

# Architecture Studio: Foundation II / 1<sup>st</sup> Year Spring

Spring 2016, CMU, Arch #48-105, M/W/F 1:30-4:20  
Studio Website: [www.andrew.cmu.edu/course/48-105](http://www.andrew.cmu.edu/course/48-105)

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Off. Hr: by appt. in MM302

(2/22/16)

## Project 3: LIBRARY ANALYSIS - LEARNING COMMONS MEDIA CTR

**MINDSET:** The single most important source, and tool, for learning about architecture, is architecture. Building on your studies of iconic houses in 48-121 "Analog Media," we will research and analyze LIBRARIES, MEDIA CENTERS, and LEARNING COMMONS. The goal is not complete documentation, but rather deep analysis and sophisticated diagrams about how architects can express ideas, invent programs, manipulate function, alter typical construction, improve performance, and/or create rich experiences. Your goal should be to understand what a library is, especially the "academic library" as a "building type," but also how the definition and programs of libraries are changing to accommodate other kinds of media, learning, and knowledge production. Lessons from this analysis project will be applied to Proj.4, a small addition or transformation of CMU Hunt library.

### Assignment #1: Poster (Draft 1 due. Wed. Feb. 24, 1:30pm):

1) READ excerpts from Pevsner's The History of Building Types (1976), and the intro and conclusion of Webb, Building Libraries for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (2004) to begin to understand the "building type," and questions about the future of libraries.

2) LIBRARIES ASSIGNED: Each student will be assigned a library to research and analyze, and to compare to Hunt. Feel free to collaborate, with students in other studios, or students with same architect: share resources and ideas! *If you are unable to find enough sources on your library, contact the coordinator immediately to switch libraries.*

3) RESEARCH: Gather as much documentary evidence about your building as possible, especially any other analysis work that has been done on your library. Most valuable are detailed plans & building sections, details, design process sketches, structural diagrams and drawings, and other drawings that reveal space & structure. But also search for info about the architect, their design theories, other libraries and buildings they designed. Ask other students; get help from Martin Aurand. All students must:

- Do web searches for images, plans, text, or info on the architect. Search by name of library, architect, city, etc. Be creative in searching. Look for non-English sources: try the word *bibliothèque* (French); *Bibliothek* (German); *biblioteca* (Spanish/Italian), etc.
- Check blogs like [archdaily.com](http://archdaily.com), [aasarchitecture.com](http://aasarchitecture.com), [mimoa.eu](http://mimoa.eu), [e-architect.co.uk](http://e-architect.co.uk)...
- Know the WEB IS NOT ENOUGH: it does not contain detailed drawings, diagrams, ideas. You MUST also consult paper sources here at CMU and around the world.
- Check the 48-105 Library research guide: <http://guides.library.cmu.edu/48-105>
- Follow instructions at [http://guides.library.cmu.edu/buildings\\_architects](http://guides.library.cmu.edu/buildings_architects)
- Use Avery Index and Google Scholar for articles & chapters from around the world!
- Look for books on the architect, their design theories, or other libraries they built
- Use Worldcat for books from non-CMU libraries; then order them through ILL
- Use Interlibrary Loan to order all books/articles not found at CMU (incl. non-English)
- Look for the architect's or library's website for general philosophy or approach, as well as a bibliography of news and sources. Try emailing or calling the firm, or the library!!

4) COMPARE all aspects of your library to Hunt. How are they similar/different?

5) FOCUS especially on 4 aspects: 1) skin/façade, materials, patterns, windows, balconies, roof access, shading vs. natural light, relation to context; 2) program components: what is a library?, role of books vs. other media, mixed use, adjacencies, primary vs. secondary spaces, privacy vs. communal space, other functions in the building, role on campus; 3) spatial ideas in plan and section, relation of parts, view through, sloped or raised floor/ceiling; 4) entry sequence, approach, context, canopy, threshold through façade, lobby, circulation through building, stairs, destination, etc.

6) POSTER: Create a landscape-oriented, 11x17, color poster that documents your library through photos, drawings, plans, sections, sketches, and diagrams. FILL the page with LOTS of info, but compose it elegantly and professionally. Also provide basic ID info (your name, library name, place, architect, dates, etc.), and a bibliography of 2-4 best sources or web addresses where you gathered material.

Bring hardcopy & upload pdf (File name: 48105\_S16\_lastname\_LibraryPoster.pdf) to \\archpcserver\Studios\S16\_48-105\07 Proj3 Library Analysis Poster 1

