

ARCH 422 / SITUATION STUDIO

COURSE INFORMATION

Instructors: **Meredith Miller** (she/her)

Angela Cho (she/her)

Schedule: M W F 1pm - 5pm

Location: In-Person (3100 A&AB)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

ARCH 422 / SITUATION is the third and final design studio in the first-year M.Arch studio sequence.

This course expands on the design approaches and representation skills introduced in FOUNDATIONS and FORM studios by prompting students to SITUATE their work within cultural contexts, material systems, and physical sites. The course also applies the building systems knowledge introduced in CONSTRUCTION through design projects that deal with materials, assemblies, and tectonics.

From part-to-whole logics of assembly to cultural histories of industrialized building materials (particularly in our Great Lakes region) students will make connections between the physical and social impacts of architecture and its nested situations.

FIELD TRIPS

Visiting relevant buildings, sites and infrastructures is a key component of the SITUATION pedagogy. Field trips will range from cross-campus visits during studio hours to one overnight trip within driving distance of Ann Arbor. Dates and locations will be shared on Day 1.



Suzuko Yamada, Pillar House (2012)

COURSE STRUCTURE

An initial phase of group work will establish a collective body of design experiments and research; this phase will be followed by individual design development. In total, three projects will build up from the scale of a single part to a sited architectural proposal:

P.1 / **_PARTS:** sourcing, assembly logics, tectonics, stereotomics, model-making, image-making

P.2 / **_FORMATS:** life cycle research, knowledge sharing, activity design, drawing

P.3 / **_CULTURES:** site response, scaling, material processes, architectural proposal