COURSE TITLE BLACKBOARD SITE	ARC 5013 OL Research Methods Fall 2012 – http://my.ltu.edu and select CRN 2073
INSTRUCTOR	Anirban Adhya, Ph.D. Assistant Professor College of Architecture and Design (CoAD) aadhya@ltu.edu 248-204-2845 (office) Office hours by appointment – A212
SCHEDULE	August 29 – December 21, 2012 Refer to http://www.ltu.edu/registrars office/calendar final exam.index.asp for the last date to withdraw and other important registration related information.
LEVEL/ HOURS PREREQUISITE	M. Arch professional degree program and M.U.D. program / 2 credit hours Graduate standing/Instructor approval
REQUIRED TEXT (See Blackboard for additional resources)	Groat, L., Wang, D. (2002). Architecture Research Methods, New York, NY: John Wiley & Sons.(ISBN 0471333654) Available for online purchase through LTU Bookstore at: http://lawrence-tech1.bkstore.com/bkstore/TextbookSelection.do?st=489
ADDITIONAL RESOURCES	LTU Online student resources: http://www.ltu.edu/ltuonline/
TECHNICAL SUPPORT	Technical support for using Blackboard is provided by the Helpdesk. Visit www.ltu.edu/ehelp or 248.204.2330 or helpdesk@ltu.edu. Send the Help Desk a form detailing any issues by clicking here http://tinyurl.com/3ygrvne

NAAB PERFORMANCE CRITERIA	Primary focus: 2. Critical Thinking 4. Research Skills Secondary focus: 1. Speaking & Writing Skills 7. Collaborative Skills 8. Western Traditions 9. Non-Western Traditions 10. National & Regional Traditions 11. Use of Precedents 12. Human Behavior 13. Human Diversity 16. Program Preparation 17. Site Conditions 26. Technical Documentation 30 Architectural Practice 31. Professional Development

COURSE SCHEDULE

This fully online course begins with a partial week online course orientation period to familiarize yourself with the online learning environment and to meet online or via the phone with your instructor. Each subsequent week starts on a Monday and ends on a Sunday.

Dates	Module	Topics / Readings	Assignments Due
Prior to Semester Start Aug 29–Sep 2	0	Introduction Online Learning Orientation Course Orientation	Bb Forum 0 Individual pre-assessment
Week of Sep 3–Sep 9	1	Defining Research in Architecture Read: Arch Research Methods Ch 1	Bb Forums 1
Week of Sep 10–Sep 16	2 3	Lawrence Tech Library – Online Library Orientation and Research Tools Concept Paper and Literature	Bb Forums 2, 3 Summary of Library Orientation due Sep 18

Dates	Module	Topics / Readings	Assignments Due
		Review
Read: Arch Research Methods Ch 2, 3	**Research Diagrammatic due**
Week of Sep 17–Sep 23	4	Concept Paper Discussion & Review
Literature Review Strategy
Read: Arch Research Methods Ch 3	Bb Forums 4
Concept Paper 1 due
Week of Sep 24–Sep 30	5	Theory & Design in Relation to Research & Method
Read: Arch Research Methods Ch 4–5	Bb Forum 5
Concept Paper 2 and bibliography due
Week of Oct 1–Oct 7	6	Historic Interpretive Research
Read: Arch Research Methods Ch 6
Guest Lecture: Dr. Dale Gyure	Bb Forum 6
Lecture Summary due
Week of Oct 8–Oct 14	7	Qualitative Research
Read: Arch Research Methods Ch 7
Guest Lecture – Dr. Jin Feng	Bb Forums 7
Lecture Summary due
Week of Oct 15–Oct 21	8	Correlational Research
Read: Arch Research Methods Ch 8
Guest Lecture : Dr. Joongsub Kim	Bb Forums 8
Lecture Summary due
Week of Oct 22–Oct 28	9	Experimental & Quasi-experimental Research and Statistical Analysis of Data
Read: Arch Research Methods Ch 9	Bb Forums 9
Reading Summary due
Week of Oct 29–Nov 4	10	Case Studies and Combined Strategies
Read: Arch Research Methods Ch. 12	Bb forum 10
Lecture summary due
Week of Nov 5–Nov 11	11	Evidence –based Design	Bb Forum 11
Reading summary due

Dates	Module	Topics / Readings	Assignments Due
Week of Nov 12–Nov 18	12	Mid–Term Evaluation Work on Literature Reviews Final Poster Project assigned	**Literature Reviews due**
Week of Nov 19–Nov 25	13	View and evaluate literature review Objectives–methods refinement Thanksgiving break week	Bb Forum 12
Week of Nov 26–Dec 2	14	Selection of appropriate research method	Bb Forum 13 **Method Draft due**
Week of Dec 3–Dec 9	15	Planning the Poster – Content, Graphics, and Other Media Discussion of research poster	Bb Forum 14 Poster draft due Dec 11
Week of Dec 10–Dec 16	16	Work on poster View posters	Bb Forum 15 Poster Review and Discussions
Week of Dec 17–Dec 21	17	Work on posters – Submit posters End of Course	**Final Poster due**

STUDENT EVALUATION

The course has five assignment sets totaling 500 points. Letter grades are awarded based on the total number of points achieved. Points are deducted for late assignments.

Assignments	Points
Concept Paper 1	60
Concept Paper 2 with Literature Review	100
Lecture/reading summaries (6 @ 20 points)	120
Bb Forums (15 @ 8 points)	120
Poster	100
Total Points	**500**

Percentage Points	Letter Grade	GPA (4.0 scale)

96 and above	A	4.0
90 – 95	A–	3.7
87 – 89	B+	3.3
83 – 86	B	3.0
80 – 82	B–	2.7
77 – 79	C+	2.3
73 – 76	C	2.0
70 – 72	C–	1.7
60 and below	F	0.0

Note: Grades lower than a "B" fall below the LTU graduate standard

EDUCATIONAL GOALS

Intensive study of research methodologies to familiarize students with a variety of research methods. Recent and ongoing research in environmental design and behavioral sciences, and methods being used in contemporary design issues. Utilizes computer applications in design research. Sources of research include educational, governmental, professional, and legal environments, and the private sector.
A brief video overview of this course is available under Module 0 in Blackboard.

STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES/OUTCOMES

Examination of how research is used in the architectural field.
Development of research concepts
Understand research proposals
Examine methods typically applied in architectural research
Read and evaluate architectural research
Systematically search the relevant literature to support a research or thesis topic
Disseminate research results in written, verbal and multi-media formats.

PREREQUISITE SKILLS

Students need to be able to use Power Point or similar software to produce a lecture/presentation.

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS AND COURSE ORGANIZATION

A variety of instructional methodologies are used in this course. The specific methods may include but are not limited to:

Blackboard learning environment – Blackboard at [my.ltu.edu](my.ltu.edu) contains the syllabus, all assignments, reading materials, streaming videos, narrated Powerpoint mini-lectures, podcasts, written lecture notes, chapter quizzes, links to Web resources, and discussion forums. You will submit all assignments via Blackboard, and are expected to participate regularly in discussion topics. Please take time to familiarize yourself with the organization of the Blackboard site. You will want to check the site frequently for announcements reminding you of new resources and upcoming assignments.

Student/Instructor Conversations – Students keep in touch with the instructor via e-mail messages, telephone conference calls, and IM conversations.

Self-assessments – Pre- and post- self-assessment tools will help students measure their entering skills and progress during the course.

Required readings – Textbook chapters should be read according to the schedule outlined in the syllabus. Chapters will be discussed online.

Assignments – There are five major assignments: (1) Concept Paper 1, (2) Concept Paper 2 with Literature Review, (3) Online participation (Bb forums), (4) Lecture and reading summaries, and (5) Final poster. The intention is to allow the students to follow a complete research process from selecting a research topic, developing research question(s), generating research objectives, design research method(s), and address one of the objectives by applying a method. The final assignment is a poster that documents the entire research process and presents the results from the actual small research project.

CLASS POLICIES AND EXPECTATIONS

I plan to offer you a valuable learning experience, and expect us to work together to achieve this goal. Here are some general expectations regarding this course:

Each student has a LTU email account. If you wish to use a different email address for this course, please **change your email address in Blackboard under "Blackboard Tools", then "Personal Information"** and send an email to me to store your email address in my directory.

Readings, discussion forum participation, and written assignments must be completed according to the class schedule. If business travel will take you away from regular participation, please clear these dates with me in advance.

It is essential that all students actively contribute to the course objectives.

All assignments must be submitted on schedule, via Blackboard, and using Microsoft Office-compatible software. If you need to submit an assignment via e-mail, contact the instructor in advance. Late work will be reduced in value.

Assignments must be completed to an adequate standard to obtain a passing grade. Requirements for each assignment are detailed in this syllabus and on the LTU Online web site.

Be prepared to log into Blackboard at least once each day. Please focus your on-line correspondence within the appropriate Blackboard discussion forums so that your colleagues can learn from you.

At the end of the course, you will be invited to participate in a University evaluation of this course. Your feedback is important to the University, to LTU Online, and to me as an instructor, and I encourage you to participate in the evaluation process.

It is important for you as students to know what to expect from me as your instructor:
- I will be available to you via e-mail and will promptly reply to your messages.
- I will be available to you for face-to-face appointments. You may schedule these with me through e-mail.
- I will maintain the Blackboard web site with current materials, and will resolve any content-related problems promptly as they are reported to me.
- I will send out a weekly e-mail update to all class members to guide upcoming work and remind you of assignment due dates.
- I will return all assignments to you promptly, and will include individualized comments and suggestions with each assignment.
- I will hold our personal written or verbal communications in confidence. Your Power Point presentations of your Literature Search must be available to the classmates in your communication group since you will provide reviews for each other.
- I will do my best to accommodate individual learning styles and special needs. Please notify me prior to the start of the semester if you need accommodation and we can work with the University to accomplish that.
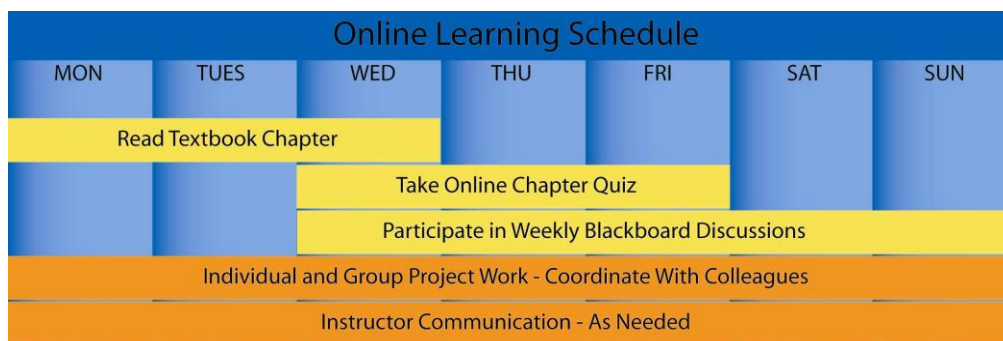
If any of these points need clarification, or when special circumstances arise that require my assistance, please contact me so that we can discuss the matter personally.

PRACTICAL GUIDELINES FOR CLASS LOAD EXPECTATIONS

A three-credit course generally requires <u>at least</u> nine hours per week of time commitment. Here are some practical guidelines to help schedule your time commitments for this online course:

- A regular 15-week semester would require at least 135 hours of time commitment to successfully complete all readings, activities, assignments, and texts as described in this syllabus.
- You should reserve at least 6 hours per week to read the required textbook chapters and resources, participate in online discussions, review presentation materials, and work through online quizzes. This effort will total at least 84 hours over the course of the semester.
- You should organize your remaining time to roughly correspond with the point value of each major assignment. This means that you should plan to spend <u>at least</u>:
    - 8-9 hours preparing your case study review;
    - 24-40 hours working with your group on the three parts of your semester-long project;
    - 8-9 hours working on the various components of your reflective consolidation (final exam).

These guidelines may not reflect the actual amount of outside time that you – as a unique individual with your own learning style – will need to complete the course requirements. The number of hours each week will vary based on assignment due dates, so please plan ahead to insure that you schedule your academic, work, and personal time effectively. The following graphic can be used to guide you in planning your weekly course work to remain on schedule:

ASSIGNMENT DETAILS

Course assignments and evaluation criteria are detailed below. Please review these requirements carefully. See the section Academic Resources / Assessment Guidelines for information about assessment of written and oral presentations.

Details for all assignments are shown below. Please note that you should not submit any assignments to the Blackboard "Digital Drop Box." All assignments are submitted using the Blackboard "Assignments" or "SafeAssign" function. Some assignments are also posted to the Blackboard Discussion Forum for student comments.

Concept Paper 1 (60 Points)

Overview – Students must develop a 1 page Concept Statement that will be the basis for the Literature Review and Poster. The Concept Paper may be revised several times during the semester.

Deliverables and Evaluation – Concept Paper must be submitted in the Assignments area as well as in the Discussion Forum so you can discuss it with your group. The Concept Paper will not be evaluated until it is finished. Make sure citations are used when appropriate. The content of the Concept Paper will be evaluated as well as the writing quality.

Concept paper 2 + Literature Review (100 points)

Overview – The Literature Review will be presented in a Power Point (or similar software) format.

Deliverables and Evaluation – The Literature Reviews must be submitted in the Assignments area as well as the Forum area so that other students in the class may view them.

Quality of content and thoroughness of the literature search is important. Writing quality will be evaluated. Citations and a Bibliography are required and will be evaluated. Students should use Ref Works through the LTU Library. If possible, audio should be added. This requires a microphone and headphones connected to your computer as well as Impatica Software (free download) to compress the file before uploading it.

Lecture/reading Evaluations (6 summaries @ 20 Points each = 120 points)

Overview – Students must write a one page summary of selected lecture/presentations.

Deliverables and Evaluation – The summaries must be submitted in the Assignments area.

Quality of content covering the lecture/presentation is important. Writing quality will also be evaluated.

Bb Forums: Online Participation (15 Bb Forums – 1 to 15 @ 8 points each = 120 points)

Each student is expected to actively participate in online activities. Class participation is evaluated to a maximum of 120 points based on:

Up to 12 points for each Blackboard Forum Assignment – Reading the required text chapters and developing questions for your group and responding to group questions.

Poster (100 points)

Overview – Students must conduct a small research study based on the research question developed in the Concept Paper and the Literature Review. A Research Method(s) must be selected to answer the question(s) and justification for the choice of the method(s) in this situation is required. The draft of research method will consist of 20 points out of the 120 points for the final poster. Limitations of the study must also be included on the Poster.

Deliverables and Evaluation – The Poster must be submitted in the Assignments area as well as the Forum so that other students in the class can view them.

Quality of the application of the Research Method is important. Writing quality and use of citations will be evaluated.

SYLLABUS ADDENDA

Please see the LTU Online "Current Students" web site http://www.ltu.edu/ltuonline/ for comprehensive information about Lawrence Tech's academic services, library

services, student services, and academic integrity standards. The content of this web site is explicitly included in these syllabus requirements.

The LTU Online "Current Students" web site also includes grading rubrics used by your instructor to evaluate written assignments, discussion forum participation, and group assignments. Please note that the SafeAssign anti-plagiarism product will be used for written assignments submitted for this course. Please see the instructions included on the eHelp web site regarding the use of the SafeAssign product.