



URBANBUILD 17– ‘DEVELOPMENT, REALIZATION AND DOCUMENTATION’

As a continuation of efforts initiated by the Fall URBANbuildstudio, the Spring studio will further develop and fabricate a dwelling to be sited in the Central City Neighborhood of New Orleans.

Last year, as the fabrication of URBANbuild16 was underway, a relationship was established with members of the neighboring Bethlehem Lutheran Church – the oldest historically black Evangelical Lutheran Church in the continental United States (<https://www.blcnola.org/history>). The size of the congregation has waned since hurricane Katrina, but the current pastor, Ben Groth, is working to increase membership and has spearheaded a very successful community outreach initiative known as Community Table (<https://www.blcnola.org/communitytable>). In addition, Pastor Groth has recently defended his Graduate Thesis at Tulane’s Department of History, and that research focused on the relationship between white supremacy and Christianity. Therefore, in addition to URBANbuild’s focus on the topic of housing, his involvement with this studio and the resulting conversations will aim to broaden each students’ awareness of community needs through their direct engagement on site and with the outreach programs of Bethlehem.

Debate continues with regard to what should be done with the many historically marginalized areas of largely low-income underprivileged communities of this city. During the fall semester, Master planning options were proposed for Bethlehem’s primary church site, and several housing strategies were developed for another property of theirs just across the street at 1822 Washington Avenue. One has been selected for construction, and groundbreaking will occur mid-January. Students considering this studio are urged to visit the URBANbuild website and acquaint themselves with the programs agenda and pedagogy. WWW.URBANbuild.tulane.edu.

The spring studio group will work at the scale of dwelling and fabrication - focusing on material issues and the development of fabrication details through the realization of a built project. Sixteen substantial projects have already been designed and constructed by the School’s URBANbuild program, and students will continue to build upon the lessons offered by those accomplishments.

*NOTE: students are also expected to enroll in URBANbuild Advanced Technology and URBANbuild Professional Concerns Students will receive an additional 6 credits for that enrollment.

PROGRAM

A two bedroom ADA compliant dwelling prototype has been developed for construction. However, while the dwelling scheme is established, many material options are still to be considered and fabrication details will be tested as they evolve. This studio research will rely upon the most affordable local construction system, wood framing; however, in addition, studio participants will periodically work with the school’s Director of Fabrication in pursuit of creative assembly methods.

Each student will record and document revisions and developments of the scheme through the careful maintenance of a record set of documents. Beginning with the documents submitted to the city for permitting, revisions will be continually catalogued and eventually prepared for presentation upon the conclusion of construction.

Design and fabrication will take place within a fast 16-week timeframe. Students will be asked to communicate with tradespeople, acquire materials, develop building skills, and respectfully interact with community members. Students will be taught to safely use power tools along with effective construction techniques and will work Monday through Saturday. Periodically, due to weather delays and scheduling conflicts, full weekends of work will be required in exchange for lost weekdays; however, every effort is made to avoid that situation.

OBJECTIVES

This platform studio will require each student to demonstrate a range of abilities, and an awareness of important issues and knowledge. This semester's topic of research will allow the studio participants to address and solve problems of coordination and construction at varying scales.

Quality of craft and care in execution will be emphasized throughout the course. In addition, Students will not only learn how to construct a home. They will also develop skills of diplomacy through working closely and intensely with colleagues and peers. Students are expected to respectfully hold each other accountable through the definition and pursuit of team goals.

RECORD DOCUMENTS

Each student shall maintain a set of record documents throughout the semester. Record documents are often maintained throughout the course of any construction project so that changes in detail or design strategy are documented for future reference.

This semester's construction project will be documented in effort to present all levels of project revision and development at both the 'larger scale' of design development and the 'smaller scale' of detail and material development.

These efforts are to be coordinated with the photographic documentation required by the associated coursework of APFC 4310 and ATCS 6320. A presentation of documents will be organized upon the completion of construction

STUDIO CULTURE

The Tulane School of Architecture fully supports the studio-based model as central to the curriculum for architectural education and relies on the studio to provide and promote a healthy environment for creative and engaged learning. The design studio is an open environment for the fostering of creativity and engagement in the design process, promoting exploration, innovation and intellectual advancement, and supporting a culture of critical inquiry, collaboration, community engagement, and stewardship among students, faculty and administration. For further details, refer to the TuSA Student Handbook posted at:

<https://architecture.tulane.edu/student-life/materials-policies>

The TuSA faculty strongly suggested that you get into the habit of working in the studio beyond class hours. Experience has shown that students who work in studio on a regular basis have a greater degree of success in the course because of the opportunity to discuss, clarify, and exchange ideas and methods with colleagues. A strong studio culture begins with the presence of students in the studio.

MEETING TIME

8:00 am Monday through Saturday. The length of workdays will vary and end by sunset. Work on selected Sundays may sometimes be required – typically due to weather delays. Weekly goals will be established, but flexibility will need to be maintained due to delays caused by weather, late material deliveries, or similar events. Students should expect to work during a portion of Spring Break if the construction schedule is not maintained.

The work will be demanding at times, but it is critical that students work carefully. It is expected that all work be conducted with safety as a priority. When faced with the option of getting something done fast rather than safely, it is required that students choose to take their time and ask for assistance or guidance.

COURSE STRUCTURE

The scheduling and execution of multiple phases of construction will be pursued throughout the semester and critical benchmarks will be established in effort to maintain that schedule. The schedule will require periodic updating and revision; however, the completion date of early May will be maintained.

Construction requirements will build throughout the semester so that each stage of development will be an extension, and sometimes a revision of previous achievements. Only in this way can the desired levels of detail and resolution be achieved by the end of the course. Students will be responsible for all previous sets of requirements at each subsequent stage. All work will be the product of team efforts, but individual efforts will be recognized through qualities of leadership, collaboration and the initiation of 'problem solving' efforts.

The beginning of the work day, the scheduling of lunch breaks and the conclusion of each work day are to be respected by every 'full time' course participant. Work days may sometimes extend beyond the scheduled hours. Absence for medical reasons or family emergencies should be requested as soon after the event as possible and in advance of project deadlines, and should be supported by proper documentation. It is occasionally necessary to change deadlines and specific requirements. Such changes will be made with as much notice as possible, but may occasionally be made at short notice to ensure the productive continuity of the program. Students should stay in touch with each other to be aware of any such changes.

SAFETY

In effort to maintain a safe work setting, the construction site is to always be kept as clear as possible. Tools are to be cared for and maintained with the highest level of quality possible; the 'onsite' storage container is to be kept as clear and organized as possible. Instructors will direct the maintenance of site and equipment.

Proper protective footwear is to be worn at all times on site, eye protection is to be worn when operating dangerous equipment or performing dangerous tasks. Students are to wear protective hard hats at all times on site. Students should always be aware of their surroundings and the activities of others. Do not hesitate to offer assistance or ask for assistance when needed!

Unless a supervised event is coordinated by course instructors, no alcoholic beverages are allowed on site. Standard university policies of acceptable behavior are to be respected. Unsafe or unprofessional behavior will not be tolerated and may lead to immediate course expulsion.

ATTENDANCE

Students are expected to work in studio during designated studio hours. Unexcused absences from regular working days in studio will adversely affect the student's final grade, regardless of other course requirements completed and grades earned. An unexcused absence from a scheduled pin-up or review is especially serious and will have an appropriately adverse effect on the final grade. Please email instructor prior to class if you know that you will be late to or absent from class. Three unexcused absences will reduce the final grade by one full letter grade. Five unexcused absences will lead to WF grade. **A meeting with the TuSA Director of Student Affairs will be required after TWO unexcused absences.** For further details, refer to the academic policies on Tulane School of Architecture website at: <https://architecture.tulane.edu/student-life/materials-policies>

REVIEWS

Structured participation will be required in all major design reviews. You will be called upon to critique the work of your peers as well as to present your own designs. You will also be expected to recall with insight all of the critical comments made during each review. This interaction will form a part of the semester's grade.

PRESENTATION

At this point in the curriculum it is vital that you be able to communicate your proposals and ideas thoroughly and persuasively. The conventions of architectural drawing and modeling will be reviewed, required, and evaluated during the semester. Presentations must be complete at each review and a final portfolio entry representing the semester's work will be required.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

This studio will require each student to demonstrate a range of abilities, and understandings, as well as an awareness of important issues. Assignments will be evaluated on the student's success in fulfilling the general objectives of the Studio, the specific objectives of the assignment, and mandatory requirements. Students should note that meeting the letter of the assignment's objectives adequately will not necessarily result in more than a passing grade. While functional, technical and anthropometrical aspects of design projects are subject to empirical assessment, qualitative assessment of design work is subject to the judgment of the Instructor, according to professional and disciplinary standards. A creative and insightful response to the assignment documented and presented with high quality, will receive a correspondingly higher grade. Perceptual acuity, conceptual refinement, intellectual rigor, and critical judgment will be expected in each student's work; aesthetic and theoretical sophistication are expected to increase over time. Throughout the Studio, there will be an emphasis on consistently advancing the quality and clarity of drawings and models as both tools of exploration and of presentation.

A construction schedule will be maintained throughout the course of construction. The presentation date of record documents and photographic documentation is to be determined at a later date.

DOCUMENTATION AND SUBMISSION OF WORK

All students are required to submit a digital record of their work according to specifications that will be outlined during the course of the semester. Grades will not be issued until documentation is received. Presenting your work on your desk for the Studio Walkthrough at the end of each semester is considered part of your studio coursework.

REMOTE INSTRUCTION EXPECTATIONS

It is expected that students will log in to the class multiple times each week and attend all live online Zoom sessions. If technology or scheduling problems prevent a student from attending, notify the instructor and your TA immediately. Contact the Tulane Helpdesk for technical issues at 504-862-8888. Failure to attend discussion sessions may result in an unexcused absence or reduced participation credit.

REMOTE INSTRUCTION ETIQUETTE

Of course, due to the nature of URBANbuild, students are mostly on site, but in the event of necessary in class participation:

- Microphones should be turned on mute, unless asking a question or in discussion.
- Chat will be public comments only.
- Zoom username is your name on the course registration
- To ask a question use chat or "Raise Hand" in Zoom
- Include citation if referring to a specific point in the reading.
- Don't repeat someone else's post without adding to it
- Avoid using the "reactions" feature in Zoom
- Cell phones and other distracting, unnecessary electronic devices may not be used during class time. If you have an emergency situation and need to keep your phone on, please pre-arrange this with the

instructor before the class begins.

- Be prepared for class with the proper books and materials. Please join synchronous sessions on time and ready to work.
- Be respectful to your fellow students and faculty in your words, actions, and deeds. Disrespect or harassment of any student or Tulane University employee, whether on or off-campus, will not be tolerated.
- Remain open-minded and welcoming of interaction with people who may have different viewpoints or cultural backgrounds.
- When working remotely for a course, expect to work hard. Programs will require students to complete asynchronous work.
- Assignments are expected to be completed on time.

COMMUNICATION

The Tulane e-mail system is an essential means communication. Students are responsible for maintaining an active Tulane e-mail account checked daily.

REVIEWS

Structured participation will be required in all major design reviews. You will be called upon to critique the work of your peers as well as to present your own designs. You will also be expected to recall with insight all of the critical comments made during each review. This interaction will form a part of the semester's grade.

PRESENTATION

At this point in the curriculum it is vital that you be able to communicate your proposals and ideas thoroughly and persuasively. The conventions of architectural drawing and modeling will be reviewed, required, and evaluated during the semester. Presentations must be complete at each review and a final portfolio entry representing the semester's work will be required.

COVID-19 POLICY:

Faculty and students must comply with University policies on COVID-19 testing and isolation, which are located here <https://tulane.edu/covid-19/health-strategies>. Faculty and students must wear face coverings in all common areas, including classrooms, and follow social distancing rules. Failure to comply is a violation of the Code of Student Conduct and students will be subject to University discipline, which can include suspension or permanent dismissal.

GRADING

Evaluation of student performance is based upon daily studio process as well as the product. Improvement and growth are the keys. The instructor will conduct his/her expert assessment on student performance following each major stage of the semester based on the following general criteria will be considered: (1) strength of idea; (2) articulation and development; (3) technical competency, clarity, and craft; (4) concise verbal/written presentation; (5) passion, commitment, dedication and work ethic.

A (excellent) exceptional performance; exceeding the requirements of the course, showing strong academic initiative and independent resourcefulness.

B (good) performance above the norm; accurate and complete; beyond the minimum requirements of the course; work demonstrates marked progress and initiative.

C (average) satisfactory work that adequately meets minimum requirements and demonstrates satisfactory comprehension, communication skills, and effort; demonstrates little initiative to investigate the problem without substantial prodding of the instructor and/or work shows little improvement.

D (inferior) unsatisfactorily meets minimum requirements; demonstrates minimum comprehension, communication skills, and effort at an inferior level; initiative lacking and/or improvement not noticeable.

F (failing) does not meet minimum requirements; fails to adequately demonstrate comprehension, communication skills, and effort

INCOMPLETE AND LATE WORK

Work that is not adequately represented or fails to meet the minimum standards for completion will not be discussed in reviews. Additionally, unexcused absence from a review will result in a failure for that portion of the semester. Late work will only be accepted with the permission of the instructor. Work submitted after the final day of classes is not acceptable without written permission from the Dean. Any late work accepted will be penalized 10% for the first day of lateness, and 5% per day thereafter. (The first day of lateness begins immediately after the deadline and include weekends). Extensions for medical or family emergencies must be requested immediately after the event and in advance of the deadline and must be supported by adequate documentation.

DOCUMENTATION AND SUBMISSION OF WORK

Students are required to maintain a **meticulous record** of the design process in digital format. Digital files of the process materials (scanned sketches, photos of iterative sketch models etc.) and the final products (presentation drawings, physical and digital models) must be submitted according to specified formats at designated times throughout the semester. Files must be uploaded to the designated course folder (on the TuSA public server; ftp.arch.tulane.edu or as per instructor's discretion).

CODE OF ACADEMIC AND STUDENT CONDUCT

The Code of Academic Conduct applies to all undergraduate students, full-time and part-time, in Tulane University. Tulane University expects and requires behavior compatible with its high standards of scholarship. By accepting admission to the university, a student accepts its regulations (i.e., Code of Academic Conduct and Code of Student Conduct) and acknowledges the right of the university to take disciplinary action, including suspension or expulsion, for conduct judged unsatisfactory or disruptive.

CIVILITY IN THE CLASSROOM

All individuals and/or groups of the Tulane University community are expected to speak and act with scrupulous respect for the human dignity of others, both within the classroom and outside it, in social and recreational as well as academic activities. By accepting admission to Tulane University, a student accepts its

regulations and acknowledges the right of the University to take disciplinary action, including suspension or expulsion, for conduct judged unsatisfactory or disruptive. Any conduct of enrolled students that threatens the security of the University community, the rights of its individual members, or its basic norms of academic integrity will be subject to disciplinary action and possible dismissal from the program.

The University community extends to the remote teaching and learning space, and to official and unofficial engagement between students and staff related to the class in which they are enrolled. The same principles that apply to our academic and residential community standards carry over into the online environment. Behavior directed to a particular individual that compromises that individual's safety or ability to function with the University setting is prohibited and will be investigated by University officials. Students who violate community standards are subject to dismissal or expulsion. For further information, refer to the code of student conduct on Tulane University website at: <https://conduct.tulane.edu/resources/code-student-conduct>

PLAGIARISM

As defined by the NTC Code of Academic Conduct:

"[U]nacknowledged or falsely acknowledged presentation of another person's ideas, expressions, or original research as one's own work. Such use is defined as plagiarism regardless of the intent of the student. Students may, at times, be unsure of exactly what constitutes appropriate acknowledgement, particularly during their first years at the University, or when taking courses in disciplines outside of their major area of study."

(<http://www2.tulane.edu/college/code.cfm>)

RELIGIOUS ACCOMODATION POLICY

Per Tulane's religious accommodation policy, I will make every reasonable effort to ensure that students are able to observe religious holidays without jeopardizing their ability to fulfill their academic obligations. Excused absences do not relieve the student from the responsibility for any course work required during the period of absence. Students should notify me within the first two weeks of the semester about their intent to observe any holidays that fall on a class day or on the day of the final exam.

ADA/ACCESSIBILTY STATEMENT

Tulane University strives to make all learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience academic barriers based on your disability, please let the instructor know immediately to discuss options privately. Instructor will never ask for medical documentation from you to support potential accommodation needs. Instead, to establish reasonable accommodations, instructor may request that you register with the Goldman Center for Student Accessibility. After registration, make arrangements with the instructor as soon as possible to discuss your accommodations so that they may be implemented in a timely fashion. **Goldman Center contact information:** goldman@tulane.edu; (504) 862-8433; accessibility.tulane.edu

TITLE IX

Tulane University recognizes the inherent dignity of all individuals and promotes respect for all people. As such, Tulane is committed to providing an environment free of all forms of discrimination including sexual and gender-based discrimination, harassment, and violence like sexual assault, intimate partner violence, and stalking. If you (or someone you know) has experienced or is experiencing these types of behaviors, know that you are not alone. Resources and support are available: you can learn more at allin.tulane.edu. Any and all of your communications on these matters will be treated as either "Confidential" or "Private" as explained in the chart below. Please know that if you choose to confide in me I am mandated by the university to report to the Title IX Coordinator, as Tulane and I want to be sure you are connected with all the support the university can offer. You do not need to respond to outreach from the university if you do not want. You can also make a report yourself, including an anonymous report, through the form at tulane.edu/concerns.

Confidential	Private
<i>Except in extreme circumstances, involving imminent danger to one's self or others, nothing will be shared without your explicit permission.</i>	<i>Conversations are kept as confidential as possible, but information is shared with key staff members so the University can offer resources and accommodations and take action if necessary for safety reasons.</i>
Counseling & Psychological Services (CAPS) (504) 314-2277 or The Line (24/7) (504) 264-6074	Case Management & Victim Support Services (504) 314-2160 or srss@tulane.edu
Student Health Center (504) 865-5255	Tulane University Police (TUPD) Uptown - (504) 865-5911. Downtown - (504) 988-5531
Sexual Aggression Peer Hotline and Education (SAPHE) (504) 654-9543	Title IX Coordinator (504) 314-2160 or msmith76@tulane.edu

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS & RESPONSE

EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SYSTEM: TU ALERT	RAVE GUARDIAN
<p>In the event of a campus emergency, Tulane University will notify students, faculty, and staff by email, text, and phone call. You were automatically enrolled in this system when you enrolled at the university.</p> <p>Check your contact information annually in Gibson Online to confirm its accuracy.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Download the RAVE Guardian app from the App Store • Communicate with dispatchers silently by selecting "Submit Tip" feature in the app • Use the Safety Timer feature to alert your "guardian" (TUPD, family, friend) when travelling alone at night <p>For more information, visit publicsafety.tulane.edu/rave-guardian</p>
ACTIVE SHOOTER / VIOLENT ATTACKER	SEVERE WEATHER
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RUN – run away from or avoid the affected area, if possible • HIDE – go into the nearest room that can be locked, turn out the lights, silence cell phones, and remain hidden until all-clear message is given through TU ALERT • FIGHT – do not attempt this option, except as a last resort <p>For more information on Active Shooter emergency procedures or to schedule a training, visit emergencyprep.tulane.edu</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow all TU Alerts and outdoor warning sirens • Seek shelter indoors until the severe weather threat has passed and an all-clear message is given • Do not attempt to travel outside if weather is severe • Monitor the Tulane Emergency website (tulane.edu/emergency/) for university-wide closures during a severe weather event



Tulane University
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS & RESPONSE

MAKEUP SCHEDULE DUE TO INSTITUTIONAL CLOSURES:

In the event of a university closure due to an unforeseen occurrence (such as a major storm) that prevents in-person classes from being held, your instructor will communicate what changes, if any, there will be to the syllabus, assignments, and/or modes of instruction. Students are expected to check email and Canvas daily for these details in order to fulfill class requirements and are expected to keep up with class readings and assignments according to the schedule outlined in the syllabus and/or on Canvas.