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**Fall 2019 – Michael T. Swisher**

**ARCH 4050, 6050-005 – Show Me, Tell me**

Credit Hours: 3

Thursday 2:130 –5:15, TBA

Pre-requisite: 3rd year standing, or 2nd year Graduate standing

**Catalog description:**

The class intends to explore research and presentation methods consistent with preparing for a comprehensive/thesis project.

**Premise:**

An architectural research project at the thesis level requires a firm grasp of both design and verbal description. Presentation of the project should make clear the overall intent as both design process and intellectual argument.

**Objectives:**

The objective of this course is to explore the intersection of intention and practice. It intends to raise critical awareness of the nature of articulating and presenting an architectural problem, its exploration and the summation of that process.

Students will develop the ability to recognize and develop a problem set within a relevant and substantial set of self-imposed restraints. This will include the skills necessary to identify, describe and present their ongoing interest and its practical, philosophical and historic contexts.

**Content:**

The content of the course will include on the following goals:

- Identifying clear architectural concepts as ideas;
- Exploring design research methods using analysis, abstraction and transformation;
- Selecting among conventions of representing spatial form as a matter of testing;
- Taking adequate notes – visual and verbal – and organizing them into appropriate presentation form.

**Method:**

Course work focuses identifying particular and competing interests and synthesizing them into a clear outlook. Extensive self-governed exploration, disciplined creative thinking and broad peer interaction should supplement class time.

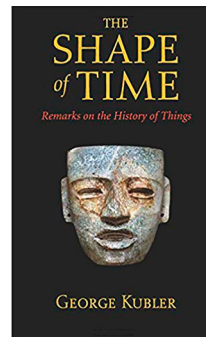
The course will weave instructor presentations, in-class discussion and critiques including work-related evaluations with other students in the class. Each class will end with a question and or task aimed at fostering an adequate work flow. Most classes will begin with a succinct presentation by each student of their evolving position. A general discussion and summary will follow.

**Required texts:**

A close reading of George Kubler's *The Shape Of Time* will occupy several weeks mid-course.

- George Kubler, *The Shape of Time*, Yale, 1962. (New edition 2008)\*

Additional texts and visual materials will arise for each student to reflect their particular interest. These may be augmented by suggestion by the instructor.



\* George Kubler, *The Shape of Time*, Yale, 1962. (New edition, 2008)

**A general description of methods to the mid-term**

**PART I: A GENERAL OVERVIEW**

- 1 Identifying general qualities and aspects;
- 2 Images and writings – a discussion;
- 3 Key words – exercise;
- 4 *The Shape of Time*, reading and discussion.

**PART II: GETTING FAMILIAR**

- 1 Subject/interest identification;
  - 2 Declaration and categories;
  - 3 Crafting a position;
  - 4 Framing a question,
  - 5 Proposing a procedure.
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