

Arch 4103- Fall 2019
5th Year Studio
Beorkrem
Center City Building Studio Description

Integrated Design Research Studio

The Integrated Design Research Studio is part of the new 5th year program at Center City Center building. The intention is that by consolidating the program into this location with a cohesive curriculum dedicated to the urban built environment a culture of innovation towards the urban environment through advanced architecture will emerge. This consolidation and immersion will allow for close alignments with the city and industry. Exploring the urban condition in Charlotte is immediate, local practices will more readily be accessed and immersive multi-day workshops are possible.

Studio Alignment

Students will chose one of the two offered studios, though the semester will be organized in such a way that each pair of students will interact with all instructors on a regular basis. Though each of the studios will be using the same site in Uptown Charlotte, each studio will have a significantly different cultural or civic program.

Comprehensive Architectural Project (CAP)

This first semester of the CAP studio sequence covers all of the overall NAAB-specified CAP requirements. Instructors provide site and program guidelines, as well as a set of contemporary architectural issues that allow students to complete a fully resolved building design, including architectural ideas, site work, technology integration, details, and basic code compliance. Instructors also establish a relatively prescriptive framework for the pacing of the work (i.e., the phases of the project), but students are still expected to be proactive during each defined phase of the semester—to create a hierarchy of themes and objectives and to develop specific graphic processes that complement their design inquiries. The conclusion of the fall semester is, in a word, conclusive. At the final review, building projects must meet all of the stated objectives and requirements.

The completed project should serve to demonstrate your ability to integrate the various components of a comprehensive design including; Site Conditions, Programmatic Conditions, Structural Systems, Environmental Systems, Building Envelope Systems, Building Service Systems, Life Safety and Egress, Universal Accessibility, Materials and Assemblies, and Technical Documentation.

Software Integration

Part of the 5th year studio component is being supported generously by Autodesk. This support includes providing next generation software packages and workshop seminars directed by a team of Autodesk research engineers. This is an opportunity to take leadership roles within the industry and to define a more thoughtful incorporation of computation practices within the design process for architecture working directly with the industry leaders. This studio research project represents the possible next generation of computational design in architectural practice.

The Integrated Design Research Studio seeks to leverage these innovative computational techniques to achieve the requirements to meet the National Architecture Accrediting Board (NAAB);

- Comprehending the importance of research pursuits to inform the design process.
- Evaluating options and reconciling the implications of design decisions across systems and scales.
- Synthesizing variables from diverse and complex systems into an integrated architectural solution.
- Responding to environmental stewardship goals across multiple systems for an integrated solution.