

## Studio Culture Policy

### A. Policy

The design studio is at the center of architectural education and should promote a healthy and responsible environment. We endorse the American Institute of Architecture Students (AIAS) Studio Culture Task Force report, [\*The Redesign of Studio Culture\*](#) and its studio proposal to “enrain in students a culture of optimism, respect, sharing, engagement and innovation.”

Specifically, we adopt the challenge to “design a studio culture that promotes”:

- Leadership development
- Healthy competition with respect for ideas, team work, and mentorship
- Confidence without arrogance
- Constructive critiques in a positive environment
- Healthy and safe lifestyles for students with an emphasis on time management
- Balance between studio and non-studio courses
- Clear expectations and objectives for learning
- An environment that respects and promotes diversity
- Critical questioning and rewards visionary schemes and where design-thinking serves as the base for explorations
- Successful and clear methods of student assessment

### B. Plan for its implementation, maintenance and evidence of abiding by that policy:

Implementation:

- Conduct leadership and time management training for students into early studio experience
- Conduct time management and conflict resolution training for faculty
- Substitute grading system for pass/fail system in studio
- Encourage appropriate attitudes and comments from jurors and students during reviews and critiques
- Coordinate due dates at each year level
- Plan realistic expectations for both studio and non-studio courses
- Faculty develops clear expectations and objectives for learning
- Student assessment training for faculty

Maintenance:

- Studio Policy and AIAS Studio Culture Task Force Report distributed annually to faculty and students
- Studio questionnaire completed by students at the end of each studio
- Chair of the Department reviews the questionnaires and recommends remedial action if necessary

Evidence:

Questionnaire summaries are appended to NAAB school report

### C. Time management on the part of both the faculty and students:

Details of time management training included in the NAAB school report.