Master of Architecture Graduate Research + Design Studios
Fall 2017 - Spring 2018

Directed Independent Research + Design Projects Proposal Guidelines
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Research, Design Research, Design
M.Arch I, II and III students who will be entering the culminating year of the Master of Architecture program may submit proposals to conduct an individual, independent, 2-semester, directed research + design studio project for ARCH 7130 + ARCH 7140. There will be a competitive selection process by the School of Architecture faculty that will produce a 2-semester design studio section of not less than 10 and not more than 12 students to be directed by a design studio instructor.

This studio will explore the translational interrelationship of research, design research, and design. Research and design are practices that you know well from your previous academic experiences. “Design research” combines the rigor of an analytical process from hypothesis to design synthesis with a creative process of intuitive, iterative and non-linear design innovation and invention. The ultimate goal of any academic research is to generate new knowledge in the discipline. The goal of the M.Arch Independent Research + Design Studio project is to generate new architectural paradigms based on novel research concepts and exploratory design research.

Studio Structure
The M.Arch Independent Research + Design Studio will be similar in structure to the other ARCH 7130 + ARCH 7140 studio options in that the first semester will be devoted to an in-depth research process through week 10 to create the conceptual foundation of your year’s work, followed by a design-research processes to test your research to complete the fall semester. The second semester will be devoted to the architectural design manifestation of your intellectual project.

Submissions
Your proposals may be based on broad social, cultural, environmental, technical and theoretical concepts, but you must define your proposed outcomes in architectural terms. You may respond to the items below in prose or bulleted lists. The M.Arch Independent Research + Design Studio project proposals must include the following items:

1. Student’s name
2. Project title
3. Project image
4. Project abstract [what are the essential project concepts in 100 words max]
5. Overall project content description [what are the overall project concepts in 500 words max]
6. Overall project pedagogical goals [what do you hope to learn and teach yourself in 200 words max]
7. Fall semester research outcomes description [what will you investigate architecturally in 200 words max]
8. Fall semester research methodology description [how will you organize your research in 200 words max]
9. Spring semester design outcomes description [what will you make at what scale in 200 words max]
10. Bibliography [list of at least 5 related book and/or article titles including author, journal title if applicable, date of publication, publisher]
Eligibility and Deadlines

Eligible students include M.Arch I, II and III students who have officially committed to enter the culminating M.ARCH year. Proposals must be in a PDF format, and are due by 5pm on April 1 of the academic year prior to the culminating M.Arch year [this is a Saturday this year]. The faculty will announce the 10 to 12 projects that have been selected for the M.Arch Independent Research + Design Studio on April 15.