Abstract

As the discipline has evolved since the practice of architecture was formally established in the United States in the late nineteenth century, multiple ways of executing this task have also emerged. Many of the leaders within the discipline have invested as much in designing their methods of practice or ways in which they can advance the built environment as they have their projects. This course is designed to examine the current best practices, hypothesize about future opportunities as non-standard forms of practice and develop a critical approach towards innovation and design opportunity through practice – in other words, to develop a critical understand of the architectural design practice.

Description

This course will familiarize you with basic principles of traditional architectural practice and the related discipline of project management in the context of the current, rapidly evolving building industry. It is designed to provide an understanding of the fundamentals of practice in combination with those of organizing and running architectural projects. Simultaneously, course material will highlight changes in the roles and responsibilities of the players in the AEC (Architecture/Engineering/Construction) process, and anticipate how those changes may affect practice during your career. Lectures will describe the profession, options for modern practice, concepts and techniques for determining scope of services, writing Owner/Architect and consultant contracts, negotiating fees, assessing and minimizing risk, and planning schedules. The final project will provide an opportunity to integrate these skills by producing a proposal for a small commission undertaken as a member of a small office.¹

This course fulfills the professional practice requirement for an accredited professional degree precedent to sitting for the Architectural Registration Exam (ARE). The organization that governs the professional degree granting is NAAB (National Architectural Accrediting Board). Criteria given by NAAB must be fulfilled by the schools to grant the professional degree—Bachelors or Masters of Architecture.