

## **Level III Design Studies Courses from 2009**

### **YEAR 3**

#### **SEMESTER 1**

##### **Colonial and Contemporary Issues in South Asian Architecture III**

This course explores historical and theoretical issues arising from the colonial encounter of Europe and Asia, and their implications for contemporary architectural thought and practice. Lectures will focus on the historical case of India since the early 19th century. Through a critical interpretation of British colonial efforts to 'construct' a modern Indian architecture and the subsequent efforts of post-colonial architects and theorists to 'deconstruct' that spatial

##### **Natural and Landscape Systems**

This course focuses on the analysis and assessment of physical and biological systems in a non-urban context. Students will be required to examine the impact of a medium scale landscape design project on a specific arid/mallee/coastal/wetland or temperate environment in South Australia. Through on-site analysis and assessment, research, mapping, and written and graphic documentation, the course seeks to expand students' knowledge and appreciation of the diversity and sensitivity of 'natural' systems, including geomorphology, hydrology, biospheric conditions, fauna, flora (including taxonomy, performance and maintenance) aquatic and bird life, as well as ecological systems theory and practice generally.

##### **Digital Media III**

This course explores narratives and storytelling through the use of 2D animation in short film. Through project work and assignments students will develop scripts, storyboards and short, 2D animated films using industry standard software and techniques, while under the supervision of industry leaders. Students will communicate their work through digital presentations and folios.

##### **Special Topic IIIC: Digital Media in Design Studies**

This course focuses on developing advanced knowledge and skills in the use of digital media for design exploration, communication and representation. Specifically it will focus on using 3D modeling software such as 3DStudio Max and Rhino.

##### **Special Topic IIID: Environmental Performance of Design**

This course is about exploring design from the point of view of environmental performance assessment. It will help students understand that the environmental performance of a building can be predicted during the design process and assessed after the building has been built and operated. Assessing and rating the environmental performance of a proposed or existing building is increasingly being demanded by Governments and clients.

The nature and background of this environmental assessment will be critically examined. This course will also provide students with some knowledge and skills that will be needed in the everyday practice of design. The topics covered will include understanding the issues of design performance assessment, assessing some aspects of performance in a proposed/existing building, using simulation to predict the performance of design, and using energy and environmental rating tools to comply with building codes & regulations (ie. BCA). The course will involve site visits to sustainable development projects.

## **SEMESTER 2**

### **Special Topic IIIB: Special Topic in Design Studies (Aboriginal Design)**

This course explores Aboriginal culture, and in particular Kaurua, Ngarrindjeri and Djab Wurrung countries, as to constructions of and relationships to habitat, architecture, landscape and environment. It includes meanings and forms consciously and unconsciously that express these constructions and relationships, and includes a 5 day field camp in June-July 2009 to specific Ngarrindjeri and Djab Wurrung landscapes to explore, immerse, appreciate, design and translate these meanings and forms.

Architecture, shelter, nomenclature, moeity, semi-sedentary patterns and occupancy relationships, cosmology and narrative, food harvesting and gathering, environmental manipulation and curatorship, design expression and unconscious activity, will be themes of inquiry. Assignment work includes readings, (hardcopy, oral, electronic) presentations and project work directly associated with the field camp investigations.

**PLEASE NOTE: This is an intensive course that will be run over the mid-year break**

### **Special Topic IIIF: Penang Urban Design Studio (FULL – NOT AVAILABLE FOR ENROLMENT)**

This course focuses on the revitalization of the compact urban centre of George Town on the island of Penang in Malaysia and will be of particular value to those students with a keen interest in heritage and environmental protection, cultural diversity, and urban regeneration. Students will work on urban design projects identified by George Town communities as being fundamental to the future of their much neglected historic town. Projects are likely to span a wide range of urban issues from heritage protection, traffic management, environmental degradation, public realm development and enhancement, affordable housing, and the adaptation of existing urban fabric for contemporary uses. An architect, an architectural historian, a heritage expert, an environmentalist, and community representatives - all Penang residents – will provide information as well as support and encouragement throughout the studio. Through teamwork and individual research and exploration, students will present their proposals for George Town's revitalization to community representatives and planning officials in Penang using manual and digital techniques as well as concise reports.

### **Digital Media Studio**

This course focuses on the concepts of rules, contingency, grammar and play in the design of virtual places. It explores interaction between the user/designer and virtual space and issues of

narrative and animation. Designs will be developed in several digital media applications using visualisation techniques, including Web design, 3D modelling, animation and simulation using a general purpose solid modeller of the kind used in the digital film production industry, as well as 3D Studio Max. An introduction to non-linear editing and sound track production will be used as part of the electronic presentation of virtual design spaces.