

ARCH 812: THEORY IN ARCHITECTURAL RESEARCH

The pursuit of a PhD in Architecture has expanded over the past two decades. No longer primarily focused on the traditional areas of history, theory, and perhaps preservation, a few of the recent research pursuits undertaken within the study and practice of architecture include environmental building technology, digital material and digital fabrication technologies, advanced design methods, computational and robotic exploration, artificial intelligence, virtual reality, biophilia, and neuroarchitecture. This is not to mention the collaborative efforts stemming from this expansion into health, science, technology, public policy, and more. It is an energizing development in the field that broadens our engagement with the built environment. Still, it also increasingly renders a single general theory and method courses relevant to such a diverse body of pursuits more difficult, if not impractical, to construct. Thus, this course will not attempt to do so.

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Monday 1:00 – 4:00 pm

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Jettisoning the conceit of a single, all-encompassing theoretical framework, ARCH 812 is intended to broaden our collective understanding of foundational concepts, theories, and methods of architectural research that support the work of each student through area-specific pedagogy, application, and critique.