Class Meetings:

Days and Time: Monday and Wednesday 9:00 – 10:30
Location: TBD

Course Description:

It can be said that the creative act is one that is personal and collective. These arenas people aspire to – connect with, and/or draw from are varied and complex. They range from; religion to popular culture, politics to skin color, personal abilities to regional resources. This course explores identity and its’ role in the field of design, with an emphasis on architecture. As the class is a course that deals with contemporary information, there may be times in which the syllabus may be altered. These changes may occur due to current events or new studies that relate to the subject matter. Readings in the course will be compiled into three readers, one to cover each section of the class. They will be available at least one week prior to the beginning of that section.

Goals:

This theory/culture course is an introductory course that will expose the student to critical observations and discourse on identity issues and their relationship with architecture as a cultural process and product. It will examine three basic sites of Identity; Regionalism, Gender, and Culture. This course has two specific aims. (1) to introduce students to source materials that can comprise a study of identity in a given discipline/ architecture (2) to encourage the development of analytical tools and skills that will enable you to evaluate the quality of your own and other scholars research, and formal studies.

Objectives:

On completion of this course students should be able to:
1. Discuss issues of identity as they pertain to architecture in an informed manner.
2. Utilize the information cultivated within the seminar to develop research questions/ projects (Projects that may take form in various media types).

A large portion of the grade will be assessed through class participation and class discussions, thus, the readings for that class must be done. Students will be expected to complete three projects through out the class. The projects will consist of both written and architectonic components. Each of the projects will respond to a specific section of the course, in relation to where it falls within the semester and the curriculum. Students are expected to attend every class meeting on time. More than three unexcused absences will result in a students’ final grade being lowered one full letter grade. Late assignments will be down graded one half letter grade for every week it is late. All questions and grievances can be addressed either immediately after class or during assigned office hours.

Class Discussion 30%
Project #1 20%
Project #2 20%
Final Project 30%