

Studio Culture Policy

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The studio culture policy is a document prepared to explain the unique role of the studio classroom atmosphere in an architectural education. The environment assists in the pursuit of scholarship, opportunity, celebrating personal and communal achievements, and develops responsibility on the scale of social, cultural and environmental issues faced in the world today. Students of Architecture uphold Fairmont State University's mission of S.O.A.R.* as below.

Scholarship: Exploration of critical ideas through the synthesis of individual and collaborative efforts with the use of multi-media, establishing Architecture as a process not a product. Students participate in engaged discussions and develop a coalescence of design principles informed by the reality of professional practice. **Opportunity:** To grow, learn, engage and contribute. **Achievement:** To reach personal and community goals. **Responsibility:** To fulfill obligations to the architectural profession that are respectful of social, cultural and environmental issues.

Student Expectations

Students are responsible for their part in the education process. They should be prepared to put in the time and effort proportional to their academic goals. The design studio is a place for open conversation and engaged learning; it is anticipated that each student will work to foster a positive environment that encourages a healthy balance between study and personal time.

Students are expected to be: Present, prepared and attentive in class including extra- and co-curricular activities; aware of official university communication via email; prepared for university life; polite and respectful to everyone in our academic community.

Student : Student Relationships

Each student should be respectful of all individuals, their concerns, their culture, and possessions. The studio is unique in respect to peer-to-peer learning. Students need to recognize that they are part of a community and should conduct themselves appropriately. They should not engage in activity that is disruptive or offensive to others. No Tobacco is permitted in the classroom or computer lab. Cell Phones should be silenced prior to class and put away prior to crit. Disruptive behavior, in any form, will not be tolerated. This includes vulgar language, rude gestures, loud music or talk. Students should keep personal and common spaces clean. Students should log off computers when not in use. Students should be courteous of other classes going on other than architecture classes.

Student : Faculty Relationships

Students and faculty are working cooperatively in the education process. Mutual respect and responsibility is essential for an open and fruitful communication that encourages all parties to make their best effort at achieving success. Faculty need to clearly communicate expectations and values as well as any modifications or deadlines made in assignments to students. Faculty should be facilitators rather than counterproductive critics. Harsh criticism geared toward uncovering inadequacies rather than encouraging positive feedback and interaction should not be practiced. Students should accept critique from the faculty in a responsive and productive manner. Reviews are meant to improve performance and scholarship and should be viewed in a positive light.

*Refer to Student Handbook: <https://www.fairmontstate.edu/publications/campushandbooks/studenthandbook/default.asp>

Faculty Responsibilities

Faculty share the responsibility of educating with the students. Faculty are responsible for academic advising of students. They should bring to the classroom the desire to improve understanding of the nature of architecture and, ultimately, to inspire students to achieve their goals. Faculty should provide clear direction for the class and encourage critical discussions and healthy debate. Faculty must recognize that each student is an individual with inherent backgrounds and values, and they should promote the study of architecture as a means for embodying individual and collaborative ideals. Faculty are responsibly for holding students to high standards that help students fulfill obligations to themselves.

Administrative Responsibilities

The administration is responsible for upholding the mission and direction of the program by engaging faculty and students in decisions that impact the program. Administration is responsible for providing an adequate and safe learning environment, to support educational events such as gallery exhibitions, lectures, etc. The administration is responsible for the advocacy of student and faculty concerns. The administration must provide sufficient guidance, resources, and oversight to affirm the program's ability to conform to the conditions for accreditation.

First Aid and Emergencies

Students, faculty, and staff should exercise caution and good sense when working in any architecture studio. This section describes general guidelines for use in all studios.

If a serious accident occurs, call 911 immediately and give the location of the studio and the nature of the injury. An emergency phone is located next to the door in ET 207, ET 209 and HB 218. Always carry information about your medical conditions with you. Report any injuries to your professor. Know where the fire extinguisher, first aid kit, and emergency phone are for every work space. Know the room number and name of the building for your studio. Emergency exits are clearly marked in the Engineering Technology and Hardway Hall Buildings. It is the student's responsibility to be familiar with the fire egress options from their location in the building. Clean up spills, pick up trash or dropped materials, and disconnect cords before they become problems. Power tools are not permitted in the studio unless special permission is given by the instructor. See Production Lab Safety Procedures and Authorization.* Focus on what you are doing. Absolutely no horseplay in studios.

General Studio Maintenance

Students must remove all trash and unwanted materials from their workspaces and common areas and keep common workplace areas clean and free of debris. All student work and personal items must be removed at the end of every semester to make room for other students. Students must understand that drawings and other items left for others to put away will more likely be discarded or given to other students. Furniture and items from studios are not to leave the studio. You may not block exits, including the windows. Glue must be wiped immediately from all surfaces. Cutting mats should always be used. Never cut directly on a table nor a floor surface. Locks on desks and containers will be cut and contents removed and disposed of after an announced date of removal. This may occur as early as the last day of classes. A "studio clean-up" date will be announced for each class that meets in the studio. Students are expected to participate in removing work and helping to clean the space at ten end of the semester.

The Architecture Program is unable to store work for you. However, we may request to retain some of your work for NAAB accreditation purposes. Make arrangements to have transportation for the work by the removal date.