

**15ARC 10.1 – ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN PROJECTS(Thesis)**

**CONTACT PERIODS: 12 (Studio) per week**

**MODE OF EXAM: VIVA-VOCE**

**PROGRESSIVE MARKS: 200**

**VIVA MARKS : 300**

**INTRODUCTION:**

In principle, the final year Architectural Design Project, positioned at the culmination of multi-year architectural education program, constitutes the threshold between student's academic learning and the profession. It provides an opportunity to do more than demonstrate the accumulated skills and focus on actively engaging with the discipline by contributing new ideas, design solutions or exploring new dimensions to existing or current issues in the field. Ideally, the Architectural Design Project should continue with the Project Proposal submitted during 15ARC83 Thesis Seminar (conducted in the eighth semester) and build/enhance/improve on the architectural narrative that sets the premise for design demonstration.

**OBJECTIVES:**

- a) to demonstrate an ability to comprehend the nature of architectural problem and create a brief which sets the frame work for design.
- b) to demonstrate an advanced level design ability to convert the brief set forth earlier into a speculative proposition of design.
- c) to articulate and delineate the propositions of design into an architectural solution addressing all the dimensions using diagrams, analog or digital drawings and models.

**OUTLINE:**

Listed below are a few parameters that could govern, frame and aid in evaluating the projects. These parameters and stages should fine-tuned depending on the resources. It is advised that the projects should be run as a design studio with individual guidance under one or more guides and project coordinator.

**(a) Guidelines (scope, scale and limitations):**

- All projects should be grounded in some kind of critical enquiry; the depth of enquiry can be extended and the time spent on design can be reduced in a specific case, but such a project should demonstrate clarity in terms of research design. The suggested maximum weightage for study will be 25% in the case of a Study + Design Project.
- Selected projects can be of any scale and size (in terms of built areas) as long as the required rigor and depth is demonstrated by the student to merit consideration as a final project. It is advised not to attempt very large projects that have numerous structures and tend towards repetitive design with minimal variations or very complex projects due to time constraint.
- The scope of the project should firmly be in the purview of architecture even though it can have an interdisciplinary premise. All genre of projects (study or design) should end with a design solution.

**(b) Generic studio model highlighting the salient stages**

- **Project seminar** – Student shall present a seminar on the project topic which would include the following
  1. Precedents of similar projects, either actual visit to such projects or through literature reviews.
  2. Cultural, contextual, historical, technological, programmatic concerns of the project.
  3. Prevalent or historical models of architectural approach to such projects and a critique of such models
  4. A rhetorical or a speculative statement that would be the basis of further investigation. (For example: Architecture in the information age: Design of libraries in the new virtual reality regime). Documentation which is a part of this presentation shall be taken as completion of “case study” part of the final requirement.
- **Mid Review** – There shall be a review to clarify the conceptual statements and assumptions of the students. Students shall present a clearly articulated design response to context, program and users. Conceptual framework and preliminary architectural scheme using drawings and models shall be the end products of this stage.
- **Final Review** – Final review should consist of all the works which would be presented at the viva. Mode of presentation shall be tentative but the body of work presented should demonstrate the intellectual rigour and skill of the student through the design process and must include various iterations (including study models) and the final design outcome. Number of sheets shall be limited to maximum of 20 plus two case study sheets.

**(c) Final output/outcomes:**

- The final output or body of work should include a report; detailed and completed analog and digital drawings and presentation model.

**(d) Project Report:**

- Three copies of the reports shall be submitted for evaluation in the Viva. The report in typed or computer printed form shall provide an overview of the entire process from formulation of the project to the design resolution. It should discuss the program, site- analysis, literature review, case studies, design criteria, concept and include detailed design drawings from all stages and photographs of the models.

**Note:**

- a) The requirements pertaining to the differently abled, elderly people and children are to be addressed in design and detailing.
- b) At the time of Viva examination, the student shall show to the jurors the portfolio containing the evolution of his/her design from the beginning to the final output. All the drawings and reports shall be certified by the Principal of the School of Architecture as bona fide work carried out by the student during the semester.

**SUGGESTED REFERENCES:**

All references will be project specific and will include a wide range of subjects (history, theory, services, material and construction) from architecture and allied fields addressed through critical papers, essays, documented studies and books.