



# ARH 510 Thesis Studio Deliverables

## Intent

The first semester of the two-semester thesis year will establish a theoretical framework upon which the architectural proposal will be finalized in the second semester. Targeted and in-depth research of urban / suburban / rural systems, site history and conditions, precedents, user groups will fuel the development of an informed critique of existing conditions. Through the process of formulating hypotheses and then testing them within urban and architectural design responses, a clear and thoughtful thesis statement will be crafted. The thesis statement will continue to evolve throughout the semester as the testing of hypothesis reveals more refined design directions.

At the conclusion of the first thesis semester, initial responses to situations found on the site, social and cultural contexts, and relevant contemporary issues will be tested within a specific architectural proposal communicated in the form of schematic plans, sections, and models.

The deliverables for the first semester of the thesis year will include thoroughly cited research documentation, observations that instigate urban and architectural responses, explorations of urban system interventions, architectural intent in the form of drawings and models, and the thesis statement.

Please refer to the **Final Evaluation Rubric** to guide your research and investigation in ARH 510.



## Thesis Book

### **Required Deliverables:**

**11x17 Thesis Book as PDF and InDesign (packaged) files uploaded to Brightspace**

*If you run into a size limit, please upload multiple files.*

The thesis book should contain **all** work from ARH 510. A detailed explanation for the content of the thesis book is on the following pages.

**The thesis book should be set up as an InDesign file.** The template created this semester will continue to be used in the second semester of the thesis year. The InDesign file should be set up with a consistent title block or identifying graphic on each page that includes page numbers. The sheets should be 11x17. The font size for main text is 10 pt minimum. Font size for citation is 8 pt minimum. All text should be legible when printed on 11x17.

For the digital submission of your thesis book, you must use the “**package**” command in InDesign and include all linked files and fonts.

Please use this file naming convention: “ARH510\_S21\_lastname\_firstname\_thesisbook.”

**Carefully and thoroughly cite sources of all material referenced**, visual and written, in your work if you are not the author. **All images (photographs, diagrams, etc.) must have the citation listed on the same page and not at the end of the thesis book.**

The final submission of the thesis book in the second semester must show proper citation. Thesis students in previous semesters have had to retrieve citation information at the end of the year-long process for all material referenced in their thesis book. We highly recommend that you develop a habit of including citation while you are documenting your research to avoid being in a similar situation.

**Incomplete citation in the Thesis Book WILL result in a non-passing grade for the course.**

The thesis book should contain:

- a. **Title Page (project name, student name, date, faculty names, course number, semester and year)**
- b. **Acknowledgements (people who offered advice, expertise, and inspiration)**
- c. **Table of Contents**
- d. **Thesis Statement: In 3-5 paragraphs outline your thesis argument, goals, and methodologies. Summarize the most salient aspects of your project.**
- e. **Research and Analysis (see following pages)**
- f. **Project Proposal (see following pages)**
- g. **Works Cited (information that you used to build your thesis argument)**
- h. **Bibliography (list of books that you referenced in the course of your research)**



## 1. Thesis Statement (PORT)

(P = Problem, O = Opportunity, R = Response, T = Technique / Tactic)

Describe how your architectural proposal would act as a catalyst in the cultural and physical context you have identified towards the project goal.

Identify your position within the relevant architectural discourse. Articulate how your position how your position responds to other researched theoretical worldviews regarding your thesis topic.

Revise after each significant discovery / investigation throughout the semester.

***Required Deliverable: Thesis Proclamation (approximately 2000 words) with MLA listing of all texts referenced in the writing.***

## 2. Process and Technique

Process and technique inform the thought process. What was your method of editing the data you collected in your research? What were the criteria you applied to qualify observations in order to test against your thesis? What iterative working methods did you employ in the spatial development?

Reflect on how the techniques you employed allowed a fluid movement back and forth between research and design.

Editing and curation of collected research data is an important part of indicating critical thinking.

***Required Deliverables: Mappings, Diagrams, Models used to investigate site, program, form, space, materiality, atmosphere, etc.***

*Please take model photographs using a high-quality DSLR camera.*

## 3. Precedents

The use of precedents in the design process is informative, inspirational, reactive, and always critical. Identifying the most impactful precedents (urban planning, architectural proposals, completed buildings, program, text, building systems, sustainable strategies, etc.) is a necessary step in clarifying your position within the architectural discipline.

Show research into, and knowledge of, the historical lineage of the typology of the Architectural Proposal and the theoretical stance being taken by the Thesis Argument.

For each topic of research and investigation, please list the relevant precedents.

***Required Deliverables:***

- a. Architectural Precedent Diagrams showing your original analysis in the form of annotated diagrams.***
- b. Bibliography for Text Precedents. MLA listing of all sources cited.***



*Suggested Deliverables: Theory Precedent Diagrams visually mapping the historical lineage of the position being taken.*

#### **4. Site Analysis and Site Selection**

Present your site analysis. This will include the editing of all research into the most salient components including both objective and subjective site information, research, and analysis.

Describe your site in terms of its multiple layers of context (urban, cultural, physical, environmental, experiential, etc)

Response to site context: Delineate the physical extent of the site selected. Explain the site selection criteria highlighting alignments between your concept and opportunities present at the chosen site.

**Required Minimum Deliverables:**

- a. Evaluative Criteria for site selection based on urban analysis**
- b. Area Plan showing the location of the selected site**

#### **5. Program Agenda and Site Strategy**

Define your program and explain how your program choice is significant to your thesis argument. What conceptual and intellectual alliances have you established with your programmatic choice? What kind of engagement with the public and/or user groups does your program anticipate? How does your proposal address the unmet needs of the users?

What is your program agenda that enables architecture to evolve established typologies and reflect contemporary culture? Circulation strategies have the potential to redefine program relationships. What are the opportunities that you have identified?

Opportunistically define the **elasticity** of the overall scheme that would determine **movement** through the site and **programmatic relations** and will respond to the ethical **values** defined in the thesis statement.

**Required Minimum Deliverables:**

**a. Site Strategy Diagrams**

*Building orientation, scale, and texture should be determined in response to the built environment. Identify aspects of the site that compels an architectural response that support your thesis statement. Indicate uses of surrounding buildings, the urban fabric (context building massing and open spaces), existing site circulation patterns, and observations of human behaviors in public spaces.*

*Climatic drivers (sun angles and paths, shadow studies, prevailing winds) MUST inform building orientation.*

**b. Site Circulation Plan Diagrams**

*Approach from surrounding context should inform entry sequences. Preliminary response to accessibility and egress should inform the circulation strategies both to and from the site boundaries. Explore several building mass distribution options.*

**c. Site Circulation Section Diagrams**

*Document sectional relationships found in surrounding context buildings, open spaces, and streets. Indicate Building Heights (identify important urban datum in the surrounding context),*



*Street Profiles (setbacks, overhangs, etc.), Views, Shadow Impact, Street Hierarchy. Explore several building mass distribution options.*

## 6. Formal Language and Organization of Spaces

Establish a rigorous formal language that is responsive to site and programmatic imperatives. Your formal logic should be clear and adaptable to site and programmatic conditions.

Explore the **material and tectonic specificity** of concrete architectural moments that determine **architectural language and materiality** and tests the desired **human situations and spatial qualities** that the project wants to achieve.

### **Required Minimum Deliverables:**

- a. **Sectional Diagrams** ( $\frac{1}{8}'' = 1'-0''$ ) analyzing human-scaled spaces
- b. **Study Models of critical situations** addressing (tectonic, programmatic, and material conditions). These are not full building models, but instead studies of relationships addressing plan, section, and program.
- c. **Architectural Parti Diagrams** indicating an organizational logic showing how the formal language accomplishes the distribution of mass and void.

## 7. Program and Massing Correspondence

Develop building massing that corresponds to the program intent. Through testing several massing schemes, refine the program relationships. Preliminary response to accessibility and egress should inform the circulation strategies.

### **Required Minimum Deliverables:**

- a. **Site Plan and Building Area**  
*Indicate approximate building footprint (within the 20,000 SF – 75,000 SF range) on an accurately scaled site plan. Site Plan should indicate context buildings, softscape and hardscape delineating site circulation for public, private, and service components, design elements necessary for accessibility.*
- b. **Building Program List and Program Relationship Diagrams**  
*Written Description of significant program components and interrelationships of each with an emphasis on your Program Agenda.*  
*Identifying all program components (including public spaces, private spaces, essential equipment / service spaces) and assigning quantitative areas (in sq ft) to each component*  
*Program components distributed within building massing and critical program relationships notated*
- c. **Floor Plan Studies** indicating Entry, Core location(s), Program Relationships and Circulation in support of your Program Agenda
- d. **Building Section Studies** indicating Program Relationships and Spatial Qualities in support of your Program Agenda



*Suggested Deliverables: Program analysis based on comparative precedent studies, Adjacency and circulation diagrams, Qualitative Program Summary of the main spaces, Circulation diagrams that describe the spatial sequences.*

### **Minimum Requirements for Drawings for First Semester**

1. Program, Site, and Urban Analysis Diagrams
2. Site Plan (site context consisting of adjacent structures, site circulation, hardscaped and softscaped open spaces, streets and sidewalks, street furniture, etc.)
3. Critical Building Plans / Plan Diagrams (indicating exterior and interior walls, access to natural light, circulation elements including stairs, ramps, elevator cores)
4. Critical Building Sections / Section Diagrams (indicating spatial qualities, access to natural light, scale figures)