

<b>COURSE TITLE BLACKBOARD SITE</b>	ARC 5012 OL Research Methods Spring 2010 – <a href="http://my.ltu.edu">http://my.ltu.edu</a> and select CRN 5281
<b>INSTRUCTOR</b>	Anirban Adhya, Ph.D. Assistant Professor College of Architecture and Design (CoAD) aadhya@ltu.edu 248-204-2845 (office) Office hours by appointment – A212
<b>SCHEDULE</b>	January 11, 2010 to May 16, 2010 (CoAD schedule)  See <a href="http://www.ltu.edu/registrars_office/calendar_final_exam.index.asp">http://www.ltu.edu/registrars_office/calendar_final_exam.index.asp</a> for LTU academic calendar information.
<b>LEVEL/ HOURS PREREQUISITE</b>	M.Arch professional degree program / 2 credit hours Graduate standing/Instructor approval
<b>REQUIRED TEXT</b>  (See Blackboard for additional resources)	Groat, L., Wang, D. (2002). <i>Architecture Research Methods</i> , New York, NY: John Wiley & Sons.(ISBN 0471333654)  Available for online purchase through LTU Bookstore at: <a href="http://lawrence-tech1.bkstore.com/bkstore/TextbookSelection.do?st=489">http://lawrence-tech1.bkstore.com/bkstore/TextbookSelection.do?st=489</a>
<b>ADDITIONAL RESOURCES</b>	LTU Online student resources: <a href="http://www.ltu.edu/ltuonline/">http://www.ltu.edu/ltuonline/</a>
<b>TECHNICAL SUPPORT</b>	Technical support for using Blackboard is provided by the Helpdesk, 248.204.2330 or helpdesk@ltu.edu

<b>NAAB PERFORMANCE CRITERIA</b>	<p>Primary focus:          2. Critical Thinking    4. Research Skills</p> <p>Secondary focus:          1. Speaking &amp; Writing Skills    7. Collaborative Skills          8. Western Traditions    9. Non-Western Traditions          10. National &amp; 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</p>
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## 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	Modules	Topics / Readings	Assignments Due
Prior to start of semester <b>Week of Jan 4– Jan 10</b>	Module 0	Video Introduction Online Learning Orientation Course Orientation	Class Discussion Session. Who are you? What are your expectations?
Week of Jan 11 – Jan 17	Module 1	Defining Research in Architecture Read: Arch Research Methods Ch 1	Bb Forums 1
Week of Jan 18 – Jan 24	Module 2	Lawrence Tech Library – Online Library Orientation and Research Tools	Summary of Library Orientation due Jan 24
Week of Jan 25 – Jan 31	Module 3	Concept Paper and Literature Review Read: Arch Research Methods Ch 2	Bb Forums 2
<b>Week of Feb 1 – Feb 7</b>	Module 4	Concept Paper Discussion & Review Literature Review Strategy Read: Arch Research Methods Ch 3	Bb Forums 3 <b>Concept Paper 1 due Feb 7</b>
Week of Feb 8 – Feb 14	Module 5	Theory & Design in Relation to Research & Method Read: Arch Research Methods Ch 4 & 5	Bb Forums 4
Week of Feb 15 – Feb 21	Module 6	Interpretive-historical Research Read: Arch Research Methods Ch 6 Guest Lecture: Dr. Dale Gyure	Lecture Summary due Feb 21
<b>Week of Feb 22 – Feb 28</b>	Module 7	Work on Literature Reviews	<b>Literature Reviews due Feb 28</b>
<b>Week of Mar 1 – Mar 7</b>	Module 8	Work on Literature Reviews Second draft of the Concept Paper	<b>Concept Paper 2 due Mar 7</b>
<b>Week of Mar 8 – Mar 14</b>	<b>Midterm break</b>	<b>No class</b>	Mid-Term Evaluation Final Poster Project assigned
Week of Mar 15 – Mar 21	Module 9	View and evaluate Literature Reviews	Evaluations due Mar 21
Week of Mar 22 – Mar 28	Module 10	Qualitative Research Read: Arch Research Methods Ch 7 Guest Lecture – Dr. Jin Feng Poster: thoughts and discussions	Bb Forums 5 Lecture Summary due Mar 28
Week of Mar 29 – Apr 4	Module 11	Correlational Research Method Read: Arch Research Methods Ch 8 Guest Lecture : Dr. Joongsob Kim	Bb Forums 6 Lecture Summary due Apr 4
Week of Apr 5 – Apr 11	Module 12	Experimental & Quasi-experimental Research and Statistical Analysis of Data	Bb Forums 7 Chapter Summary due Apr

Dates	Modules	Topics / Readings	Assignments Due
		Read: Arch Research Methods Ch 9 Selection of Appropriate Research Method	11
Week of Apr 12 – Apr 18	Module 13	Planning the Poster – Content, Graphics, and Other Media  Discussion of Poster and Research Project	Draft of Research Method due Apr 18
<b>Week of Apr 19 – Apr 25</b>	Module 14	Work on poster View posters	Poster draft due Apr 25 Poster Review and Discussions
Week of Apr 26 – May 2	Module 15	Work on posters Submit posters	<b>Final Posters due May 2</b>
May 16		End of Fall Semester	

## 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 Evaluations	100
Bb Forums: Online Participation	120
Poster	120
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 at <http://www.ltuonline/>

### **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](http://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 two major assignments. The first is a literature review that is presented online with a Power Point (or similar software) presentation. The second is a poster that presents the results from a small research project. Other assignments include participation in discussion sessions and short summaries of guest lecture/presentations.

### **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 an LTU e-mail account. If you wish to use a different e-mail address for this course, please change your e-mail address in Blackboard under “Student Tools” and send an e-mail to me so I can store your address in my e-mail 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.

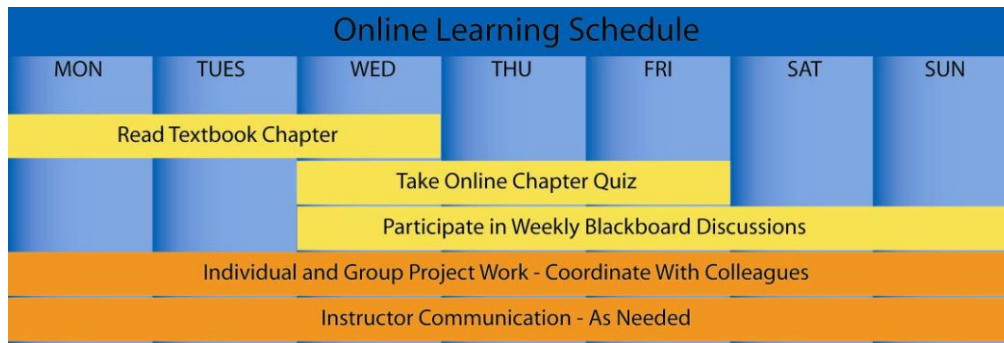
If any of these points need clarification, or when special circumstances arise that require my assistance, please contact me so that we can discuss the matter personally.

### **PRACTICAL GUIDELINES FOR CLASS LOAD EXPECTATIONS**

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

- A regular 14-week semester would require at least 126 hours of time commitment to successfully complete all readings, activities, assignments, and texts as described in this syllabus. The Summer semester is compressed into 10 weeks and hence would require more of your time.
- 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 at least:
  - 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 Evaluations (5 summaries @ 20 Points each = 100 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 (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 20 points for each Blackboard Forum Assignment – Reading the required text chapters and developing questions for your group and responding to group questions.

### **Poster (120 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 as 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 LTU Online web site regarding the use of the SafeAssign product.