

FORM

University of Michigan
Taubman College of Architecture + Urban Planning
Architectural Design 3G2 – Fall 2019
Instructors: Abrons, Commerci, Fure
M/W/F 1:00pm to 5:00pm

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is the first in a sequence of core design studios and focuses on principles of formal and spatial manipulation. Students begin the semester with a series of short design exercises focused on massing and texture mapping, the latter a means of applying images, color, and pattern to digital surfaces. The semester ends with a small design project that applies the techniques learned in the first half of the semester to a particular social context.

More broadly the studio considers how the naturalization of digital technology affects architectural form. What does it mean to start form making with the default primitives of modeling software? How does continuously tumbling around a 3D digital model affect our sense of orientation? How might our familiarity with digital imagery (pixels, RGB values, gradients, etc.) change the way we conceive of materiality? Such questions reflect the fundamental shift underway in architecture in regards to the computer. It is now impossible to conceive of the built environment devoid of computational influence. This studio reflects on what this means for architecture, while considering the effects of form on social and political life.

Course Travel

Part of the course is a *required* trip to Columbus, Indiana, a small town with many significant modernist works, and, at the time we will be traveling there, a large-scale architecture exhibition. Travel and accommodations will be directly organized by the students. This typically involves students carpooling and bunking together in hotel rooms or AirBnBs. Depending on how much you share costs with your classmates, the out-of-pocket expenses should be minimal.

The trip is currently scheduled for **Friday, October 18 to Saturday, October 19**. Your studio faculty will attempt to coordinate deadlines with your other instructors in an effort to minimize disruptions to your schedule.

