THREE RIVERS COMMUNITY COLLEGE
ARC K280 TRENDS & ISSUES
"Building the Problem Solver: Graphic & Critical Thinking"
Tuesday & Thursday 4:00 - 5:15pm

Instructor: Professor Mark Comeau, (885-2387,), email mcomeau@trcc.commnet.edu

Grade: Projects 80%   In-class Exams 10%   Participation 10%

Course Description:
This year's advanced "topics" course in the Architecture Program draws together the many elements of architectural problem solving by exercising problem exploration, analysis, synthesis and challenge, design creativity, and graphic representation while following a simulated project flow. Combining various software platforms, students will employ the Microsoft Office suite, ArcGIS, CAD, and SketchUp, to seek problem solutions that utilize complex multi-variable analysis while being challenged to communicate such solutions as the architecture profession traditionally has – creating easily understood graphics and modeling.

Method: Demonstration Accompanied by Lecture and Project-based Exercises

Text: (**Instructor Handouts and Digital Downloads**)

Week 1   **Introduction**
(8/29)   Course & Syllabus Outline
          (No Homework)

Week 2   **Historical Perspectives**
(9/03)   The Gentlemen's Art
          Homework: The Beaux-arts School (Rubric provided)

Week 3   **Competing for Work**
(9/10)   Elements of the "RFP"
          Homework: Resume, Letterhead, Brand (Rubric provided)

Week 4   **Know What You're Charging For**
(9/17)   Fee Structures & Deliverables
          Homework: Services, Supplies & Overhead (Rubric Provided)

Week 5   **Pre-Design**
(9/24)   Program, Data, Regulations
          Homework: Pre-design Research

Week 6   **The Master Plan**
(10/01)   *"Think Out loud"* and Plan for the Future
          Homework: Beginning the Base-map

Week 7   **The Master Plan Cont'd**
(10/08)   Mediums of the Master Plan
          Homework: Continuing the Master Plan

Week 8   **Imagery and the "Big Idea"**
(10/15)   The Conceptual "sell"
          Homework: Completing the Master Plan

Week 9   **Schematic Design**
(10/22)   Graphic "Thinking"
          Homework: The "Bubble" Diagram

Week 10   **Schematic Design Cont'd**
(10/29)   Schematic Plans & Images
          Homework: The Initial Design Presentation

Week 11   **Design Development**
(11/05)   *"Working out the kinks"*
          Homework: Research FF&E

Week 12   **Project and Systems Modeling**
(11/12)   3D Representation Models
          Homework: Modeling Project (Spans over Thanksgiving)

Week 13   **Thanksgiving Break**
(11/19)   Schedule Float

Week 14   **Project Validation**
(11/26)   Mini Challenge Crits
          Homework: Commence Project Completion

Week 15   **Project Adjustment and Value Engineering**
(12/03)   *"A Better Mousetrap made Sustainable"*
          Homework: Continue Project Completion

Week 16   **Final Project Deliverable**
(12/10)   Presentations

Trends & Issues Course Outcomes:
- ▫ Attain an understanding of how architectural projects come to exist to solve a need;
- ▫ Attain an understanding of design competitiveness and the advantage of branding;
- ▫ Demonstrate an understanding of the "Request for Proposal" process;
- ▫ Demonstrate the ability to task-itemize project services and general a fee schedule;
- ▫ Demonstrate the ability to identify and solve spatial problems;
- ▫ Demonstrate the ability to assemble and synthesize data sets;
- ▫ Demonstrate the ability to use various graphic platforms to model creative solutions.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Any and all exams, papers or reports submitted by you and that bears your name is presumed to be your own original work that has not previously been submitted for credit in another course unless you obtain prior written approval to do so from your professor.

In all of your assignments, including homework or drafts of papers, you may use words or ideas written by other individuals in publications, web sites, or other sources but only with proper attribution. "Proper attribution" means that you have fully identified the original source and extent of your use of the words or ideas of others that you reproduce in your work for this course, usually in the form of a footnote or parenthesis.

As a general rule, if you are citing from a published source or from a web site and the quotation is short (up to a sentence or two), place it in quotation marks; if you employ a longer passage from a publication or web site, please indent it and use single spacing. In both cases, be sure to cite the original source in a footnote or in parentheses. (See http://www.plagiarism.org/plag_article_how_do_I_cite_sources.html for more information on citing.)

If you are uncertain about the expectations for completing an assignment or taking a test or examination, be sure to seek clarification from your professor beforehand.

Finally, you should keep in mind that as a member of the Three Rivers Community College community, you are expected to demonstrate integrity in all of your academic endeavors and will be evaluated on your own merits.

Be proud of your academic accomplishments and help to protect and promote academic integrity. The consequences of cheating and academic dishonesty may include a formal discipline file, possible loss of financial scholarship or employment opportunities, and denial of admission to a four year college.