IT 2308-001| INTRODUCTION TO THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT | Fall 2025

COURSE SYLLABUS

Instructor: Carolyn Barrientes, MFA

Departments of Industrial Technology & Theatre Technical Design

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Class Time: 9:30am - 10:45am Tues/Thurs

Location: IT building, classroom 103, Method of Delivery: Face-to-Face

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Course Description

Introduction to the Built Environment. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours

An introduction to the design and construction of the built environment. Includes consideration of professional practice, ethics, interior design, landscape architecture, planning, urbanism, and construction.

May be applied toward the core curriculum requirement in Language, Philosophy and Culture.

Required Textbook: (AVAILABLE ON PDF FORMAT)
https://students.aiu.edu/submissions/profiles/resources/onlineBook/N5Q8Z6_Design_and_Planning-_2.pdf The Built Environment: A collaborative Inquiry into Design and Planning. Second Edition EDITED BY Wendy R. McClure and Tom J. Bartuska John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

Student Learning Outcomes for this course: Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Improve students' understanding of our built environment through visual and drawing exercises.

2. Improve students' understanding of the language of design and architecture.

3. Understand the roles of a professional architect, designer, landscape architect, interior designer and product designer.

4. Introduce the students to important Architects and their buildings.

5. Increase the knowledge of important architectural elements, learn to analyze a building and be aware of the evolution of architecture through time.

<u>This course will assess</u>:

- <u>Social Responsibility</u>. Students will develop principles of social responsibility for living in a diverse world, to include the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making.

SRSU ADA Statement:

SRSU Accessibility Services. Sul Ross State University (SRSU) is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is SRSU policy to provide reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request each semester for each class. Students seeking accessibility/accommodations services must contact Mrs. Mary Schwartze Grisham, LPC, SRSU's Accessibility Services Director or Ronnie Harris, LPC, Counselor, at 432-837-8203 or email mschwartze@sulross.edu or ronnie.harris@sulross.edu. Our office is located on the first floor of Ferguson Hall, room 112, and our mailing address is P.O. Box C122, Sul Ross State University, Alpine. Texas, 79832.

Student Responsibilities Statement:

All full-time and part-time students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the [Student Handbook](#) and the [Undergraduate & Graduate Catalog](#) and for abiding by the [University rules and regulations](#). Additionally, students are responsible for checking their Sul Ross email as an official form of communication from the university. Every student is expected to obey all federal, state and local laws and is expected to familiarize themselves with the requirements of such laws.

Library Information:

The Bryan Wildenthal Memorial Library in Alpine offers FREE resources and services to the entire SRSU community. Access and borrow books, articles, and more by visiting the library's website, library.sulross.edu. Off-campus access

requires logging in with your LoboID and password. Librarians are a tremendous resource for your coursework and can be reached in person, by email (srsulibrary@sulross.edu), or phone (432-837-8123). The Southwest Texas Junior College (SWTJC) Libraries at Uvalde, Del Rio, and Eagle Pass. Offer additional access to library spaces and resources. Del Rio, Eagle Pass, and Uvalde students may also use online resources available through SWTJC website, library.swtjc.edu. The SWTJC Libraries serve as pick-up locations for Inter-Library Loan (ILL) and Document Delivery from the Alpine campus.

Classroom Climate of Respect:

Importantly, this class will foster free expression, critical investigation, and the open discussion of ideas. This means that all of us must help create and sustain an atmosphere of tolerance, civility, and respect for the viewpoints of others. Similarly, we must all learn how to probe, oppose, and disagree without resorting to tactics of intimidation, harassment, or personal attack. No one is entitled to harass, belittle, or discriminate against another person on the basis of race, religion, ethnicity, age, gender, national origin, or sexual preference. Still, we will not be silenced by the difficulty of fruitfully discussing politically sensitive issues.

Attendance:

This class will be only as good as the thoughts discussed by the people there to discuss them. We are a small group. We should care about the experience of the other students each week as much as our own interests.

Attendance is necessary! Attendance will be taken each scheduled class period in accordance with University and Departmental Policy and will count as part of the class grade. In accordance with the Student Handbook, after 9 hours of absences the student will be dropped from the course with an 'F". If a student is tardy and misses the roll call, they will be charged with one absence. It is up to your professors' discretion whether an absence is excused or unexcused.

Class Structure:

This course is designed to be a guided study and not just dissemination of information. It will be run on a lecture\discussion\activity format. Lectures will utilize power point slides, demonstrations, videos, and visits to the internet and field trips around Alpine, TX. Lectures will be given primarily to enhance and answer questions about the material that should have been studied prior to the class period. There may be some step-by-step guided practice, individual assistance, and demonstrations during the scheduled class time in areas where there seems to be a need. It is essential that everyone be in attendance for the scheduled meetings for sharing information, demonstrations, activities, and so questions are answered.

Time Commitment:

Students should be prepared to spend at least 4-6 hours per week outside of class on assignments that will include: Homework, Reading Assignments, Lab work and studying for tests.

Phones & Electronic Devices:

No electronic devices are allowed in the class or lab. Cell phones are not allowed.

Assignments:

No late work will be accepted without proper documentation or prior approval by the instructor.

Daily work will consist of reading. The laboratory exercises and projects will be completed together during the scheduled class time, work will be continued individually outside of class. It is essential that everyone be in attendance for the scheduled class meetings.

Course Communication: The official e-mail communications channel for this course is the Sul Ross State University e-mail account (yourname@sulross.edu) of each student and professor. For the purposes of this course, no other e-mail account is acceptable.

Due dates:

All assignments and projects will be given due dates which must be met. All assignments will be due by 11:59 pm on the assigned day unless they are due in class which in this case will be at the beginning of class after roll call. Assignments and projects will not be accepted if they are turned in late without approval. Late assignments will lose ten points per calendar day. Students are responsible for meeting the deadlines even if classes are missed.

Grading:

All work will be graded on specific criteria using the following guidelines. Any sketches and drawings assigned will be graded on a 100-point (percentage) scale. Criteria for grading will include accuracy of content, appropriateness of content for assignment, presentation, and clarity. Projects will be graded based on accuracy, neatness, content, adherence to standards, adherence to assignment, and workmanship.

Final grades will be determined by totals in these areas:

- 25% class participation and attendance, site visits
- 25% midterm exam
- 25% sketch book entries and other projects/assignments
- 25% Presentation of a final project (individual project)

In the event one of the above categories is not completed during the course that percentage will automatically be divided between the other categories at the same level. All assignment points will be converted to percentages for individual assignment letter grades.

Grades will be earned on the basis that "C" is average work, "B" is above average work, and "A" is well above average work. Barring any unusual circumstances there will be NO INCOMPLETES given at the end of this semester.

Academic Integrity:

Students in this class are expected to demonstrate scholarly behavior and academic honesty in the use of intellectual property. A scholar is expected to be punctual, prepared, and focused; meaningful and pertinent participation is appreciated. Examples of academic dishonesty include but are not limited to: Turning in work as original that was used in whole or part for another course and/or professor; turning in another person's work as one's own; copying from professional works or internet sites without citation; collaborating on a course assignment, examination, or quiz when collaboration is forbidden.

All students are expected to complete their own work at all times. Any dishonest conduct will be promptly rewarded with an immediate "F".

Plagiarism:

A student guilty of plagiarism and/or cheating will receive a grade of "F" in the course involved and the grade will be so recorded on the transcript. Students giving and receiving assistance in any unauthorized manner during an examination will subject themselves to this cheating policy. A pattern of cheating will result in suspension.

GENERATIVE AI TOOLS:

"In this course, students shall give credit to AI tools whenever used, even if only to generate ideas rather than usable text or illustrations. When using AI tools on assignments, add an appendix showing (a) the entire exchange, highlighting the most relevant sections; (b) a description of precisely which AI tools were used (e.g. ChatGPT private subscription version or DALL-E free version), (c) an explanation of how the AI tools were used (e.g. to generate

ideas, turns of phrase, elements of text, long stretches of text, lines of argument, pieces of evidence, maps of the conceptual territory, illustrations of key concepts, etc.); (d) an account of why AI tools were used (e.g. to save time, to surmount writer's block, to stimulate thinking, to handle mounting stress, to clarify prose, to translate text, to experiment for fun, etc.). Students shall <u>not</u> use AI tools during <u>in-class</u> examinations, or assignments unless explicitly permitted and instructed. Overall, AI tools should be used wisely and reflectively with an aim to deepen understanding of subject matter."

Lab Time:

As with all he Industrial Technology classes there will be a substantial amount of lab work to be done. Normally 6 hours outside of scheduled class time each week for researching, reading, and general homework is expected for college level work. All required research, lab work, and practice will not be able to be completed within the scheduled class time. There may be some release time from class to complete some of the work. Hours for access to the lab will be announced when set.

Supplies:

There are some basic supplies you will need for the class such as pencils (lead), erasers, a notebook with pockets to keep handouts given in class and paper.

Required supplies:

A Must--Sketchbook with spiral bound pages. 81/2"x11" or 9"x12" acceptable sizes.

Students in this class are required to maintain a studio sketchbook. It is meant to be a well-organized instrument for visual inquiry (a.k.a. it is not a personal journal). The sketchbook is to include in-class note taking as well as all drawings completed during field trips outside of classroom, the brief notes/drawings on each of the required videos/films, any graphic analysis of relevance, as well as any other material relevant to visual exploration in this course. All entries should be clearly labelled with dates/titles of work in a consistent manner so the instructor can give you credit. DO NOT LOSE THIS SKETCH BOOK or else work will need to be reconstructed to grade and credit.

<u>More Supplies</u>: Set of Color pencils, pastel chalks, watercolor paints and paint brushes; black fine point sharpie; craft glue or glue stick; Ruler (Min. 12" long, metal with rubber or cork on bottom) • X-Acto- Blade with a small pack of #11 blades, small scissors; Tracing paper pad 9"x12" or other. Used magazines to cut out images for collage project. Other supplies TBD as needed toward final project.

Storage:

The lockers in the hallway may be checked out and used for storing your equipment and supplies. These lockers must be signed out with the secretary in the IT main office. You must supply your own lock. Do not leave any of your work or equipment lying around in the lab.

<u>Midterm Exam</u>:

One midterm exam will be given on the announced date. The exam will cover material from class lecture and assigned readings. It is your responsibility to complete the exam when scheduled. The exam will be given in class using various styles of questions covering terminology, equipment, processes, and other items discussed. Participation for the test is mandatory; no makeup tests will be given.

<u>Final Project</u>:

The final exam time will be when each student will present this final project. This will be during the week of December 5, 8-10.

The specific date and time will be announced during the semester. The final project will be discussed during the semester and will be an oral presentation illustrating your documented work on power point slides or other. Do not make any other plans for that day and time.

<u>PLEASE NOTE</u>: A course schedule of assignments for this semester will be provided during the first week of class.