Flores
Colby Gallagher
Edgar Campes
Bryan Burgos
Kaidi Wei
Alexander Underwood
Arnost Wallach
Adriana Rivera
Dylan Starr
Jacob “Luke” Gardner

Regulaciones Urbanísticas Centro Habana, in their design of a hotel. Additionally, students developed complimentary programming and public spaces, as well as, resilient and sustainable design proposals, at both the scale of the neighborhood and of the block.
STUDIO NAME
ARC 407-510, 608-609: Architecture Design

Urban Design Studio Project:
West Town, Chicago

INSTRUCTOR
Joanna Lombard

STUDIO DESCRIPTION
Building on a 2015 West Town Community Visioning Workshop, the design and real estate team members met together with Presence leadership in Chicago on March 7th, to investigate the site, and discuss updated objectives for infill and revitalization to provide new housing, office, and institutional program for a core quadrant in West Town. Recent changes in the organizational and environmental context opened further opportunities to reconsider aspects of Presence medical facilities, along with other types of commercial infill. The teams then worked collaboratively over the next four weeks in Miami to develop proposals that seek to provide a viable neighborhood plan addressing the infill conditions and projects that support a diverse community in alignment with Presence mission and future strategies.

TEAMS
Feras Almahdi, Caitlin Smith, B.Arch.; Miguel Amezquita, Civ.Eng.; Troy Gulec, Rodrigo Silva Urbaneja; Christopher Rodriguez, MRED+U; Basma Allohaly, Xuan Bo, Wenting Lan, Jingbo Sun, MUrbDes; Fernando Gonzalez Portillo, Richard Harris, RPD,LLM

Nathan Morales Gallardo, Erin Hickey, B.Arch.; Alexander Briel, Civ.Eng.; Ronan Keroule, M.Arch. (exchange student Nantes University); John Grant, Chao Wang, MRED+U; Irene Balza, Kun Li, Siyu Wang, MUrbDes; Ann-Bo Emmanuel, Luciano De Jesus, Ronald Jimmy Rojas, RPD,LLM
STUDIO NAME
ARC 407-510, 608-609: Architecture Design

The South Campus of Miami - A Concrete Presence

INSTRUCTOR
Patrick Reuter, Visiting Professor

STUDIO DESCRIPTION
The design studio will focus on the South Campus of the Miami Dade Junior College in Kendall. The campus was built from 1961-1971 by the architects, Pancoast, Ferendino, Grafton and Skeels, later Spillis and Candela.

The campus is conceived as a compact urban complex in the midst of typical suburban sprawl. The buildings are individual, but strongly unified by their geometric masses and the use of exposed concrete and precast paneled walls. Generous roof overhangs produce pronounced shades and shadows. Although the buildings are solid elements, open space runs into and through them. The campus features a large variety of facilities, sizes and types and is thereby a very important urbanistic ensemble in the growing metropolitan area of Miami.

The structure of all buildings is concrete, poured in textured patterns and left unfinished as maintenance free surfaces. This material expression and reduced structural language serves as the courses principle. The understanding of architecture and especially of city structures is a constant changing and demanding environment. Therefore the objectives are analyzing the actual needs of the Miami Colleges and identifying the potential on site, regarding architecture and urban planning. The projects are responding to questions related to housing, education, culture, infrastructure and landscape.

STUDENTS
Konstantina Kritharidou
Ebraheem Alhusain
Abdulrahman Allam
Ashley Katz
Yating Yang
Marcus Riley
Nicholas Meury
Sandra Camejo
Luis Delgado
Nicolle Janek
Jessica Abecassis
Melissa Ledezma
STUDIO NAME
ARC 407-510, 608-609: Architecture Design

The Steel Proto House Project

INSTRUCTOR
Mauro Turin, Visiting Professor

STUDIO DESCRIPTION
The objective of the Advanced Design Studio is that students – through the design of an experimental Steel Proto House – investigate and understand structures as the fundamental and determinant element of design in the resolution of the function simultaneously in the creation of the form, and consequently in the determination of the space and of the shape.

The Advanced Design Studio is entirely based on making physical models. Students must individually evolve to an intuitive and manual modality of work, developing a fundamental research throughout the construction of, precisely, reduced-scale physical models according to the discovery and invention method of proof and mistake.

As part of the fundamental research students will define “contemporary forms of primitive living”. Students will explore, question and criticize what private living means today, what means today to eat, to sleep, to rest, to work, to clean up, to have time out, etc. And how human beings can evolve into all these activities differently, that is, through an atavistic physical and psychological effort, now forgotten.

The resultant fundamental research is coupled with applied research in the frame of which the course immerses students in a full sensorial experience related with the application of “contemporary forms of primitive living” in a new conceptual type of experimental Steel Proto House.

Therefore, understanding the own body as the final recipient of architecture, students will redefine the activities related with private living, designing atmospheres (more than spaces) in which the human is committed, fueling intensely his senses, to undertake physical and psychological ancestral efforts completely forgotten in our contemporary word.

In a few words, the course will immerse students in a full sensorial experience related with exploring “contemporary forms of primitive living”, using structures as the fundamental element of design, and using physical models as the medium to define a new conceptual type of experimental Steel Proto House.

Designing and building a reduced-scale physical model of a new conceptual type of experimental Steel Proto House will enable students to investigate new design methods, to test innovative steel structural systems, to explore new spatial characteristics and to evaluate alternatives living approaches.

As part of the Advanced Design Studio, with students of U-SoA, Visiting Professor, Mauro Turin and 2017 Pritzker Prize winners, Rafael Aranda, Carme Pigem and Ramon Vilalta, from RCR Arquitectes, collaborated in a Joint Studio / Workshop on February 19-28, 2018 in Olot, Spain.

1. Turin, Mauro

STUDENTS
Sabrina Aboud, Wei Wang, Evan Bobo, Victor Kalil, Catherine Cratty, Jules Romier, Austin Rico, Avleigh Du, Andrew Dai, Aigerim Amirova, Junyong Wu.

Day 4
Mon. 4.30.18 // 9am - 6pm > Murphy
STUDIO NAME
ARC 407-510, 608-609: Architecture Design

SUNSET PARK
0.74 Linear Movement Through Architectural Intervals

INSTRUCTOR
Veruska Vasconez

STUDIO DESCRIPTION
The Architectural Design Studio focuses on designing a transportation hub through creating an extension to the Sunset Park. The park establishes a green corridor that connects the surrounding neighborhoods to the new transportation hub. The integration of the architecture and landscape of the area provides a tangible representation of both the history and future of the community. Student-driven analysis and interests will inform proposals for the hub and the development of a linear public space which expresses the character and aspirations of the neighborhood. It also demonstrates the transformative capacities of landscape architecture in the social and psychological well-being of the community.

Students work in collaboration with a Landscape studio, led by Professor Linda Chamorro at FIU, to develop a seamless and integrated plan for the transportation hub and the linear park system of Sunset Park. Both studios work towards the same goal: being to develop a series of design proposals to cultivate meaningful connections among infrastructure, landscape, and building systems, and to catalyze positive and sustainable development within the neighborhood.

STUDENTS
Felipe Prellezo
Andrew Lionikis
Zachary Silver
Michael Alexander
Gabriel Fischler
Gaurja Sood
Jose Mozza Vargas
Maria Ramos Rodriguez
Catherine Batista
STUDIO NAME
ARC 407–510, 608–609: Architecture Design

The Vernacularology Studio - LOST & FOUND
Adaptive Reuse in the Age of Consumption
A Tecnoglass Sponsored Studio

INSTRUCTORS
Adib Cure, Teofilo Victoria, Yizhou Zhao

STUDIO DESCRIPTION
Vernacular (adjective): using a language or a dialect native to a region or country rather than a literary, cultured, or foreign language; of, relating to, or characteristic of a period, place, or group; especially: of, relating to, or being the common building style of a period or place

Vernacularology (noun); a branch of knowledge that carefully observes, studies and documents the ordinary and oftentimes charming artefacts particular to a given urban environment

Cartagena: Urban Design

The Vernacularology Studio is preoccupied with the extent to which the ordinary and the traditional resonate in architecture and the construction of the city today. This semester the studio focused on the re-utilization of relegated sites and buildings in traditional urban settings through the study and projection of a case study at an urban and domestic scale; the review of the infill site in Cartagena, Colombia. How the economies of Adaptive Reuse can contribute to the preservation and conservation of cultural patrimony, Material Culture or otherwise, and the efficacy and practicality of an architecture responsive to traditional materials and methods of construction, and an urbanism committed to evolution and continuity of formal and informal urban patterns of merit are critical considerations of the workshop and studio.

The semester was divided into an equal pair of three credit sessions, each consisting of documentation and project.

The project copes with the pressing problems facing many coastal cities in the Caribbean, Cartagena being no exception- the abandonment, degradation and underdevelopment of the waterfront. The studio investigated the design of a new waterfront development and urban fabric located in the neighborhood of La Matuna, adjacent to the historic city center. Students, in groups of two, were asked to engage pertinent issues facing the future of contemporary waterfront cities, including rising seas, sustainable infrastructure and new housing typologies. The studio’s efforts were coordinated with the ongoing planning process and the participation of the local municipal planning department.

STUDENTS
Hitomi Maeno
Kristine Dillon
Kristin Marshall
Ashley Galvankar
Sarah Potter
Sydney Matsumoto
Catalina Ruiz Luzlo
Chesney Henry
Kurt Gessler
Justin Tehrani
Jaime Toro
Catalina Chavez
Andrea Hernandez
Davin Stancil
Robert Dahiine
Andrew Schneider

Adaptive Re-use, Castello di Abbiategrasso, 1981, Giorgio Grassi
STUDIO NAME
ARC 510/610: Architecture Thesis

DIRECTOR
Allan T. Shulman,
Graduate Programs in Architecture

COORDINATOR
Jean Francois Lejeune

THESIS ADVISORS
Germane Barnes
Victor Deupi
Joanna Lombard
Jean Francois Lejeune
Zhao Pei
Allan T. Shulman

DESCRIPTION
The Architectural Thesis or Master’s Project is a design project conceived of, developed, and defended independently by the individual student that aims at being an original contribution to the field of architecture. The thesis is a two-semester, 9-credit process that includes a seminar and a design studio led by one or two faculty members. The Thesis must be approved by the ad-hoc faculty in partial fulfillment of the requirements of the Master of Architecture Degree (3-year or 2-year).

STUDENTS
Bachelor of Architecture
Marissa Gudiel

Master of Architecture
Noor Alhazeem
Rekaz Aljedaani
Shahad Alsulaimani
Mohammed Alwadi
Hussain Binaif
Massel Bostan
Emily Elkin
Marina Engel
Wenxin Jiang
Hannah Landman
David Makhan
Yuxuan Niu
Nahar Rushdi
Beatriz Santos
Jingshi Wang
Kyrah Williams
Jingchao Wu
Yinzhe Zhang

Master of Science in Architecture
Yasmine Zeghar
Concrete Coloring Book

Brutalism—coined by Reyner Banham—began as an ethic, transcending into a new architectural era post Second World War. The mid-twentieth century, was the booming era for concrete structures. This was a movement meant to strip away from added ornamentation and represent programmatic functions in a stoic manner. Due to its imposing qualities, these structures appeared to be monumental with their immediate context. This has resulted in a disconnection between the built environment and human beings.

This thesis project attempts to reintegrate existing brutalist buildings within the Miami metropolitan area to their context. A comprehensive framework will be developed to articulate the qualities that define brutalism. For these brutalist buildings to become an integral element to their context, color theory notions will be implemented. Color specific to the selected environments will allow for a positive connection between these elements as color ignites both memory and emotion. This desire to understand the human mind and the effect color has upon it, will heighten the quality of the buildings analyzed and simultaneously influence human welfare.
Bahrain is an example of a country in the Arabian Gulf that has undergone a major urban transformation by shedding away traditional Arabic architecture and urban form to become more westernized. It is now an ultra-modern city with numerous houses, apartment blocks and shopping malls that lack a unique cultural identity. Moreover, as people become more individualized, the appreciation of community is slowly fading away.

Taking a look back at the way houses were designed and grouped together in Bahrain is crucial in order to restore a sense of culture and community. Traditionally, courtyards have been used in residential buildings as spaces for social activities. Lately, however, there has been a major decline in their use due to modernization and globalization. Likewise, the traditional urban fabric of narrow alleys and small streets has been abandoned in favor of exclusively automobile-oriented space.

The thesis investigates how the patio and the elevated roof terraces of old Bahrain could become again the typological elements of modern houses. At the same time, it asks the question whether the typical family-centered space could turn be used to create public spaces at a larger social level, for instance the block and the neighborhood.

The result is the experimental design for a yet to be developed artificial island located between the two historic city centers of Muharraq and Manama. The courtyard will be used in every house on the island, as well as every block, thus proposing a new modern vision of community and culture.
Contemporary urban planning practices physically inscribe expectations of reduced social interaction on the land. Yet, urban design can have a positive effect on social interaction; in fact, a coherent spatial intervention may be one key to reversing the apparent isolation of contemporary cities. This thesis will explore the relationship between comprehensible open spaces and their social and cultural influence to engender an interactive society. The author will argue that a desirable sense of place is one critical element to increase social interaction between six age categories of selected neighborhoods. Baroque public spaces, by virtue of their spatial clarity, mixture of uses, and engagement with the surrounding urban fabric, offer a critical insight into this issue. This thesis will investigate the possibility of a dramatic baroque-type spatial intervention in a contemporary urban context. The approach of this study is based on an investigation of the causes of the current decreased social engagement and will be to offer an alternative type of public spaces based on spatial clarity, mixed programming, and high intensity. This model can be extrapolated to the scale of the city by a network of spaces.
Saudi Arabia's government is an Islamic monarchy and is governed in compliance with Sharia law. As such, drugs and alcoholic beverages are prohibited, therefore the stigma associated with drug or alcohol use is strong. Despite these strict laws, according to the United Nation Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), there is a growing problem with addiction in Saudi Arabia. For those who suffer from alcohol and drug abuse, treatment options are scarce, and the stigma is so great that most addicts never reveal their addiction, even to close family members, nor do they seek treatment. One of the biggest barriers to recovery and awareness in Muslim and Arab communities is denial and shame. By designing a drug rehabilitation center that can act as a wellness center, this thesis project can address the nationwide gap between the needs of addicts for treatment and rehabilitation, and the facilities and expertise to deliver it. This intervention will be designed to provide various health programs to break the barriers and overcome Arab society's negative perception of addiction and addicts.
MATERIAL CULTURE

Material culture is the reference for every nation that wants to preserve its identity among other nations. Alhoza Village, one of the most important heritage sites in Saudi Arabia, is a powerful example of material culture. Vernacular architectural elements found in Alhoza Village play an important role in the preservation of information related to the southern society in Saudi Arabia. This thesis explores the material culture which represents the value of vernacular village in modern architecture and how it can improve the economic, social and cultural aspects in modern life.

In 1968, after the improvements of oil, people who lived in Alhoza village started to leave their old and traditional homes and move into new homes in the urban city. This newfound economic wealth and political stability made individuals abandon their old homes. Subsequently, the government applied a new law to protect this village and similar heritage villages and considered them part of Saudi history. Some owners not only left their historical buildings, but they also started to demolish and replace them with new ones regardless of the historical and cultural value of these heritage sites.

This paper will primarily address some questions such as, can local village vernacular be valuable and desired in modern architecture? Can they be merged with needs of today to make a sustainable living environment? Can vernacular architecture represent the value of culture? Can Alhoza village, Thursday Market, historical mosque and farms improve the economic, social and cultural aspects of local village?
STUDIO NAME
ARC 610: Architecture Thesis

STUDENT
Hussain Binaif, Master of Architecture

THESIS ADVISOR
Zhao Pei

TITLE
Kinetic Architecture - A proposal design for the World Cup 2022

DESCRIPTION
Ever since the World Cup’s hosting rights bid was won by Qatar under controversial circumstances, there have raging debates on the possibility of hosting World Cup event during summer. The event normally occurs during the northern hemisphere summer period, but around this period, the weather in Qatar may reach above 100-degree Fahrenheit, which cause the exterior public activities are impossible.

The areas around the stadiums of World Cup in Qatar are not shaded parks, but hard surfaces for parking, circulation, security and emergency evacuation requirements. This thesis is to propose one kinetic module structure and adopt this structure into the selected sample site to test how to improve those public spaces for the World Cup 2022 visitors. Such module (prototype) can automatically transform its shape with the sunlight’s change, meeting the users’ different needs, such as shading, cooling, lighting, interacting, and privacy issues. Also, the modules can be assembled as different forms according to landform, land property boundary, program function, and so on.

Furthermore, with the global warming, it is believed that the many Arabian cities such as Doha, Dubai, and Abu Dhabi will exceed the human livable threshold as early as 2071. Such kinetic module system can be used as public space intervention method.
STUDIO NAME
ARC 610: Architecture Thesis

STUDENT
Massel Bostan, Master of Architecture

THESIS ADVISOR
Jean Francois Lejeune

TITLE
SILENT SNOW
Narrative | Video Game | Identity

DESCRIPTION
Video games and architecture share a tool, narrative, which is used to define meaningful spaces. The thesis aims to bridge the two disciplines and justify the language for designing buildings through narrative and designing videogames through spatially sensible design.

Through case studies, the thesis research develops a deeper understanding of narrative as a tool and that leads to a better method for designing the main project, Silent Snow.

Silent Snow is a narrative experiment where architecture tells the story of identity. Ilyna, the main character, begins her journey to find her own identity in the deepest parts of Snow Country.

Japan. She spends her time understanding how her environment is a representation of her own identity.

She lives in Tsumago and develops a deeper understanding of specific elements in the buildings that surround her which are part of Japanese culture. She decides to take her knowledge to the great city of 1960s Kenzo Tange Tokyo and finds an alien planet. She soon realizes however, that the elements which drive the basic designs are inherited from the traditional values of her Edo Period village. Identity can transform over time, yet the core values and processes are very rooted in history.

DAY 5
TUE. 5.1.18 // 9am - 6pm > MURPHY
As the sea rises, South Florida’s freshwater aquifer is infused with salt water, and engineering systems fail under the stresses of infiltration and population capacity. Miami’s neighborhoods will be increasingly displaced. As blocks, neighborhoods, and communities relocate, the physical structures left behind contribute a plethora of toxicity to flooded streets and existing waterways.

This proposal examines the conditions of settlement, departure, and ecological renewal through the lens of one of Miami’s lowest lying and most vulnerable neighborhoods.
The food systems we use today are not enough to meet our needs. As we rely on broken mainstream food systems, we have lost contact with the production of food and pay more money for lower quality food, even as we destroy our environment. One solution to our food problem is to start growing food in cities. As we do so, vertical farms will become a natural expression of the urban condition, allowing metropolitan citizens to reinvent how we access and grow produce in a teaching community.

This thesis will explore the insertion of a community built vertical farm in an urban setting, with the use of architecture to create a plant-based space intended for organic production. It will investigate a model for urban populations to achieve access to information on good nutrition, contact with the whole production process while achieving sustainable development. There's a need to bring the production that happens in farms back into public consciousness.
DAY 5
TUE. 5.1.18 // 9am - 6pm > MURPHY

STUDIO NAME
ARC 610: Architecture Thesis

STUDENT
Wenxin Jiang, Master of Architecture

THESIS ADVISOR
Victor Deupi

TITLE
Rainbow Over Somewhere -
An Utopian Community

IT’S ABOUT BELIEVING IN THE FUTURE AND
THINKING THE FUTURE WILL BE BETTER THAN
THE PAST...

DESCRIPTION
This project aims to create a utopian community as we see in the science fiction movies where heroes fight for light, freedom and happiness. This gives people hope after darkness, chaos and tragedy.

We all live with hopes, dreams and aspirations. We are all animated by dreams of a better life. However, the future is always a long time in coming, is it not? Deep down, all of us, no matter how naive and implausible, want to make the world a better place.
STUDIO NAME
ARC 610: Architecture Thesis

STUDENT
Hannah Landman, Master of Architecture

THESIS ADVISOR
Victor Deupi

TITLE
Refuge to Create

DESCRIPTION
Fashion design has the potential to be a voice for change, becoming a discipline that will make an impact on society and change behavior for the better. Through studying the similarities between fashion and architecture, a fashion designer’s retreat, on the edge of the Everglades, will be designed to help designers create with an eye for doing good. The retreat will create a place out of nothing, and house an institute whose aim is to promote fashion that is sustainable and innovative.
Horizontality is used as a conceptual and organizing device that guided formal and configurative decisions, setting limits to the balancing act used in reconciling verticality with density. 

Animating the process as creative point of departure was the “David Hockney Lens”, and an exploration of why and how the artist took on Los Angeles and its architecture as subject matter upon his arrival in 1963, while speculating what would have inspired him had he landed in contemporaneous or even present-day Miami.

This thesis tests these ideas on an 8.5-acre transit-oriented site in Coconut Grove bisected by the US 1 Highway. It also attempts to apply lessons of context, syntax and image-making potential learned from an examination of mid-century single-family residential modernism to inform a relevant and appropriate tropical architecture of horizontal density in contemporary Miami.
Our lives today are increasingly virtual. Social interactions, communication, entertainment, work: all of these take place, to a large extent, in the virtual realm. Up until this point, our interface with the virtual realm has largely been through flat screens. The recent release of virtual reality devices, e.g. Oculus Rift, presents a new opportunity, and arguably an imperative, to reintroduce spatiality back into our lives.

Architects, through their traditions and modes of spatial thinking, are playing with and designing physical space. But virtual space presents inherently different opportunities and limitations than physical space. Architects need to start thinking about virtual reality as not just a tool, but as another valued space which can be used in our daily life. This thesis is trying to research how can virtual reality space influence physical space in architecture and what kind of changes would result in the physical world. Furthermore, it will investigate whether this revolution would change what we know about architecture now, and even change our social and political environment.
Can Architecture affect Human Senses?

Architecture has both direct and indirect powerful impact on the human senses, health, productivity, and psychology whether we recognize that or not. Many experts discuss the impact of architecture on the human senses, and architecture's effect on human health and social life. This research will show how architecture could play a very important role in our lives of how we feel and how it could affect human healing, psychology, and productivity.

Every building around the world has its own character, due to the place where the building is located, the perspective that we see from inside and outside spaces, or because of the different materials in each space in the building. In this case, if one felt something, it could recall a related memory which they thought they had forgotten and turn on other senses to make us feel that feeling.

For instance, if we smell the rain in the winter and feel the cold wind touching our skin, we could remember a specific place where we traveled to in the past with our family or friends. Our senses would directly send signs to our brain to bring back that memory and make us feel and imagine the surrounded area for that place and time or even our talks.

“Christopher Day in his book Places of the Soul said, the environment is built from sensory impressions. “Our senses are the gate way between external reality and our inner feelings. Those senses could inform us what is important and what is not in our surrounding spaces. Generally, we experience things around us through the known five senses: vision, hearing, taste, touch, and smell. So, we can tell that architecture in the senses of environment design, is the art of nourishing the human senses.” (Day, Christopher. Places of the Soul: Architecture and Environmental Design as a Healing Art. Oxford: Architectural Press, (2014).) Architecture is one of the most common arts that can leave a direct powerful impact on us through our senses, even if we didn’t recognize it. When we enter a building, we immediately feel something from its soul, its history. Our experience with buildings would start from the first touch of the front door till the last brick in that building. Through these types of experiences, each sense will keep an impression on our feelings and create a memory in the unconscious mind.

From that perspective, architecture can leave impressions on us which can make us feel better or worse, feel fear or confidence, and could even help us to heal from sickness or get worse.
Today, the health of urban cities is threatened by an invasion of banality and lacking a fundamental element; the human need to give symbolical meaning to public spaces. This thesis will explore the introduction of gardens into the urban fabric, as the generator of prosperity using as laboratory Central Cleveland, an industrial area surrounded by a residential layer undergoing present day social and economic disparities. The garden inserted into the historical remnant anatomy of the industrial city will strengthen neighborhood identity through its programmatic aspect.

The making of public space is the making of the city; gardens as public spaces may reintroduce into the city basic existential cosmologies that are essential to civility. Human existential needs are reflected and satisfied through a union with nature. Prehistoric people morphed ideologies with physical spatial constructs, expressing the importance of giving meaning to their surroundings.
As one of the earliest treaty ports, and later the largest metropolis in the far East during the 1920s, Shanghai formed the unique texture of traditional urban fabric over many decades by the amalgamation of disparate communities, built in different periods, all coming together to conduct business harmoniously. "The buildings erected in place of the intimacy provided by former alleyways, houses, shops, and small business, have been largely exclusive, homogenous, unilateral developments denying public access, participation and interaction." Nowadays there are loads of old traditional Lilong neighborhoods where there are dirty restaurants and poor retails along the streets and crowded residences inside the blocks. Most of those neighborhoods lack of government Investments, real estate developments and residence resettlements. Micro-intervention may guide a new development mode for these old and awkward neighborhoods in the long term.
“May I have some loose change?... Do you have any food to spare?” These are phrases many of us hear as we drive to our jobs/schools every day. We may pass a person, or a group of people, sleeping by an abandoned building, or walking the streets with signs asking for help. On our journey home, we may pass broken homes in beaten communities; places that may be filled with so much promise, yet lack resources.

Endemic to cities across the U.S., homelessness is typically addressed through shelters and group housing. This thesis seeks to develop opportunities for individuals aspiring to escape homelessness and aims to expand the range of available interventions through a study for a neighborhood-based infrastructure of transitional, low-income, and affordable housing in order to enhance individual, family and community resilience.
In the three centuries since architectural education has been formalized, it has come a long way, yet architecture schools continue to be rooted in campus contexts. By including irregular movement in the method of teaching, students will gain an innovative and potentially better ability to communicate and collaborate. This effect of mobility will exploit the opportunity to have a mobile studio as an alternative to the fixed campus experience. The mobile studio will catalyze partnerships as students and faculty expand their networks to encompass new communities in their travel across the nation. By connecting with people outside of their social spheres, the mobile studio will increase the exchange of knowledge and the possibility of inspiration and creation.

Traveling by train this studio will focus on topics relative to regional contexts. Structured into an M. Arch program lasting 1.5 years, students and faculty will travel from site to site where they work on designing projects specific to the local sites, topics, and pressing issues. Students will grow academically and professionally through real-life experiences. This mobile studio and its curriculum will ultimately test the educational system of architecture schools and induce a dynamic framework to the study of architecture.
Andy Warhol’s series of silk-screen portraits of the Mao Tse Tung (1972) reflected both the idea of infinite reproduction while dealing with the subject of fame. He made the Chairman’s ubiquitous presence a mesmerizing figure of his art. The project will be an Art Chapel dedicated to Warhol in China. There is no doubt that Tiananmen Square is the most significant place to represent Chairman Mao and for the whole country of China.
Southeast Florida is placed at the very top of the list of the world’s metropolitan areas with the most to lose from global warming. From Key West to the Palm Beaches there is much infrastructure and many homes, businesses and natural areas that are vulnerable to flooding and erosion from waves and storm surges. Predictions of stronger hurricanes, a clearly accelerating rate of sea level rise, and continuous population growth in the years ahead, have led to increasing demand for action and willingness on the part of the public and private sectors to be a part of the solution. Government institutions and specialists want to know what those solutions are and what they will cost.

For the historical development of the city of Miami, the relationship with the sea and the Bay has been essential. The edge of the city has been transformed by connectivity, economic, and industrial development of large-scale public and private infrastructure. This thesis proposes the transformation of the waterfront edge of the Biscayne Bay as a new urban space inspired by the Quarterdeck Club in 1940. It was a floating deck located in Biscayne Bay where people could enjoy the edge in a different way doing multiple activities such as fishing, eating, swimming, etc. The proposed design will be a modular floating walkway from NE 36th Street to the Venetian Causeway, to create a recreational eco-system to mitigate the floods and erosion from storms and waves. This new urban space will protect the Biscayne Bay while taking advantage of and producing new economic, ecological, and cultural values for the city of Miami.
Emperor Hadrian’s personality impersonates the Roman Empire: conqueror, passionate, poet and architect, ambitious, contradictory, with a capacity for both great personal generosity and cruelty.

Hadrian’s Villa at Tivoli, known during the imperial period by the Latin name Tibur, would not fulfill the standard role of the villa as a mere vacation home. The indefatigable Hadrian envisioned it as a place to unite business and pleasure, contemplating the beautiful hilly landscape while strategizing on behalf of the Roman empire. Most importantly, he wanted to surround himself with reminders of his travels through Spain, Egypt, the eastern provinces of the empire, and in particular to the most Hellenist of empires—Greece. He was, in the words of the scholar Tertullian, “omnia curiositatum explorator,” “an explorer of everything interesting,” and his villa in Tivoli reflected his restless curiosity in the vast territories under his rule.

Now the place is a vast cemetery of stone and brick remains, evocative and romantic. Its influence and inspiration in arts and architecture is infinite.

How to interpret the past from the actual point of view? How to build contemporary in accordance with the remains?

The goal here was to create, playing with the small and the big scale all-together.

The new pavilions shall have a strong sense of place that can influence physical, social, emotional response of the Villa visitors.

The results should have a condition to transform the place without roughness. The studio reached that goal through a human-centered approach, not a formal or compositional one.
U-SoA Awards
5.1.18 > 6 - 8pm
THOMAS P. MURPHY TERRACE

Awarded to the projects that display design excellence and exemplify the goals and objectives of the semester.

Determination of the design awards are based on assessment from the overall faculty and guest critics.

UNDERGRADUATE STUDIO DESIGN AWARDS

First Year
Second Year
Third Year

UPPER-LEVEL STUDIO DESIGN AWARD

THESIS STUDIO DESIGN AWARD

MRED+U PROJECT AWARD

FERGUSON SHAMAMIAN DESIGN AWARD

Awarded to the undergraduate and graduate student who demonstrate design excellence in classical and traditional architecture.
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