

Larkspur, California

Course of Study

Architectural Design Honors

I. INTRODUCTION

Architectural Design Honors is an alternative to the regular architectural design program. The purpose of the course is to provide exceptional students with the opportunity to go beyond the regular curriculum by applying skills to a complex, holistic, creative project which is then subjected to critique by experts through the auspices of the American Institute of Architectures' Bay Area Context.

II. EXPECTATIONS

Students are expected to complete all requirements for the regular Architectural Design class in which they are enrolled.

In addition, the student must complete additional requirements including:

- Full completion of the honors project. This will require many hours of out of class work and is the responsibility of the student.
- Display of his/her project and model at the specified time and place.
- Completion of additional special class work which differs from the honors project itself.
- Attendance at all required workshops.
- Entrance into American Institute of Architects Bay Area Contest including:
 1. Completion of a full set of presentation floor plans.
 2. Completion of one full section.
 3. Completion of one detailed elevation.
 4. Completion of a plot/site plan.
 5. Development of a justification paper.
 6. Construction of a scaled model.
 7. Development of drawings and model display.
 8. Display drawings and model for judging.

Completion of these additional requirements will involve the student in experiences which go beyond the regular architectural design class, including:

1. The student must develop a creative and complex project with the specific sizes and dimensions of the contest problem with no assistance from teachers, parents, or students.
2. The in-depth nature of the project will provide the opportunity for the student to gain advanced skills in research and development.
3. The focus is placed on presentation drawings rather than working drawings.

4. A detailed scaled model must be constructed using the “Concept of Model Making” as outlined by the architects at the workshop.
5. Inking techniques are strongly suggested.
6. The major emphasis is on creative design with strong consideration for proper line work, printing, visual display, precise views, and exact measurements.
7. The drawings and model display, as outlined by the “Drawing and Presentation Techniques Seminar: must be entered for judging on a certain date, time and location. Three outstanding architects will evaluate all the entries from high schools throughout the bay area.

III. MEANS OF EVALUATION

Each student will be evaluated as follows:

- The drawings and model must be completed on time and entered in the contest; failure to meet this requirement will mean a failing grade.
- The project and model will receive a full “A” grade for any major award. An “A-“ will be given for any minor award. A “B” grade will be given for a certificate of participation.
- Special class work, as assigned by the teacher, will take place from May 5 until the end of school and will constitute 10% of the Honors grade.
- The honors student will be given a final examination which includes material from the honors project and the special class work. This will be 10% of the honors grade.

IV. GENERAL INFORMATION

Prerequisites

Students must have completed Drafting 1-2 and Architectural Design 3-4 with a B+ or better grade average. Or, students may be enrolled by teacher permission if there are special circumstances.

Other

This course will only be offered in the spring semester because of the timing of the contest.

The course is designated as an honors course and carries the weighted grade point: A=5 pts., B=4 pts., C=3 pts. in computation of the student’s grade point average. Acceptance of this designation by colleges or universities is up to that institution.

The course credit can be used toward the 220 required for high school graduation.

Adopted: 11/12/91