ARCH 543 SYLLABUS

1 unit, TH 8am – 8:50am
Harris Hall, Room 101
FALL SEMESTER 2012

Instructor: RACHEL BERNEY, PhD, Assistant Professor, USC
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Watt #337, by appointment

RESEARCH METHODS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGNERS

COURSE OVERVIEW
Research in the fields of design, planning, conservation, and building technologies takes many forms in direct relation to several distinct areas of inquiry. In this course you will gain a basic understanding of research design and data analysis that can be applied to projects in your particular discipline. The course is conducted as an in-class lecture with additional team exercises conducted outside of class. The class will make use of TurningPoint clicker technology to allow you to directly interact with the instructor, your team, and the course material each class period.

COURSE OBJECTIVES/OUTCOMES
Please see the course schedule in this syllabus for a detailed list of learning outcomes.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES
As an individual, you are responsible for:
1. Being in class, on time, every week
2. Completing all of the reading
3. Participating in your team in a meaningful way and conducting peer evaluations when called for
4. Taking the individual version of the midterm and the final

As a team, you are responsible for:
1. Completing all assigned team exercises
2. Submitting responses to exercises and quizzes either via your clicker or, handed in as a hardcopy, based on instructor directions
3. Taking the team version of the midterm
GRADING
Final grade evaluations will be based on the following breakdown:

- Class participation: 10%
- In-class quiz questions: 20%
- Team exercises: 20%
- Midterm exam: 20%
- Final exam: 30%

ATTENDANCE POLICY
The School of Architecture’s general attendance policy is to allow a student to miss the equivalent of one week of class sessions (one class if the course meets one time/week, etc.) without directly affecting the student’s grade and ability to complete the course. If additional absences are required for a personal illness/family emergency, pre-approved academic reason/religious observance, the situation should be discussed and evaluated with the faculty member and appropriate Chair on a case-by-case basis. For each absence over that allowed number, the student’s letter grade will be lowered 1/3 of a letter grade (e.g., A to A–).

Any student not in class within the first 5 minutes is considered tardy, and any student absent (in any form including sleep, technological distraction, or by leaving mid class for a long break) for more than 1/3 of the class time can be considered fully absent. If arriving late, a student must be respectful of a class in session and do everything possible to minimize the disruption caused by a late arrival. It is always the student’s responsibility to seek means (if possible) to make up work missed due to absences, not the instructor’s, although such recourse is not always an option due to the nature of the material covered.

Being absent on the day a project, quiz, paper or exam is due can lead to an “F” for that project, quiz, paper or exam or portfolio (unless the faculty concedes the reason is due to an excusable absence for personal illness/family emergency/religious observance). A mid term or final review is to be treated the same as a final exam as outlined and expected by the University.

See full attendance statement at: http://arch.usc.edu/People/SchoolGovernanceDocuments

STATEMENT ON ACADEMIC INTEGRITY
USC seeks to maintain an optimal learning environment. General principles of academic honesty include the concept of respect for the intellectual property of others, the expectation that individual work will be submitted unless otherwise allowed by an instructor, and the obligations both to protect one’s own academic work from misuse by others as well as to avoid using another’s work as one’s own. All students are expected to understand and abide by these principles. SCampus, the Student Guidebook, contains the Student Conduct Code in Section 11.00, while the recommended sanctions are located in Appendix A: http://www.usc.edu/dept/publications/SCAMPUS/gov/. Students will be referred to the Office of Student Judicial Affairs and Community Standards for further review, should there be any suspicion of academic dishonesty. The Review process can be found at: http://www.usc.edu/student-affairs/SJACS/. The USC summary of how to avoid plagiarism: http://www.usc.edu/student-affairs/student-conduct/ug_plag.htm and specific advice for grad students: http://www.usc.edu/student-affairs/student-conduct/grad_ai.htm may also be useful.

STATEMENT FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES
Any student requesting academic accommodations based on a disability is required to register with Disability Services and Programs (DSP) each semester. A letter of verification for approved
accommodations can be obtained from DSP. Please be sure the letter is delivered to the instructor as early in the semester as possible. DSP is located in STU 301 and is open 8:30 A.M.–5:00 P.M., Monday through Friday. The phone number for DSP is (213) 740-0776.

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 add/drop date for registration. After the add/drop date the University and the School of Architecture shall be the sole arbiter of what constitutes appropriate attendance and participation in a given course. Any student concerned about missing class for a recognized religious holiday should bring this matter up with your instructor in the first week of classes. A list of recognized religious holidays may be found at: http://www.usc.edu/programs/religious_life/calendar/.

ACCREDITATION
The Master of Landscape Architecture degree program includes three curricula. Curriculum +3 for students with no prior design education and Curriculum +2 for students admitted with advanced standing have full accreditation by the Landscape Architecture Accreditation Board. Curriculum +1.5 for students with advanced placement is a post-professional study and is not subject to accreditation. Information about landscape architecture education and accreditation in the United States may be found on-line at http://www.asla.org/Education.aspx.