

# DESIGN INFORMATION

## BACKGROUND

The purpose of this course is bi-fold and they are non-hierarchical.

One aim is to provide a theoretical and lecture based counterpart to the hands on demonstrative projects that all of you will be doing in the construction documents course. Since there is a persisting, shared interest in ultimately the built work, a certain amount of overlap in the material covered in these two courses as well as with the B tech sequence should be expected. While the documentation of a building as a completed product has the singular goal of clear communication, its content however can not be assembled in the first place without a precedence of design intention and the creative/analytical process of problem solving.

The other is to act as provocation for each one of you to begin a rigorous consideration of what constitutes "information" and how this affects the process of design. Design, if considered as a product or process in architecture deals with ordering and organizing *information* (quantitative as well as the intangible), but rarely ever actual material. It is the actual *act of building* that actually organizes material based on prescriptive documents that pre-exist. The interest of this course lies not only with how the completed prescriptive documents determine the building process, but equally with how information we receive (quantitative and qualitative) become the source for design decisions (here design applies not to organization of form and space alone but to detailing and all other aspects of design decisions).

### CLASS FORMAT

The class will be conducted as a series of lectures, including some by guest lecturers from the profession and faculty. You are required to take and maintain notes and submit them at the end of the semester. There will be two scheduled short quizzes (dates to be announced) on the material presented during the lectures and there will not be a final exam.

### ATTENDANCE/ EVALUATION

Attendance is required for the class and you are required to sign in the class roster at the start of each meeting. More than two unexcused absences will reduce the grade by a letter. You are required to take notes in each class. There will be scheduled lectures by guest lecturers from the profession as well as the academia.

