

**COLLEGE FOR DESIGN AND SOCIAL INQUIRY****Student Learning Outcomes Assessment**

The School of Architecture adheres to the National Architectural Accrediting Board's Student Performance Criteria (NAAB/SPC). What follows is 6 of the 34 NAAB criteria. A full list of these criteria is available in the 2009 Edition of the *NAAB Conditions for Accreditation*: http://www.naab.org/usr_doc/2009_CONDITIONS.pdf

COMMUNICATION (Written Communication, Oral Communication): Students will demonstrate the ability to read, write, speak and listen effectively. (NAAB/SPC #A.1: Communication Skills).

CRITICAL THINKING (Analytical Skills): Students will demonstrate the 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 (NAAB/SPC #A.2: Design Thinking Skills).

CONTENT KNOWLEDGE (Technical Skills): Students will demonstrate the ability to use appropriate representational media, such as traditional graphic and digital technology skills, to convey essential formal elements at each stage of the programming and design process (NAAB/SPC #A.3: Visual Communication Skills).

CONTENT KNOWLEDGE (Research Skills): Students will demonstrate the ability to gather, assess, record, and apply relevant information in architectural coursework and design processes. (NAAB/SPC #A.5: Investigative skills).

CONTENT KNOWLEDGE (Technical Skills): Students will demonstrate the ability to effectively use basic architectural and environmental principles in design. (NAAB/SPC #A.6: Fundamental Design Skills).

CRITICAL THINKING (Ordering System Skills): Students will demonstrate an understanding of the fundamentals of both natural and formal ordering systems and the principles and the capacity of each to inform two- and three-dimensional design. (NAAB/SPC #A.8: Ordering Systems Skills).

Almost one-third (28 out of 99) of the upper-division credit hours for the B. Architecture are obtained in performance studios. The studio sequence concludes with a Comprehensive Design Project, in which students must demonstrate in an integrated way all components of the Academic Learning Compact.

As in all of the other required courses, students must obtain a grade of C or higher as a minimum passing grade. In each studio, students prepare and submit 2-dimensional and 3-dimensional representations. For the Comprehensive Design Project studio students also submit a journal of the design process that includes written and drawn components.

All studios conclude with student presentations to a multi-member jury composed of several members of the faculty and the instructor of the course. These juries frequently include invited professionals, the phase-coordinators, and the School's director. The course instructor assigns the grades, but s/he considers the comments made by other jury members in developing a final assessment.