Expected Outcomes: Integrated Technical Skills and Knowledge

Architecture graduates are called upon to comprehend the technical aspects of design, systems and materials, and be able to apply that comprehension to their services. Additionally they must appreciate their role in the implementation of design decisions, and the impact of such decisions on the environment. Students learning aspirations include: 1) Creating building designs with well-integrated systems. 2) Comprehending constructability. 3) Incorporating life safety systems. 4) Integrating accessibility. 5) Applying principles of sustainable design.

Related typical general education outcomes:

- 4 Ability to Construct Arguments
- 6 Ability to Solve Open-Ended Problems
- 12 Aesthetic Appreciation and Engagement

Assessment methods

Method: Comprehensive Project

Prior to graduation, students will complete a sequence of studios in which they are required to develop, design, and present an architectural design assignment demonstrating the abilities outlined in the ‘Comprehensive Design’ outcome.

Findings:

The comprehensive project is now split over two consecutive semesters encompassing the full 15 weeks of the fall term and the first 5 weeks of the spring term. By expanding the the comprehensive project by a full 5 week is the spring semester we were better able to utilize lectures, seminars and workshops in the delivery of a more robust and technically integrated body of content.

How did you use findings for improvement?

As the comprehensive work of the studio improved significantly we are now working to further develop a modular system of integrated content delivery in the Fall semester that will be similar to the first five weeks of the spring.

Additional comments:

None

Method: Faculty Peer Review

Student design work from each year level will be evaluated by the program faculty to evaluate the level of student performance relative to the learning objectives of the program.

Findings:

Through the utilization of lectures, seminars and workshops in the delivery of a more robust and technically integrated body of content in the spring module we were able to capitalize on individual faculty member’s core competencies and were better able to expose all of the
students to these areas of specialization.

How did you use findings for improvement?

As the comprehensive work of the studio improved significantly we are now working to further develop a modular system of integrated content delivery in the Fall semester that will be similar to the first five weeks of the spring. This modularization will allow us to better utilize our faculty's areas of specialization and disseminate these core competencies to all students enrolled in the comprehensive project sequence.

Additional comments:

None