COURSE TITLE BLACKBOARD SITE	ARC 5012 OL Research Methods Spring 2011 – http://my.ltu.edu and select CRN 3427
INSTRUCTOR	Anirban Adhya, Ph.D. Assistant Professor, College of Architecture and Design A212 aadhya@ltu.edu 248-204-2845 (office), 734-274-0491 (cell) Office hours by appointment
SCHEDULE	January 10, 2010 – May 07, 2010 See http://www.ltu.edu/registrars_office/calendar_final_exam.index.asp for LTU academic calendar information.
LEVEL/ HOURS PREREQUISITE	M.Arch professional degree 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

| 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 FOR TRADITIONAL SEMESTER COURSES

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 Semester Start	Module 0	Introduction Online Learning Orientation Course Orientation	Bb Forum 0 Individual pre-assessment Propose teams
Week of Jan 10 – Jan 16	Module 1	Defining Research in Architecture Read: Arch Research Methods Ch 1	Bb Forums 1
Week of Jan 17 – Jan 23	Module 2 Module 3	Lawrence Tech Library – Online Library Orientation and Research Tools Concept Paper and Literature Review Read: Arch Research Methods Ch 2, 3	Bb Forums 2 Summary of Library Orientation due Sep 12 **Research Diagrammatic due Jan 23**
Week of Jan 24 – Jan 30	Module 4	Concept Paper Discussion & Review Literature Review Strategy Read: Arch Research Methods Ch 3	Bb Forums 3, 4 **Concept Paper 1 due Jan 30**
Week of Jan 31 – Feb 6	Module 5	Theory & Design in Relation to Research & Method Read: Arch Research Methods Ch 4-5	Bb Forum 5 **Concept Paper 2 and bibliography due Feb 6**
Week of Feb 7 – Feb 13	Module 6	Historic Interpretive Research Read: Arch Research Methods Ch 6 Guest Lecture: Dr. Dale Gyure	Bb Forum 6 Lecture Summary due Feb 13
Week of Feb 14 – Feb 20	Module 7	Qualitative Research Read: Arch Research Methods Ch 7 Guest Lecture – Dr. Jin Feng	Bb Forums 7 Lecture Summary due Feb 20
Week of Feb 21 – Feb 27	Module 8	Correlational Research Read: Arch Research Methods Ch 8 Guest Lecture : Dr. Joongsub Kim	Bb Forums 8 Lecture Summary due Feb 27
Week of Feb 28 – Mar 6	Module 9	Experimental & Quasi-experimental Research and Statistical Analysis of Data Read: Arch Research Methods Ch 9	Bb Forums 9 Chapter Summary due Mar 6
		MID-SEMESTER BREAK	
Week of Mar 14 – Mar 20	Module 10	Case Studies and Combined Strategies Read: Arch Research Methods Ch. 12	Bb forum 10 Lecture summary due Mar 20
Week of Mar 21 – Mar 27	Module 11	Evidence –based Design	Bb Forum 11
Week of Mar 28 – Apr 3	Module 12	Mid-Term Evaluation Work on Literature Reviews Final Poster Project assigned	**Literature Reviews due Apr 3**
Week of Apr 4 – Apr 10	Module 13	View and evaluate literature review	Bb Forum 12 Literature review evaluations due Apr 10

Dates	Modules	Topics / Readings	Assignments Due
Week of Apr 11 – Apr 17	Module 14	Selection of appropriate research method	Bb Forum 13 **Draft of Research Method due Apr 17**
Week of Apr 18 – Apr 24	Module 15	Planning the Poster – Content, Graphics, and Other Media Discussion of research poster	Bb Forum 14 **Poster draft due Apr 24**
Week of Apr 25 – May 1	Module 16	Work on poster View posters	Bb Forum 15 Poster Review and Discussions
Week of May 2 – May 7	Module 17	Work on posters Submit posters	**Final Poster due May 7**

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 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.
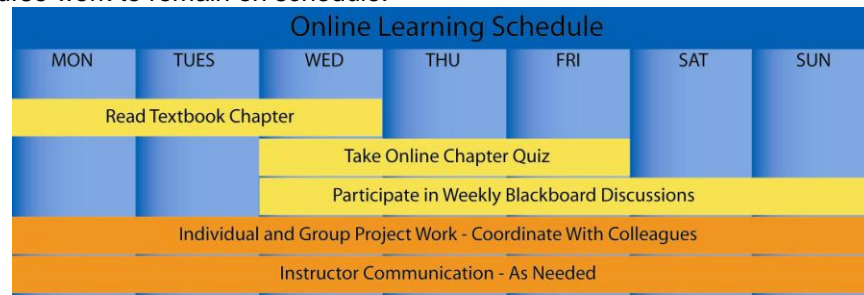
PRACTICAL GUIDELINES FOR CLASS LOAD EXPECTATIONS

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 14-week semester (the Summer semester is compressed into 10 weeks) would require at least 126 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 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 (15 Bb forums @ 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 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.