ARCH 6590-001: High-Performance Façade Design

College of Architecture and Planning
University of Colorado Denver

COURSE SYLLABUS

Instructor Name: Shaun Salisbury AIA
Instructor Office: By Appointment
Instructor Email: TBD
Office Hours: By Appointment
Class Meeting Days: Monday, Wednesday
Class Meeting Hours: 11:00am to 12:15pm
Class Location: CU BLDG 320 C

COURSE OVERVIEW

I. Course Overview

This course offers an intense exposure to high-performance building facades in a lecture/seminar and technical studio format. It is the intent of the course to provide graduate students with a comprehensive understanding of the technical concepts and specific skills necessary to undertake in actual practice the design, detailing, specification, and construction administration of high-performance building facades.

Specific technologies will be discussed in the context of the building façade as a technical system of component parts. These components can be defined in terms two distinct categories: glazing/fenestration, and opaque wall assemblies.

II. Course Goals and Learning Objective

A key feature of this course is the Technical Studio Design Problem which is assigned at the beginning of the semester and concludes with a final formal review. In this exercise, students will develop detail drawings for a unique façade system of their own design. The lecture and seminar content of the course is intended to inform the studio component and vice versa.

Students will be introduced to the contract documentation and construction administration of the building enclosure. This will include a discussion of design documentation, forms of contract, the state of the façade industry, review of fabricators’ submittals and shop drawings, façade performance testing, site inspection, etc.

Students will undertake a brief case/study research project on a topic (building, system, material, etc.) related to their design detailing projects, and will provide a brief written report and/or brief oral presentation to the class.

Students will be required to pass two multiple choice exams, at mid-semester and at the end of the year which will cover the material presented in class. Class attendance is therefore essential, Class participation and attendance at pin-ups of your classmates are also important.