Visiting Professor

This course has several coincident agendas. We will complete the Master's Thesis for the Building Science program which each student has developed in preceding 596 and 692a classes. But in the process, we will address a broad range of ancillary topics. We will create a "culture of learning" as part of the course. Although it is a studio course, there will be guest lecturers, lectures of assigned topics and periodic reviews, as well as normal studio time.

We will review the scientific method in general and as it applies to each thesis topic. We will consider the value and impact of investigative tools in the process and product of Architecture. We will write papers which could be submitted to conferences (visit www.sbse.org) or journals as a prototype of technology transfer (and a measure of the value and validity of the material.) Those of you who have had abstracts accepted will use the abstracts as topics for these papers. We will do several interim presentations to the first year students and to outside consultants and to committee members, prior to the final presentation. We will examine topics in Building Science which are of current interest, whether or not one of the current theses addresses these topics. We will write the thesis in several stages, so that there is opportunity to modify and improve both the research and the writing prior to the thesis due date. Prior to the due date (currently April 1) each student will produce a thesis in the format acceptable to the University and with content acceptable to all committee members. Finally, each student will produce a shorter version of the thesis material in a format consistent with publication. In the process, each student will learn something about the content area of each other student's thesis.

For additional information on the thesis, itself, visit the Graduate School Websites. For an overview of the submission process and a review of the University's requirements go to: http://www.usc.edu/schools/GraduateSchool/current_thesis_dissert_02.html http://www.usc.edu/schools/GraduateSchool/current_thesis_dissert_03.html (01/10/2013).

Go to the actual link for submitting the thesis electronically, when the thesis is ready. Do not attempt to open multiple profiles. It is suggested that you do not open anything until you are completely ready to submit. Only one profile is allowed. If you forget your profile, password or anything else, you will cause yourself great distress.

For materials that do not fit into the normal pdf format, you may consider putting them on file as supplemental materials. Check for the most recent instructions, but the last known website was: http://www.etdadmin.com/cgi-bin/main/submitting

The course has several overlapping agendas:

I.   Experimentation (data collection or computer simulation, analysis and theorizing, or tool creation, testing and prototypical results.) Note: This should be mostly completed from Arch 692a.

II.   Scholarly research (writing about the precedents in the field.) Note: This should be mostly completed from Arch 692a.

III.   Completion of a coherent and accurate thesis.

IV.   Translation and condensation of the thesis to create a reasonable ***understanding*** of the work accomplished and its implications.

Class sessions will consist of an opening segment for announcements, reminders and updates to scheduling, followed by a short lecture or presentation. Presentations will be by the instructor, guests and/or students. Following the presentation, the class will take the normal studio format, with individual "desk" critiques either at the student workstation or in the faculty office. Students are expected to attend the lecture portion of the class and be present for interaction with the faculty and *with each other,* throughout the class time. Please bring your work with you to studio in order to facilitate that interaction. Remember, you should learn as much from each other as from the faculty. Hopefully you will end your thesis in a position to be able to teach others about the topic.

Students will set their own individual schedules with the faculty, defining the milestones and deadlines they agree to meet at the appropriate dates in the progress towards their thesis. Students should keep a physical or electronic record of the items on a "**to do list**" or "**action item list**" *which they will bring with them to each class session and each meeting with the instructor.*

Please note the following critical dates.

Thesis Presentations:
Monday, March 25 and Wednesday, March 27, 2013 for a May graduation.
Monday, May 13*, 2012 for an August graduation. This date will be re-arranged to match the Blue Tape presentation date. Any later presentation must be individually arranged by the student with faculty who may not be present during the summer.

Spring Semester 2013

Degree Conferral Date: May 17, 2013

Deadline to submit **completed documents** to The Graduate School, including signatures:

Monday, March 25, 2013, by 12:00 noon, PST

Deadline to **upload thesis or dissertation** manuscript:

Monday, April 1, 2013, by 12:00 noon, PST

Summer Semester 2013

Degree Conferral Date: August 13, 2013

Deadline to submit **completed documents** to The Graduate School, including signatures:

Monday, June 24, 2013, by 12:00 noon, PST

Deadline to **upload thesis or dissertation** manuscript:

Monday, July 1, 2013, by 12:00 noon, PST