

Honors in the Architectural Studies Major

Graduation with honors in the Architectural Studies major entails 8 credits of designated honors coursework, and requires at the application stage an average grade of A- in the major's courses. First, students take a 4-credit, 500-level architectural history course taught by any of the History of Art & Architecture faculty by the end of the first semester of their Senior year; followed then by a four-credit Directed Study honors project, supervised by the course's Professor, on an original research topic written according to scholarly standards of presentation. The honors project will be defended in an oral examination before a faculty committee.

The pathway leading to graduation with honors in the major:

- (1) Student takes an approved 500-level architectural history course (4 credits) taught by any of the History of Art & Architecture faculty. By October 15, for a spring term honors project (by February 25 for a fall term project), the student notifies the Professor teaching the course that they want their coursework to be part of an eventual honors project.
- (2) Student submits a proposal for an honors project to the departmental Honors Committee by November 15 for a spring term project (by March 25 for a fall project). The Proposal should be a maximum of 4 double-spaced pages, and include a 1-2 page abstract, bibliography, and any other relevant materials that would give the Honors Committee a sense of the project. This might include images, lists of works of architecture to be considered, etc. The proposal should additionally provide a calculation of the student's average major coursework g.p.a., which must be at least A- (i.e., 3.66), accompanied by a copy of the student's unofficial transcript with courses for the major highlighted. After reviewing the proposal and the student's transcript, an interview is conducted before the end of the Fall semester by the *Honors Committee, which consists of the Director of Undergraduate Studies, the Director of Architectural Studies, and the Professor* supervising the honors project.
- (3) After the interview, student will be notified of the Honors Committee's decision, which may involve suggested revisions to the proposal. Once a proposal is fully approved, the student will meet with the Professor supervising the honors project to plan the remainder of the project and discuss the composition of the Defense Committee. The Defense Committee consists of *at least two readers*: the Professor supervising the project and at least one additional faculty members in a field that complements the student's project.
- (4) Student takes a second semester, Directed Study course (4 credits) with the supervising Professor, or the Architecture Capstone (CAS AH386) course (4 credits). The recommended length of the project is about *6,000 words or 25 pages exclusive of notes, bibliography, and illustrations*. The first draft is due to the supervising Professor by March 1 for a spring term project (by October 15 for a fall project); the final, clean draft is due to the Defense Committee no later than April 1 for a spring term project (November 15 for a fall project).
- (5) The project is defended in an oral examination before the Defense Committee by April 15 for a spring term project (by December 10 for a fall project). The Defense Committee notifies the student if honors are to be awarded before the end of the term.