



Course Syllabus

ARC1301C DESIGN 1

ARC1301C 83260 FALL 2026

Credit Hours/Contact Hours 4 CR 8 CH

Pre-requisites/Co-requisites Corequisites: ARH2060, EGN1110C with a minimum grade of "C."

Contact Information

Instructor

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Course Information

Catalog Description:

First course in the design studio sequence, this introductory course introduces the student without prior experience, to the design of space defined as the analysis, formation and articulation of habitable volumes. This course emphasizes the basic concepts of space, its inhabitation, and the process of its

design. A sequence of analytical and generative exercises will develop the fundamentals of space cognition and will expose the students to the interplay between contextual strategies and simple programmatic requirements.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Students completing this course will be able to:

1. Design Issues: introduce fundamental design ideas through studio involvement with a basic formal language based in simple Cartesian spatial concepts and challenge that Cartesian language to communicate architecturally significant ideas.
2. Drawing and Making: recognize and construct quality line drawings using both projection and orthographic methods; construct models that recognize the systemic foundations of form and space.
3. Spatial Acuity: understand, communicate, and manipulate spatial systems as a fundamental component of design activity; visual/spatial acuity and drawing/modeling character.
4. Abstraction: define and study abstraction as a tool of investigation with all its possibilities for the discipline of Design; clarity and diversity of graphic languages and distill/rarefy as a fundamental activity.
5. Design Activity: develop the expectation that design activity requires diligence and focus; design process and transformation.
6. Tectonic Vocabulary: develop an intellectually grounded tectonic vocabulary of materials and construction by understanding architecture as simultaneously a mental construct and a physical reality
7. Learn and use various design process tools that facilitate the making and refinement of architectural form.
8. Learn and use a variety of presentation techniques.

Course Topics:

NAAB criteria

The course will address the following NAAB criteria:

Realm A: Critical Thinking and Representation

A.1. Communication Skills: Ability to read, write speak and listen effectively.

A.2. Design Thinking Skills: Ability to raise clear and precise questions, use abstract ideas to interpret information, consider diverse points of view, reach well-reasoned conclusions, and test alternative outcomes against relevant criteria and standards.

A.3. Investigative Skills: Ability to gather, assess, record, apply and comparatively evaluate relevant information within architectural coursework and design processes.

A.4. Fundamental Design skills: Ability to effectively use basic architectural and environmental principles in design.

A.5. Use of Precedents: Ability to examine and comprehend the fundamental principles present in relevant precedents and to make choices regarding the incorporation of such principles into architecture and urban design projects.

A.6. Ordering Systems Skills: Understanding of the fundamentals of both natural and formal ordering systems and the capacity of each to inform two and three-dimensional design.

Course themes

The course goals outlined above derive from six major areas of course content that will form the basis for the organization and management of all the design sections.

These content areas are:

Project analysis. Each project will involve one or more analytical exercises meant to facilitate a better understanding of the forces, pressures, tensions, needs, issues and questions that create the programmatic agenda to be solved by the design of the building. These analytical techniques may include site, climate, function, behavior, image, codes and other programmatic considerations. Emphasis will be upon investigation and inquiry and upon display of findings to evoke design ideas that answer the findings of the analysis.

Building design. The activity of building design will involve special attention to several key areas of facility planning. These are site organization and circulation, building organization and circulation, space, form and building envelope and technology. Emphasis will be upon the kinds of decisions designers make in these central areas, the range of solution types accessible to the designer and the match between solution types and program requirements.

Design process. Beyond attention to analysis and building design issues, the studio will address design process and process tools. Consideration will be given to issues such as design conceptualization, parti, iteration, study models and sketches, alternatives generation, recognition and reinforcement of emerging patterns and reinforcement and closure.

Theory. The role of theory in design will be introduced and the influence of theory on the making of the form will be explored. Theory will be addressed not only in the implementation of projects but also through reading and lectures. The importance of precedent will be emphasized in all projects as a mode

of vocabulary expansion and an influence on form. Theory will include significant buildings, architects and issues.

Presentation techniques. Each studio project will offer the opportunity to learn and practice particular presentation techniques. Special attention will be given to alignment of design and presentation emphasis, media, order and sequence, priority and organization.

Personal development. Design instructors will be focused not only upon the design schemes produced in the studio but also on the work habits, values, maturation and development of the students as future architects. Qualities such as critical thinking, incisiveness, initiative, closure, attention to detail, instinct for form and boldness will be discussed and encouraged.

Course Materials & Resources:

Reading material will be recommended during the course of the semester. The material will vary according to the nature of the project.

Ching, Francis D.K. – *Design Drawing*

DRAFTING KIT (Minimum to have):

- **Sketch book or Diary -- size between 5"x7" and 8-1/2"x11" .**
- **Graphite Drawing Pencils and Sketch Set (6H to 6B)**
- **Art Eraser**
- **Kneaded Rubber Eraser**

DRAFTING KIT (Useful to have):

- One (1) 30 degree triangle (min. size =8")
- One (1) 45 degree triangle (min. size =8")
- Lead Holders
- Mechanical Pencil (0.5, 0.7, 0.9)
- Pencil sharpeners & Lead Pointer
- Compass
- Divider
- Eraser (drafting white)
- Circle template (45 circle templates from 1/16" to 2-1/4")
- Drafting Brush
- Architect.s scale (Metric and Imperial)
- Engineer.s scale (Metric and Imperial)

Delivery Method:

This course meets face to face. Course material, assignments, and announcements may be offered via Canvas as a supplemental approach to learning at the discretion of the instructor. Please make sure that you have access to a computer with a webcam and internet service, in the event a change in course delivery is needed.

Method of Instruction: Lectures and interactive participation by the student in the resolution of problems and exercises. Design Studio.

Student Expectations

In this course, communication and feedback will occur through various channels, including GCSC email, Canvas Inbox, Canvas Announcements, Canvas Discussions, Microsoft Teams or Zoom, assignment feedback, and instructor office hours. Review the statements below so that you understand the expectations for communication.

As a student at Gulf Coast State College, you are expected to:

- **Adhere to Course Guidelines:** Follow the guidelines detailed in the course syllabus, along with any additional instructions provided by the instructor. This includes understanding and complying with the course objectives, grading criteria, and academic policies.
- **Maintain Regular Contact:** Keep in touch with your instructor and classmates via your GCSC email or other designated communication channels. Regular contact helps clarify doubts, share ideas, and foster a collaborative learning environment.
- **Active Participation:** Engage actively in class discussions and submit assignments on time. Your active participation is crucial for your academic success and contributes to a vibrant learning community.

As your instructor, my commitment to you is to:

- **Provide Timely Feedback:** I will review and provide feedback on your assignments and submissions promptly. My goal is to help you understand your strengths and areas for improvement, which is crucial for your academic growth.
- **Respond Via Canvas Inbox:** I will respond to your emails or messages within 24-48 hours (excluding weekends), unless otherwise noted. I understand the importance of clear and timely communication in addressing your questions and concerns.
- **Post Regular Announcements:** To keep you updated and help you manage your time effectively, I will send out weekly reminders via announcements. These reminders will include important dates, upcoming assignments, and any changes to the course schedule.
- **Maintain Weekly Office Hours:** I will maintain regular weekly office hours, but I can also be available by appointment. This is to ensure I'm available for any questions or concerns that may come up during the week.

Course Schedule

Weekly SCHEDULE:

1. MODULE 01
2. MODULE 01
3. MODULE 01 - PINUP
4. MODULE 02
5. MODULE 02
6. MODULE 02
7. MODULE 02 - PINUP

8. MODULE 03
9. MODULE 03
10. MODULE 03
11. MODULE 03 - PINUP
12. MODULE 04
13. MODULE 04
14. MODULE 04
15. MODULE 04
16. FINAL PRESENTATION

Every Week we will be executing drawing exercises during the class time.

Grading

GCSC Grading Scale

MODULE 01	55 PTS
MODULE 02	60 PTS
MODULE 03	100PTS
MODULE 04	200PTS

Calculation of Grades

A = 90 – 100%
B = 80 – 89%
C = 70 – 79%
D = 60 – 69%
F = 0 – 59%

Incomplete Grades

Grades of Incomplete in any course can only be assigned to students who have an emergency arise during the last two weeks of the course. To receive an Incomplete, students must:

- Submit a written request to the instructor prior to the last face-to-face class meeting. For online courses, a written Incomplete request must be received no later than the week before the Final Exam period begins.
- Have completed no less than 60 percent of the course requirements and be passing the course at the time the request for an Incomplete is submitted.

Important Note: The Incomplete option provides 30 days from the date grades are due to make up any missing work; if work is not submitted during this period, the grade will automatically change to an “F” in Lighthouse.

Course Policies

Accessibility Statement

Gulf Coast State College supports an inclusive learning environment for all students. If there are aspects of the instruction or design of this course that hinder your full participation, reasonable accommodations can be arranged. Prior to receiving accommodations, you must register with Student Accessibility Resources. Appropriate academic accommodations will be determined based on the documented needs of the student. Please visit [GCSC's Student Accessibility Resource \(SAR\) webpage](#) to learn more. For information regarding the registration process, email sar@gulfcoast.edu or call 850-747-3243.

Attendance Policy

Regular class attendance and participation are significant factors that help to promote success in college. Students are expected to attend all class meetings of all courses for which they are registered.

You are expected to know the instructor's specific attendance policy, as stated in the syllabus for each course. In the event of absence, you should contact your instructor as soon as possible to indicate the reason and to inquire whether make-up work is possible. (Make-up work is offered solely at the discretion of your professor.)

If your absences in a class become excessive, as stated in the course syllabus, your professor may contact you, indicating that further absence may result in your withdrawal from the course. Your professor can withdraw you from a course for excessive absences without your permission.

Instructors will monitor attendance at the beginning of each semester. If you are not in attendance during this period, you may be withdrawn from the course. You will be financially responsible for the course and a "W or NS" will appear on your transcript. Withdrawal from a course may also have implications for financial aid.

Make-Up Work Policy

Student can reschedule a test by email.

Withdrawal Policy

Two withdrawals are permitted per credit course. After that, a grade will be assigned. Please be concerned about withdrawals. When admitting students into certain programs, universities may calculate withdrawals as grades. It is your responsibility to verify the effects of enrollment and/or withdrawal upon your financial assistance (financial aid, scholarships, grants, etc.). There are two kinds of withdrawals---student and administrative.

- *Student Withdrawal (W1)* - Students wishing to withdraw must complete the online Student Withdrawal Form before the scheduled withdrawal deadline as published in the College catalog. Student withdrawals initiated prior to the scheduled withdrawal deadline will be recorded as a grade of "W." The withdrawal deadline for an off-term or condensed term is one week after midterm.

- *Administrative Withdrawal (W2)* – A faculty member may withdraw a student up to the published withdrawal deadline for violation of the class attendance policy in which case the student will receive a grade of “W.” The withdrawal deadline for an off-term or condensed term is one week after midterm.

Students cannot withdraw from developmental studies courses (college-preparatory classes) after the drop/add period without written permission from their instructor and/or their academic advisor.

Academic Integrity

Honest participation in academic endeavors fosters an environment in which optimal learning can take place and is consistent with the college’s mission. Academic misconduct, including cheating or plagiarism, is destructive to the spirit of an educational environment. GCSC professors report every instance of student academic misconduct to the college for inclusion on the student’s records. Most course syllabi include an academic honesty policy and the consequences for violating this policy. Familiarize yourself with course policies regarding authorized or unauthorized use of AI to avoid the pitfalls of academic dishonesty.

The following definitions will apply:

"Cheating"

includes but is not limited to use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, or examinations; dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments; the acquisition without permission of tests or other academic materials belonging to a member of the College's faculty.

"Plagiarism"

includes, but is not limited to, the use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment as well as the purchase of papers or projects. It can also include overuse of an editing program like Grammarly or submitting work written by an Artificial Intelligence (AI) generator like ChatGPT. Make certain to consult your course syllabi for your instructor's guidelines of AI material.

"Self-plagiarism"

occurs when a student submits the same or considerably similar document to fulfill requirements in different classes. For example, if a student submits a term paper in Religion they originally wrote for an English class, this is self-plagiarism. Once a paper receives a grade in one class, it cannot be submitted again for another class.

"Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI)"

is technology that uses machine learning to create new content, such as text, images or code, based on user input. These systems are trained on vast amounts of data, including large language models and image or code generators. Common examples include ChatGPT, GitHub, Copilot, Google Gemini, Perplexity, and the Grammarly AI function.

Sanctions for incidences of academic misconduct, depending on the severity of the incidence and/or its repetition, may range from receiving an F grade (or 0) for the test, assignment, or activity, to failure of the course, to suspension or dismissal from the college.

Classroom Recording

In accordance with federal and state privacy laws, students may record class lectures for their own personal educational use, in connection with a complaint to the college, or as evidence in internal or external legal proceedings. Students may not publish or upload the recordings or any components thereof without the knowledge and written permission of the faculty member. Failure to obtain permission to publish could lead to the students' having to pay damages, attorney fees, and court costs. For more information about what can be recorded, please see the guidelines in the GCSC Student Handbook.

Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy

The use of generative AI tools in academic work requires clear guidelines to maintain academic integrity. Please review the policy selected for this course regarding the use of AI tools such as ChatGPT, Copilot, Grammarly's AI features, and similar platforms for assignments, research, and other coursework.

See the student handbook for further information. Students with questions about acceptable use should consult their instructor.

Generative AI Use with Permission and Disclosure

Students may use basic assistive technologies for spelling, grammar, and formatting (e.g., PaperRater or SpellCheckPlus). Generative AI tools (e.g., ChatGPT, Copilot, Grammarly's AI function, etc.) may also be used for classes and/or assignments where instructors have given explicit permission. Students must clearly disclose and properly cite any AI-generated content used in their work, following course guidelines. Students are permitted to use AI only in the manner and means described by the instructor. Unacknowledged or unauthorized AI use will be treated as a violation of academic integrity and may result in penalties, including a zero on the assignment and additional disciplinary actions as outlined in the college's academic integrity policy.

Anti-Discrimination Policy

Gulf Coast State College does not discriminate against any person in its programs, activities, policies or procedures on the basis of race, ethnicity, color, national origin, marital status, religion, age, gender, sex, pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic information, disability, or veteran status. All questions or inquiries regarding compliance with laws relating to non-discrimination and all complaints regarding sexual misconduct or discrimination may be directed to Amanda Reed, Executive Director of Human Resources/Title II/504/Title IX Coordinator and Employment Equity Officer, Gulf Coast State College, 5230 W. US Highway 98, Panama City, FL 32401; 850-769-1551, ext. 3516. Rules, policies, fees, and courses described in this catalog are subject to change without notice.

Syllabus Policy

For any syllabus posted prior to the beginning of the term, the instructor reserves the right to make minor changes prior to or during the term. The instructor will notify students via e-mail or Canvas announcement when changes are made in the requirements and/or grading of the course.

Student Support Resources

Gulf Coast State College is committed to providing you with the resources you need for success as a student and beyond. View all the academic and student support resources provided at GCSC on the [Student Services web page](#).

Course Technology & Support

To successfully participate in this online course, students must have basic computer and digital information literacy skills and meet the following technology requirements:

- **Computer:** Up-to-date web browser that supports the Canvas learning management system; please refer to the system requirements for compatibility and information on using the Canvas app on mobile devices.
- **Internet Speed:** Minimum bandwidth of 8 Mbps upload/download speed to effectively engage in online activities and access multimedia.
- **Office 365 software:** Available for free download through GCSC Information Technology Services (ITS).

If you need technical support, contact the ITS Help Desk, available 24/7 at (850) 913-3303.