



'Real-world' CAD/CAM process as described by the digital production consultancy designtoproductio

DIGITAL PRACTICE

TOOLS FOR DESIGN | TOOLS FOR PRODUCTION

3 CR + 1 CR for Adv. Tech. Elective [Prereq: ARCH 4/562]
Meeting Times & Location: TBA

Associate Professor Mark Donofrio
donofrio@uoregon.edu | Office: LA 317

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The adoption and maturation of digital tools, technologies and techniques among architects, engineers, fabricators and builders is dramatically altering the practice of architecture as well as our relationship to the tools used to practice. New digital capacities are restructuring the organization and hierarchy of design from autonomous processes to collective workflows. The historical role of the designer as an author, a sole creator, is being replaced with data driven design workflows deeply embedded in a collective digital communication infrastructure. This is creating a number of pressures on the discipline of architecture to reorganize around the opportunities, and risks, of these changes. One of these changes involves defining the role that design itself might play in this shifting process.

This seminar is aimed at students who are interested in rethinking architectural practice. It is based on the premise that any significant change in the architectural, engineering and construction (AEC) industry will come through a disruptive shift in the culture of the industry driven by the next generation of architects. This course will offer students an opportunity to speculate about the nature of digital practice. Through readings, lectures and discussion, students will be exposed to the most current thinking on the structure of industry with an emphasis on the role that digital communication tools are having in its reorganization. Students will be encouraged to think creatively and critically about future options to architectural practice and its relationship to industry - in essence, how to design a digital practice. Students will be exposed to various tools for design and production and apply these tools and techniques through a series of small design-research projects.

Note: This course will serve as a foundational prep course for my Terminal Studio, but is also open to other students.