

**Number & Title of Course:** ARCH 443 Issues in Contemporary Professional Practice

**Course Description:** An exploration of topics related to the practice of architecture, including financial considerations, client obligations, project and practice management, leadership, legal responsibilities, ethics and professional judgment, community and social responsibility, as well as the process and requirements for internship and licensure. 2 lectures, 2 discussions.

**Program Goals & Course Outcomes**

- Use a diverse range of skills including writing, speaking, drawing, and modeling to think about and convey architectural ideas.
  - Ability to write and speak effectively (A1).
  - Ability to use appropriate representational media for public and professional audiences (A1).
- Understand and apply the technical aspects of architecture, while considering the environmental impact of design decisions.
  - Understanding the fundamentals of building costs (B10).
- Understand business principles for the practice of architecture.
  - Understanding the methods for selecting consultants and assembling teams; identifying work plans, project schedules, and time requirements; and recommending project delivery methods (D2).
  - Understanding the basic principles of a firm's business practices (D3).
  - Understanding the architect's responsibility to the client and the public as determined by regulations and legal considerations (D4).
- Work productively with diverse groups of people including users, clients, and professional colleagues
  - Understanding stakeholder relationships in the design process and the architect's role in reconciling stakeholder needs (D1).
- Use architectural knowledge and skills to make a positive contribution to society.
  - Understanding the responsibility of the architect to ensure equity of access to sites, buildings, and structures (A8).
- Make reasonable decisions based on an architectural understanding of ethics, diversity, and sustainability.
  - Understanding the ethical issues involved in the exercise of professional judgment (D5).
  - Understanding the role of the NCARB Rules of Conduct and the AIA Code of Ethics in defining professional conduct (D5).

**Student Performance Criteria addressed**

A1 Professional Communication Skills  
 A8 Cultural Diversity and Social Equity  
 B10 Financial Considerations  
 D1 Stakeholder Roles in Architecture  
 D2 Project Management  
 D3 Business Practices  
 D4 Legal Responsibilities  
 D5 Professional Conduct

**Topical Outline**

Ethics, legal responsibilities, internships, and licensure (10%)  
 Firm and organizational structures (10%)  
 Marketing and project acquisition (10%)  
 Types of project delivery (20%)  
 Contracts and fees for services (20%)  
 Phases of design and contract administration (20%)  
 Insurance and liability (5%)  
 Instruments of service (5%)

**Prerequisites:** ARCH 342, ARCH 353.

**Textbooks/Learning Resources:** American Institute of Architects. *The Architecture Student's Handbook of Professional Practice*. Hoboken: Wiley, 2007. Recommended.

**Offered:** Winter annually.

**Faculty assigned:** Kent Macdonald (Lecturer) and Greg Wynn (Lecturer).