**Course Title**: *Everything Reverberates: Louis Kahn, Edward Hopper, Ernest Hemingway*

ARCH 4205/5205 & ARCH 4050/6050

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**Premise**: Multidisciplinary study is a response to the fact that through the lifelong course of our education we all encounter interesting and provocative ideas and artifacts not only within but also tangential to and outside of our field of study. Because nothing exists in a vacuum, these ideas and artifacts may be quite relevant to our understanding and expertise as architects. By exploring the connective tissue that links our field of study to others we can imbue our own work with greater creativity, relevance and meaning.

**Course Content**: The intent of this research seminar is to explore the work of three thinkers/makers – architect Louis Kahn, artist Edward Hopper, and author Ernest Hemingway. All three lived in roughly the same time period – Hopper: 1882-1967; Hemingway: 1899-1961; Kahn: 1901-1974 – and we will study their ideas and work not only relative to one another but also amid the milieu of world events and in the context of the prevailing trends and in their respective art forms. We will seek to discover if and how the structure, language and content of their works are related to one another. This suggests that the research undertaken by the class will be wide-ranging (in part) and specific (in part) as we attempt both to form a holistic understanding of our protagonists and delve into a more focused exploration of a subset of issues.

**Methodology**: The work of the semester will primarily take the form of visual and verbal analysis and writing which will be the product of individual research. Initially students will analyze the work of all three protagonists to familiarize themselves with a broad understanding of each. Next each student will write two research essays – each focused on the work of one of the protagonists – which will lay the groundwork for one longer paper. The final paper will explore the consonances, dissonances and overlap in the work of two of the three. For instance a student may explore the ways in which Kahn used light in his buildings relative to the way Hopper used light in his paintings or, perhaps, the iconographic imagery both Hemingway and Kahn employed.

At every stage of the course students will identify topics and works of their choice to explore. The analyses of each student will be presented to and discussed by the class. Similarly all written drafts will be work-shopped in small groups. In this way all research will be brought back to the group for everyone to use.

**Requirements**: strong writing skills, a probative curiosity, organizational and logic skills, self-motivation and direction and genuine interest in the topic.