

USC School of Architecture

PRELIMINARY

(in-progress, last updated 12/6/18)

Architecture 692b: Building Science Master's Thesis, Continuation

Spring Semester, 6 Units:

Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays: 2 pm – 5:50 pm in third floor Watt Hall. It is intended that you work in your studio space.

Instructors: Marc Schiler and Karen Kensek

Office: Watt 315 and Watt 209

Office Hours: send email for appointment

Contact Info: marcs@usc.edu, kensek@usc.edu

Prerequisites: Successful completion of Arch 692a.

Email

A USC e-mail account is also required for this course. Verify that your USC account and Blackboard is working. Call 740-5555 if you have problems accessing your account. Read your e-mail at least once a day!

Outside class time

There may be outside class time field trips and lectures. We will give you advance warning.

Course Description and Learning Objectives

This course is a continuation of the Master of Building Science Thesis Studio, including ARCH 596 and ARCH 692a. To a large extent, you already know the process and are at some substantial point along the way. Please read the instructions and schedule in the syllabus, to remind yourself of the goals and timing of this course. **DO NOT MISS ANY OF THE MILESTONES** or you are very likely to fail to complete your thesis, on time. It is required that you create a schedule for when your chapters will be done and post the schedule on your studio desk.

The course has several overlapping objectives:

- I. Experimentation (data collection or computer simulation, analysis and theorizing, or tool creation, testing and prototypical results) Note: Much of this should be completed from Arch 692a.
- II. Scholarly research (writing about the precedents in the field)
- III. Completion of a coherent and accurate thesis.
- IV. Translation and condensation of the thesis to create a reasonable *understanding* of the work accomplished and its implications.
- V. Completion of a journal or conference quality paper about your thesis. The intent is for it to be published or presented, but minimally it will be written following a specific journal or conference's guidelines.

We will address a broad range of ancillary topics. We will create or continue a “culture of learning” as part of the course. Although it is a studio course, there will be guest lecturers, lectures of assigned topics and periodic reviews, as well as normal studio time. We will do interim presentations to the first year students and to outside consultants and to committee members, prior to the final presentation. You are required to participate in all reviews.

Class sessions will consist of an opening segment for announcements, reminders and updates to scheduling, sometimes followed by a short lecture or presentation. Presentations will be by the instructor, guests and/or students. Following the presentation, the class will take the normal studio format, with individual “desk” critiques either at the student workstation or in the faculty office. Students are expected to attend the lecture portion of the class and be present for interaction with the faculty and *with each other*, throughout the class time. Please bring your work with you to studio in order to facilitate that interaction. Remember, you should learn as much from each other as from the faculty. Hopefully you will end your thesis in a position to be able to teach others about the topic.

Required Readings and Supplementary Materials

Required readings and supplementary materials are based on your individual thesis. Your thesis members will be assigning them to you. Occasionally, you will be given a handout in class or on Blackboard.

Thesis Chapters

Post an outline of your chapters on your desk next to your schedule. Also post your methodology diagram.

Thesis chapters will be self-checked by submitting to Turnitin on Blackboard before submittal to your thesis Chair.

For assistance in copy editing, you may use Grammarly from <https://www.grammarly.com/>, or the USC Writing Lab <https://dornsife.usc.edu/writingcenter/consultations/> or contact outside sources such as www.phoenixproofreading.org

Make backups of everything!!! These should be in different locations (e.g. multiple flash drives, hard drive, portable hard drive, the cloud) and under different names. Keep older files in case the newest version somehow becomes corrupted (this has happened to Karen). Losing your files will not be an excuse for delaying a presentation or due date.

Graduate School Thesis Information

For additional information on the thesis, visit the Graduate School Websites at: <http://graduateschool.usc.edu/index.html> and click on “CURRENT STUDENTS.”

For an overview of the submission process and a review of the University’s requirements, go to: <http://graduateschool.usc.edu/current-students/thesis-dissertation-submission/guidelines-for-submission/> and <http://graduateschool.usc.edu/current-students/thesis-dissertation-submission/submission-deadlines/> (as of 1/6/2018). For formatting, go to: <http://graduateschool.usc.edu/current-students/thesis-dissertation-submission/guidelines-for-format-and-presentation/> (1/6/2018.)

Go to the actual link for submitting the thesis electronically, *when the thesis is nearly ready*. Be careful not to open multiple profiles. It is suggested that you read all of the above materials, *but do not open anything until you are within three weeks of your final presentation*. Only one profile is allowed. If you forget your profile, password or anything else, you will cause yourself great distress at the last minute.

Critical Deadlines

May Graduation (this is the date you are shooting for)

Final thesis presentation (Thesis Defense): Wednesday, March 20 and Friday, March 22

Checklist complete and committee signoffs submitted online: Monday, March 25

Thesis upload date and time: April 1, noon.

Required to Pass the Course

- Completed research
- Completed thesis
- Completed paper based on the thesis
- Participation in lectures and field trips

Tentative Course Schedule: *you are required to attend all class sessions unless you have made arrangements with the instructor in advance*

The schedule will change based on availability of speakers and field trips.

	Monday	Wednesday	Friday
Week 1 Jan. 7	Class introduction. Lecture and Exercise: How to Paraphrase, Figures, Tables, Cascading Reviews, Review Resolution, etc. Complete gathering and analyzing data Complete gathering and analyzing data	Class exercise: The abstract Small group assignments and meetings. Complete gathering and analyzing data	Chapters 1-3 (Introduction, Literature Review, Methodology) done (done means being approved by all your committee members). Some of you have different chapter numbering schemes (not the 6 that we outlined). Your submissions should reflect that.
Week 2 Jan. 14	“Silent Monday” Write Chapter 4	Guest or lecture or field trip. Write Chapter 4	Submit Draft of Chapter 4 to Chair (Chair will return by Monday)
Week 3 Jan. 21	HOLIDAY (fix Chair corrections Chapter 4)	Submit Draft of Chapter 4 to 2 nd	(Chapter 4 returned by 2 nd) Revise Chapter 4
Week 4 Jan. 28	“Silent Monday” Write Chapter 5, Submit chapter 4 to 3 rd	Guest or lecture or field trip. Write Chapter 5 Revise Chapter 4	Chapter 4 done Submit Draft of Chapter 5 to Chair
Week 5 Feb. 4	“Silent Monday” Fix Chair corrections Chapter 5	Submit Draft of Chapter 5 to 2 nd Individual meetings.	(Chapter 5 returned) Revise Chapter 5 Guest or lecture or field trip?
Week 6 Feb. 11	“Silent Monday” Write Chapter 6, Submit Chapter 5 to 3 rd	Guest or lecture or field trip. Write Chapter 6, Revise Chapter 5	Chapter 5 done Submit Draft of Chapter 6 to Chair
Week 7 Feb. 18	HOLIDAY fix Chair corrections Chapter 6, Write Conclusions	Submit Draft of Chapter 6 to 2 nd Write Conclusions, Individual meetings	(Chapter 6 returned) Revise Chapter 6, Guest or lecture or field trip?
Week 8 Feb. 25	“Silent Monday” Submit Chapter 6 to 3 rd Karen at a conference.	Guest or lecture or field trip. Revise Chapter 6 Karen at a conference.	Chapter 6 done Guest or lecture or field trip? Karen at a conference.
Week 9 Mar. 4	“Silent Monday” Clean up Final Draft	“Silent Wednesday” Clean up Final Draft	Completed Manuscript
Week 10 Mar. 11	SPRING BREAK	SPRING BREAK	SPRING BREAK
Week 11 Mar. 18	“Silent Monday” Prepare Presentations	Thesis Defense	Thesis Defense
Week 12 Mar. 25	“Silent Monday” - USC Checklist Submission Deadline: noon	Minor renovation	Minor renovation

Week 13 Apr. 1	USC Manuscript Submission Deadline, noon, 2:00 pm celebrate	Research Journals / Write Conference papers	Discuss papers.
Week 14 Apr. 8	“Silent Monday”	Guest or lecture or field trip.	Discuss progress on papers.
Week 15 Apr. 15	“Silent Monday”	Paper due to co-authors	Field Trip (posters due)
Week 16 Apr. 22	Revise paper “Silent Monday”	Paper Due post posters	Last day of classes at USC MBS EXPO (posters)

Statement on Academic Conduct and Support Systems

Academic Conduct

Plagiarism – presenting someone else’s ideas as your own, either verbatim or recast in your own words – is a serious academic offense with serious consequences. Please familiarize yourself with the discussion of plagiarism in *SCampus* in Part B, Section 11, “Behavior Violating University Standards” <https://policy.usc.edu/scampus-part-b/>. Other forms of academic dishonesty are equally unacceptable. See additional information in *SCampus* and university policies on scientific misconduct, <http://policy.usc.edu/scientific-misconduct>.

Support Systems

Student Counseling Services (SCS) - (213) 740-7711 – 24/7 on call

Free and confidential mental health treatment for students, including short-term psychotherapy, group counseling, stress fitness workshops, and crisis intervention. <https://engemannshc.usc.edu/counseling/>

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline - 1-800-273-8255

Provides free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. <http://www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org>

Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention Services (RSVP) - (213) 740-4900 - 24/7 on call

Free and confidential therapy services, workshops, and training for situations related to gender-based harm. <https://engemannshc.usc.edu/rsvp/>

Sexual Assault Resource Center

For more information about how to get help or help a survivor, rights, reporting options, and additional resources, visit the website: <http://sarc.usc.edu/>

Office of Equity and Diversity (OED)/Title IX Compliance – (213) 740-5086

Works with faculty, staff, visitors, applicants, and students around issues of protected class. <https://equity.usc.edu/>

Bias Assessment Response and Support

Incidents of bias, hate crimes and microaggressions need to be reported allowing for appropriate investigation and response. <https://studentaffairs.usc.edu/bias-assessment-response-support/>

The Office of Disability Services and Programs

Provides certification for students with disabilities and helps arrange relevant accommodations. <http://dsp.usc.edu>

Student Support and Advocacy – (213) 821-4710

Assists students and families in resolving complex issues adversely affecting their success as a student EX: personal, financial, and academic. <https://studentaffairs.usc.edu/ssa/>

Diversity at USC

Information on events, programs and training, the Diversity Task Force (including representatives for each school), chronology, participation, and various resources for students. <https://diversity.usc.edu/>

USC Emergency Information

Provides safety and other updates, including ways in which instruction will be continued if an officially declared emergency makes travel to campus infeasible, <http://emergency.usc.edu>

USC Department of Public Safety – 213-740-4321 (UPC) and 323-442-1000 (HSC) for 24-hour emergency assistance or to report a crime.

Provides overall safety to USC community. <http://dps.usc.edu>

Religious Holidays

The University of Southern California recognizes the diversity of our community and the potential for conflicts involving academic activities and personal religious observation. The University provides a guide to such observances for reference and suggests that any concerns about lack of attendance or inability to participate fully in the course activity be fully aired at the start of the term. As a general principle students should be excused from class for these events if properly documented and if provisions can be made to accommodate the absence and make up the lost work. Constraints on participation that conflict with adequate participation in the course and cannot be resolved to the satisfaction of the faculty and the student need to be identified prior to the drop/add date for registration. After the drop/add date the University and the School of Architecture shall be the sole arbiter of what constitutes appropriate attendance and participation in a given course.

Please contact **your instructor by the end of the second week of class** if you anticipate conflicts with religious holidays including missing lectures, inability to finish homework assignments on-time, or other items that may hinder your work in this class.

Accreditation Statement

The USC School of Architecture's five year BARCH degree and the two year M.ARCH degree are accredited professional architectural degree programs. All students can access and review the NAAB Conditions of Accreditation (including the Student Performance Criteria) on the NAAB Website, http://www.naab.org/accreditation/2009_Conditions.aspx.

The Master of Landscape Architecture degree program (for USC's +3 students with no prior design education, and our +2 for students admitted with advanced standing) is currently in "Candidacy Status" for accreditation by the Landscape Architecture Accreditation Board. All students can access and review the LAAB accreditation standards/process at <http://www.asla.org/Education.aspx>.

The 2010 Imperative Statement

As the Architecture Faculty have voted to accept the 2010 Imperative-- to improvement of ecological literacy among the students and faculty and to achieve a carbon-neutral design school campus by 2010. The following statement should be added to all design studio syllabi where appropriate:

“The design should engage the environment in a way that dramatically reduces or eliminates the need for fossil fuel.”