ARCH 601 Topical Graduate Studio, Spring 2016

Studio Content Descriptions

Topic/Title: Campus Design, Adaptive Reuse, and a Ballpark
Faculty: David Cronrath, AIA, Professor and Dean

Description: The studio will focus on a real project sponsored by the Athletic Director of UMD and taught in conjunction with Gensler DC and NYC offices. The course will investigate the adaptive reuse of Bob “Turtle” Smith Baseball Stadium and campus design for the surrounding area. The studio has two objectives: Redesign the campus district taking into account the Cole Field House renovation and re-design of the baseball stadium. Students will work with stakeholder groups as well as consultants. The studio is planning a publication of results as an outcome.

Topic/Title: Bridging the Gap Studio
Faculty: Madlen Simon, AIA, Associate Professor

Description: The Bridging the Gap studio, developed in conjunction with Gensler’s DC office kickstarter program, puts a University of Maryland studio in the US, led by Associate Professor Madlen Simon, to work re-designing a district in Baghdad and a Nahraim University studio in Iraq, led by Assistant Professor Shaimaa Hameed Hussain, to work re-designing a district in DC. The studio work will work at the scales of urban design and architecture, and the emphasis on design within existing historic fabric will satisfy the historic preservation studio requirement for dual-degree students. The cross-cultural experience will develop skills essential to global practice. UMD students will assist Iraqi students in learning about the physical, environmental, social, cultural situation in DC and Nahraim University students will help the US students learn about Baghdad. The final project will be juried as a design competition, with the winning Nahraim University student and University of Maryland student selected for a Gensler internship. The results of the studio will be documented in a book.

Topic/Title: Solar Decathlon Design Studio – Exploring Regenerative Design at the Residential Scale
Faculty: TBA

Description: This studio will create the preliminary design for what will become UMD’s entry in the 2017 Solar Decathlon (being held -likely- in California). Students will analyze successful (and unsuccessful) entries in previous competitions as well as non-SD ultra-green design concepts and precedents. Working in cooperation with a multidisciplinary team including students from the UMD Clark School of Engineering, this studio will explore residential architecture, technologies and construction systems that will help define forward looking sustainable residential architecture. Among the technologies to be considered are solar power, water purification, comfort and predictive systems for systems controls, advanced materials and modular/component construction.

Note & Proviso: LeafHouse (http://2007.solarteam.org/page.php?id=250), which was designed and built by an interdisciplinary team from the University of Maryland, took an overall Second Place in the 2007 US DOE SD. The 2011 team from Maryland created WaterShed (http://2011.solarteam.org/) and swept the UD DOE SD competition by winning the over-all First Place award. The first-round application was submitted in October to the US DOE and we should know by the first of the new year whether or not Team Maryland will be selected to compete in the 2017 decathlon. If we are selected (and if the funding to support this studio has been identified) the inaugural design studio will be offered during the spring 2016 semester as an optional 601 Studio curriculum.

NB The above course descriptions are provided for informational purposes only. For registration, all ARCH 601 students will sign up for section 0101. Assignment to the actual sections will take place after an informational session in December and verification of the US DOE SD studio in January. Students will have an opportunity to indicate their topical studio preferences.