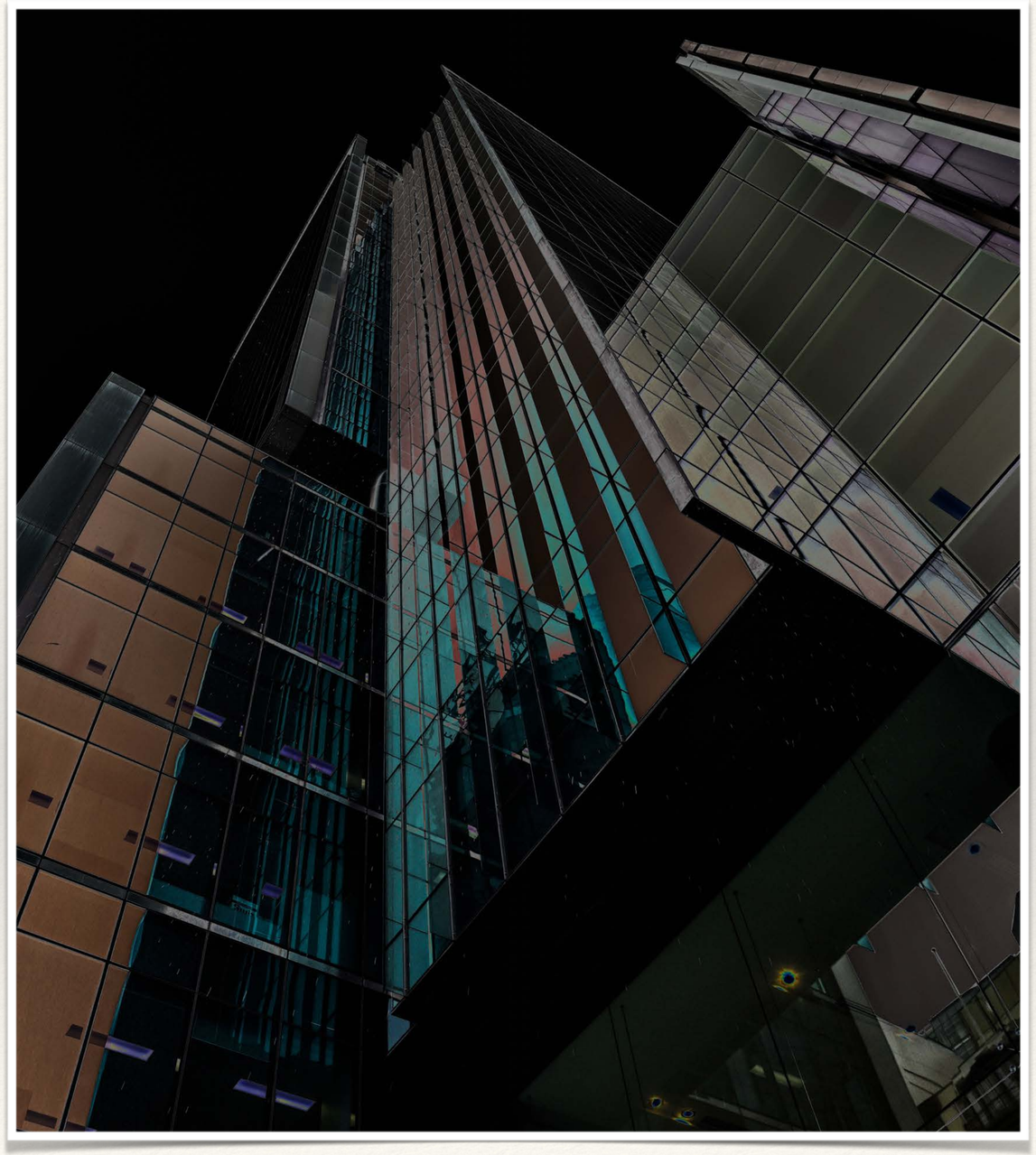
ARCH 1110/FALL 2020

“Introduction to Architecture/Design in the Age of Rapid Globalization”



LECTURE 01:
SECTION OUTLINE

SECTION 01: BASIC “HOUSEKEEPING” FOR COURSE

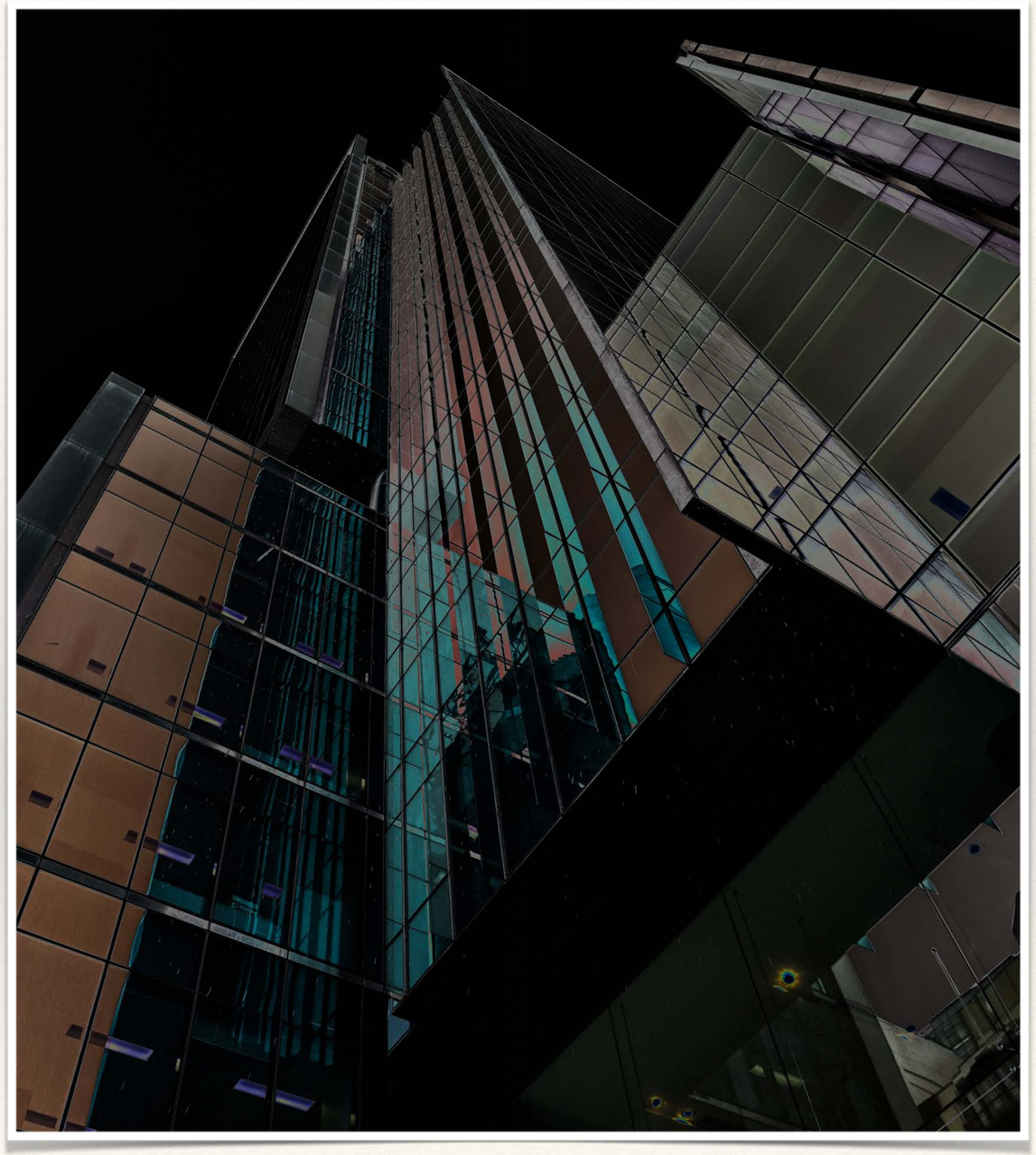
SECTION 02: COMPLEXITY/ARCHITECTURE

SECTION 03: PREMISE: WHAT IS PRAXIS?

SECTION 04: PROCESS: COMPLEXITY/CONTINGENCY/AGENCY

SECTION 05: GUIDING “FRAMES”

ARCH 1110/FALL 2020



SECTION 01:

BASIC “HOUSEKEEPING” FOR COURSE

CONTACT INFO

Michael Jenson, (Instructor),
Michael.Jenson@ucdenver.edu

Juliana Cox: TA(MARCH candidate),
Juliana.Cox@ucdenver.edu

OFFICE HOURS/ZOOM:

TUESDAYS 1:00 to 2:00 PM: For general questions/discussion of issues

BY APPOINTMENT: For confidential issue/email instructor to set up appointment

ONLINE COURSE STRUCTURE:

- **asynchronus online course**: which means we do not meet at a specific time each week either on-campus or via Zoom

- **CANVAS:** will be used as a communication vehicle to offer lectures, support materials, assignments, discussions and potentially other types of learning opportunities.

- **16 modules:** Each module will run approximately 1 week, with the subsequent module being released the following week until all 16 modules have been completed.

- **Modules** will be **"officially released"** on **Tuesday of every week**: throughout the semester, though they may be accessible a few days before. Assignments and quizzes will be found within certain modules throughout the semester.

- **Online Assignments:** must be formatted, labeled properly and uploaded to Canvas by the due date and time stipulated in each assignment.

COURSE ASSESSMENT:

- **Quizzes (40% total):** There will be 5 quizzes throughout the semester. Each "open book/open note" quiz of 10 to 15 multiple choice questions will be roughly 8% of the final grade with the total of all 5 quizzes accounting for 40% of the overall grade.

- **Position papers (40%):** 4 written "papers" (1000 words min.) on the most relevant topics presented in the course. They provide a platform to develop a more detailed view of the more centrally important topics covered.

- **Final Exam (20% total):** comprehension of the materials covered in Section 01, 02, 03 (Theory/ Praxis Lectures & Readings) will be tested in a multiple choice formatted final exam administered during finals week.

- **CAP Lecture Extra Credit (possible additional 5%):** To earn a possible 5% extra credit on their final grade, students can attend an online lecture hosted by the college of architecture and planning and write a short summary of its content.

INCLUSIVE CLASSROOM VALUES:

- ***Embrace*** Technology and its potential for creativity and learning. (but do so critically.)

- Space and Environment matters to the learning experience. Strive to ***imagine*** creativity inducing, flexible, inviting, and diverse learning environments.

- ***Create*** an openly inclusive environment (in the spirit/tradition of academic criticism but founded upon mutual respect and transparency)

- ***Value*** education for its possibility to present new experiences and challenges.

- Be Responsible for your views with confidence while showing ***respect*** and ***openness*** for the views and educational pathways of others.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

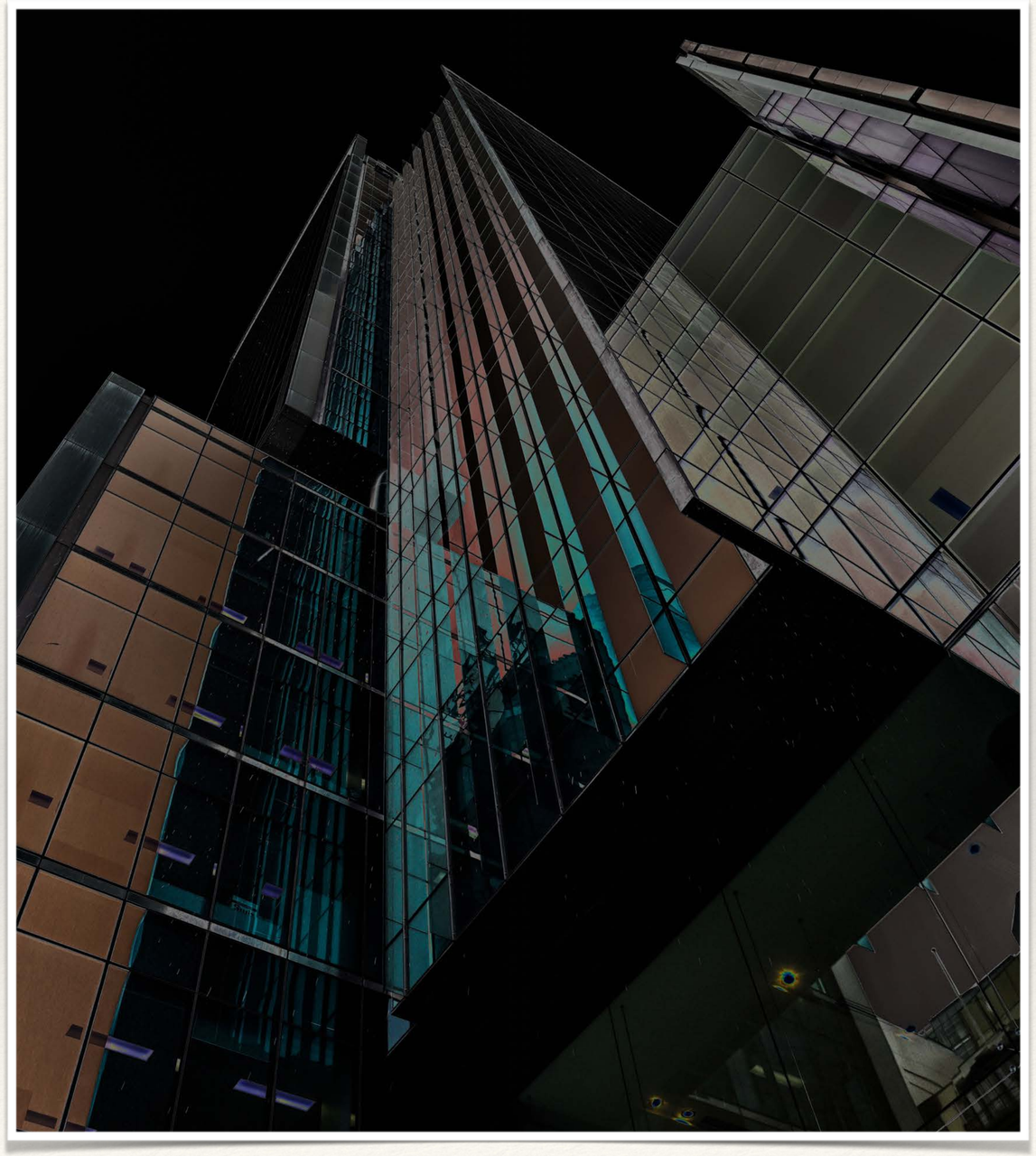
In this course students will:

- Investigate some of the central issues facing the practice of Architecture/Design today.
- Be introduced to the diversity in approaches and potential career pathways related to the practice of architecture
- Investigate a design lexicon and foundational visual literacy concepts.
- Investigate some of the fundamental elements of architectural form, space and order.
- Investigate some of the fundamental principles relating to design and the practice of architecture.
- Develop personal views concerning architecture and its potential.
- Explore a variety of topics influencing contemporary architectural criticism, theory, and critical thought.
- Develop an initial understanding of the path required from architectural education into professional practice.

ARCH 1110/FALL 2020

SECTION 02:

COMPLEXITY/ARCHITECTURE



WHAT IS ARCHITECTURE?

*1: the **art or science of building** specifically: the art or practice of designing and building structures and especially habitable ones*

*2a: formation or construction resulting from or as if from a conscious act: "**the architecture of the garden**"*

*b: a unifying or coherent form or structure "**a novel that lacks architecture**"*

*3: architectural product or work "buildings that comprise the **architecture of the square**"*

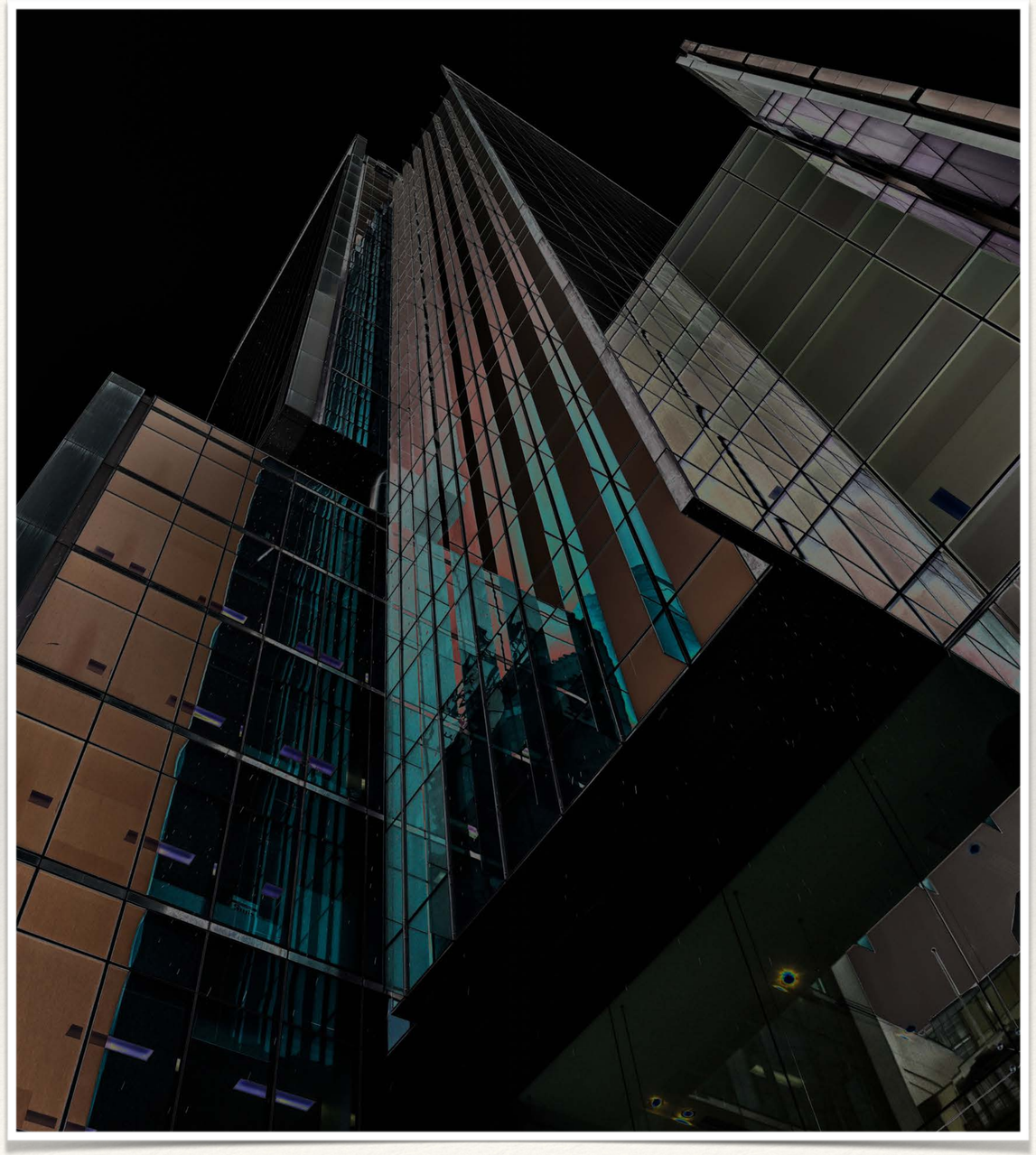
*4: a method or style of building "**Gothic architecture**"*

*5: the manner in which the components of a computer or computer system are organized and "**integrating different program architectures**"*

ARCH 1110/FALL 2020

SECTION 03:

PREMISE: WHAT IS PRAXIS?



….praxis—if not on the thither side of this divide—was perhaps somehow between the theoretical and the practical as they are generally understood, and particularly as they are understood in modern philosophy. Praxis as the manner in which we are engaged in the world and with others has its own insight or understanding prior to any explicit formulation of that understanding…Of course, it must be understood that praxis, as I understand it, is always entwined with communication.

Calvin O. Schrag

“Theory without practice is empty; practice without theory is blind. The ongoing challenge is to bring theory and practice together in such a way that we can theorize our practices and practice our theories.”

Mark Taylor, “The Moment of Complexity”

To claim that architecture today faces a philosophical problem and to suggest that philosophical reflection should be part of any well-constructed program of architectural education is to claim not just that architects have become uncertain of their way and of the maps on which they have been relying, but that such uncertainty reflects a deeper uncertainty about how we ought to live, where our place should be, and how architects are to help shape that place, to "edify", to build in that sense."

Karsten Harries "The Ethical Function Of Architecture"

module structure
(3 Sections)

Section 01: What is? (defining characteristics and questions of architecture)

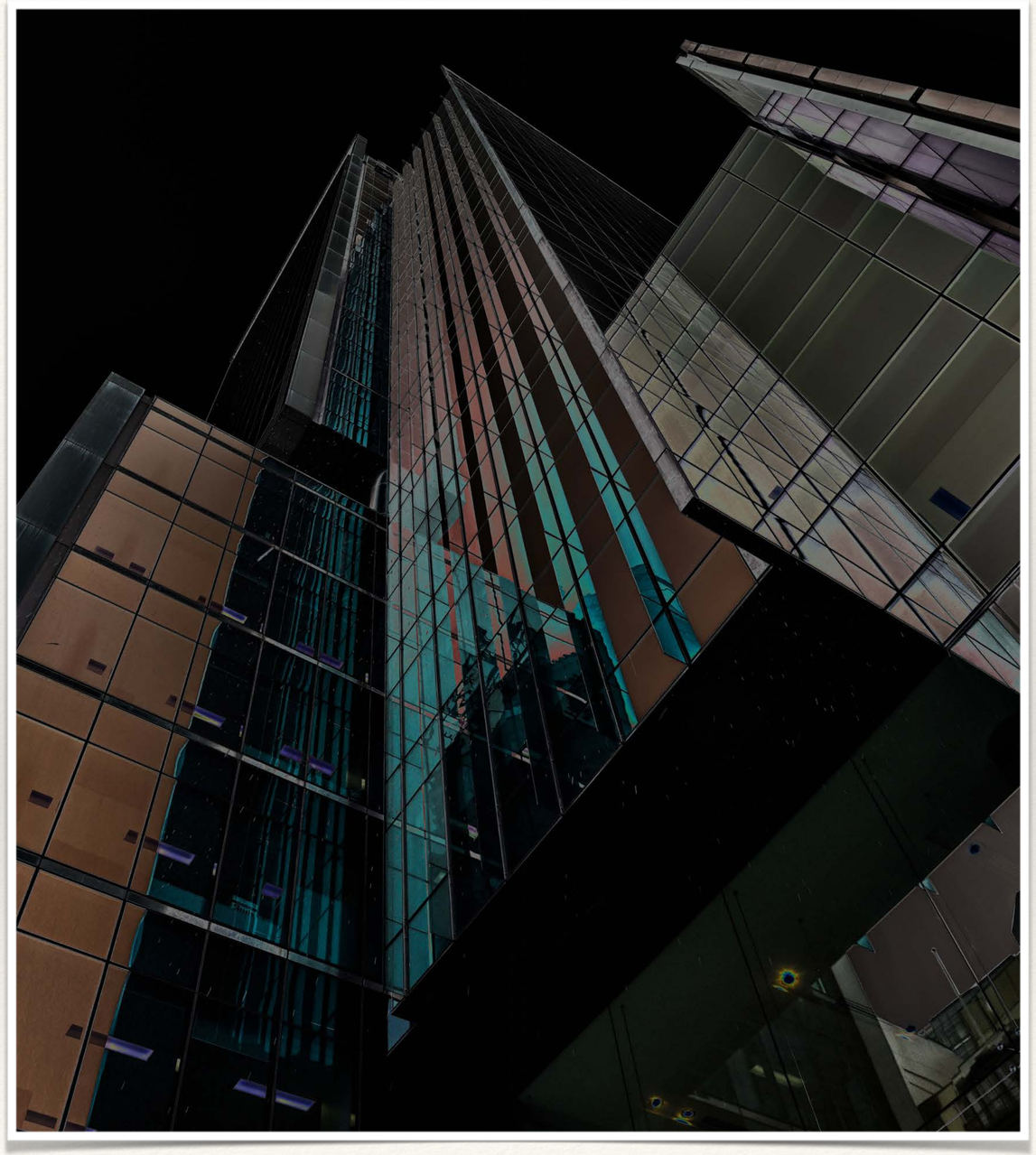
Section 02: What issues does the discipline face? (what is causing this uncertainty)

Section 03: What are some of its foundational concepts? (basic languages/design approaches)

ARCH 1110/FALL 2020

SECTION 04:

PROCESS: COMPLEXITY/CONTINGENCY/
AGENCY



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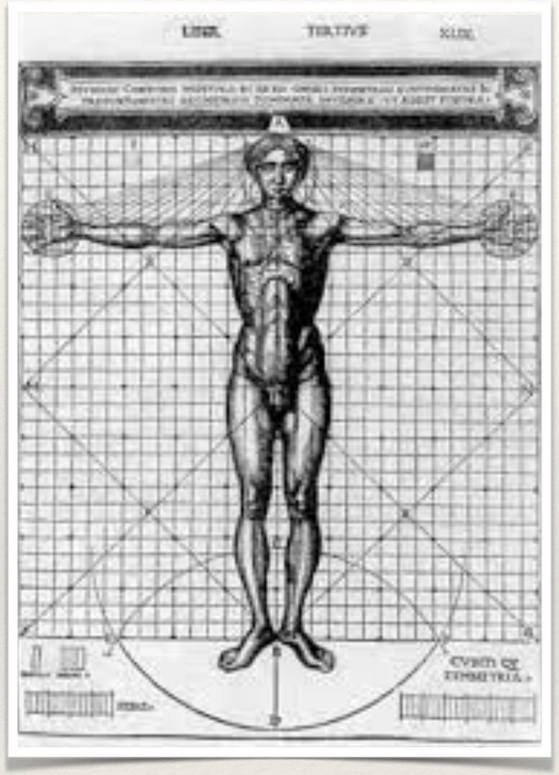

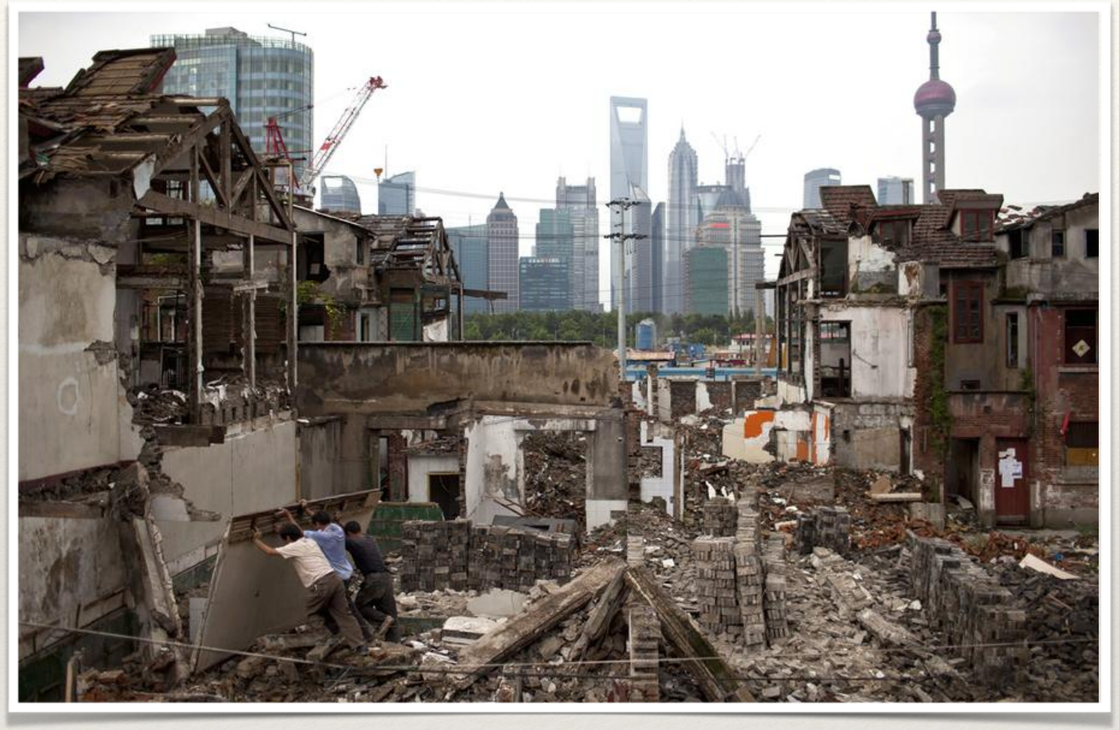

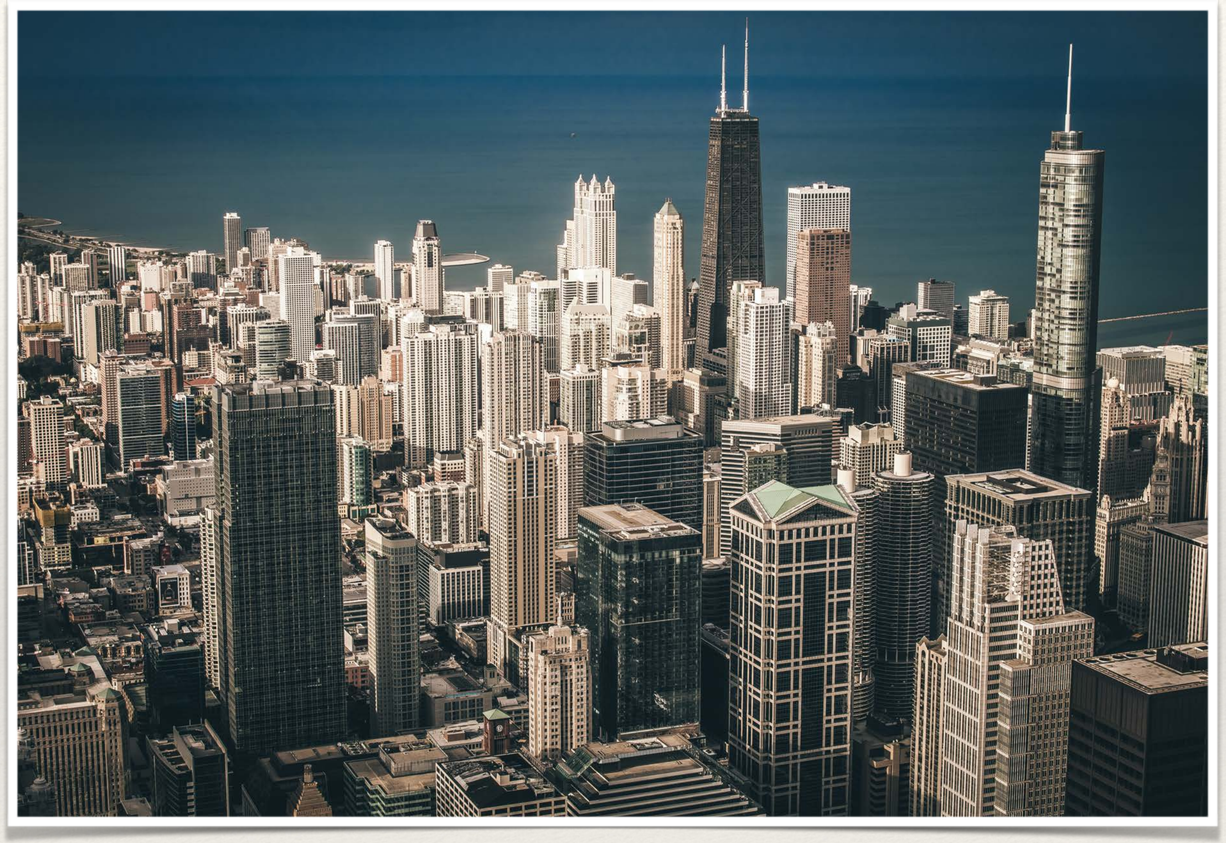

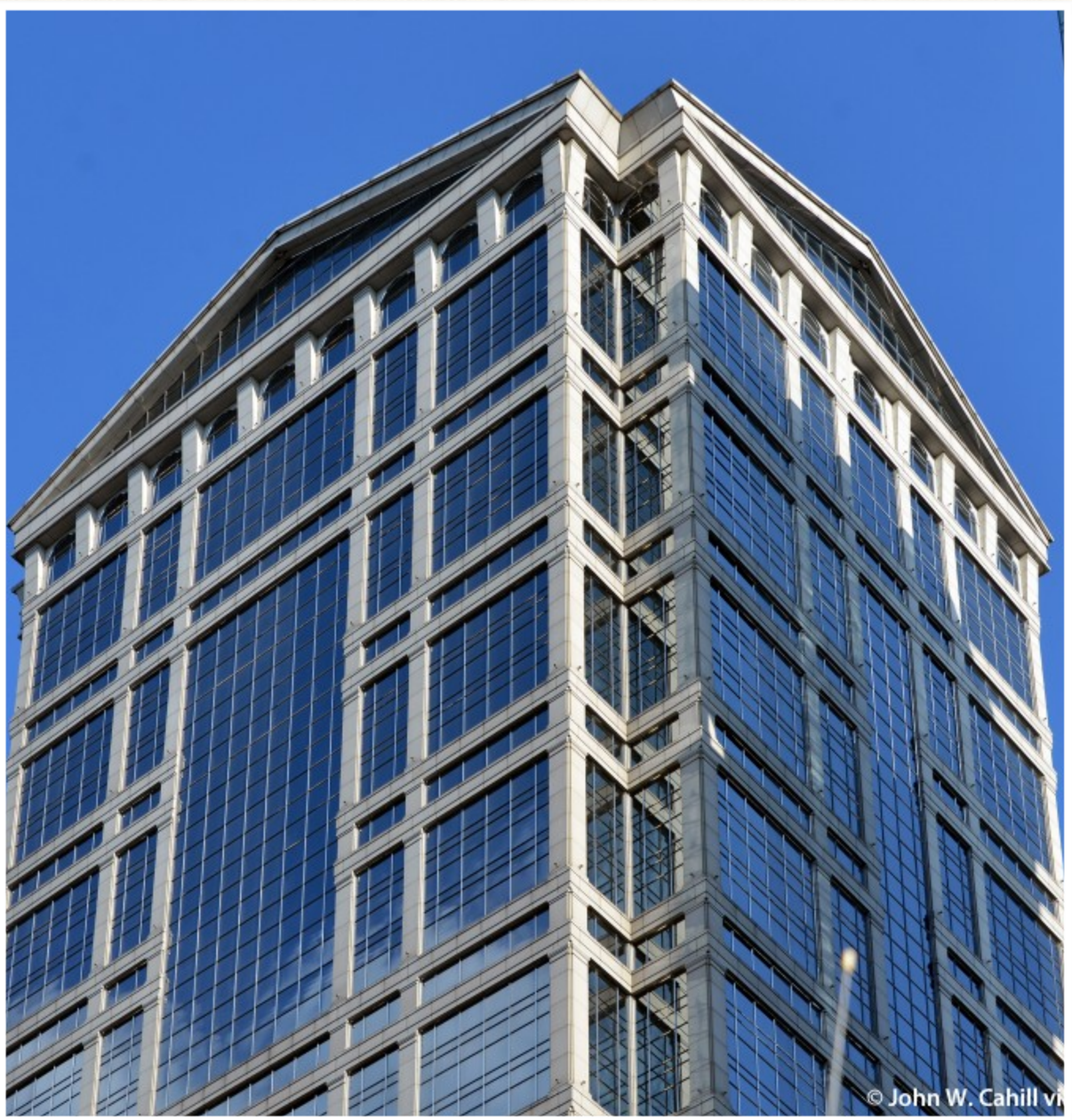
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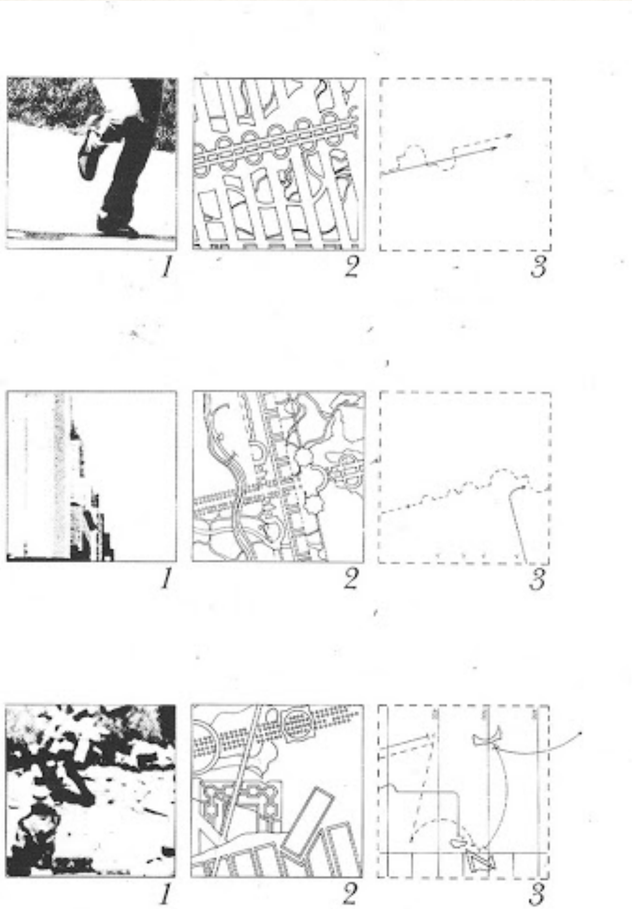
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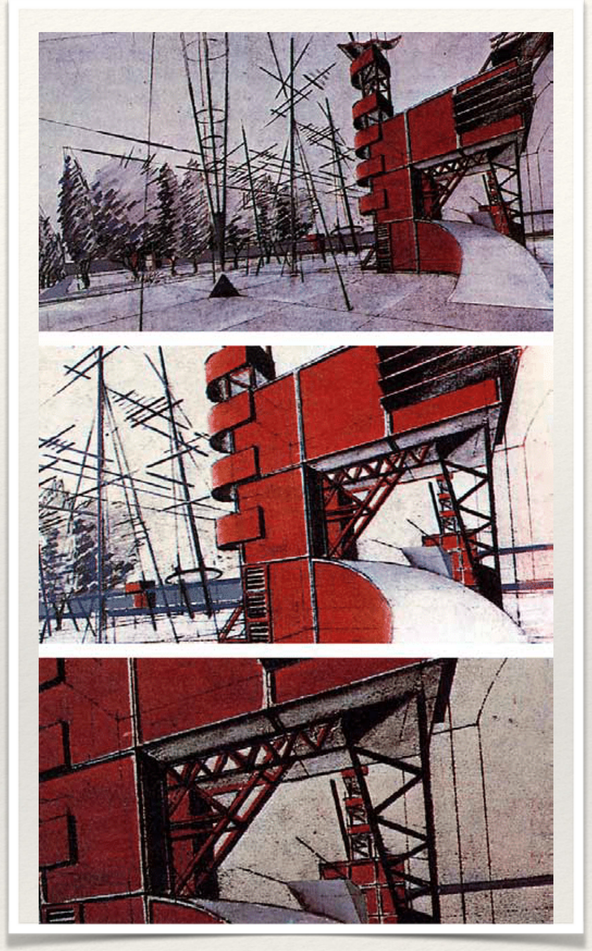

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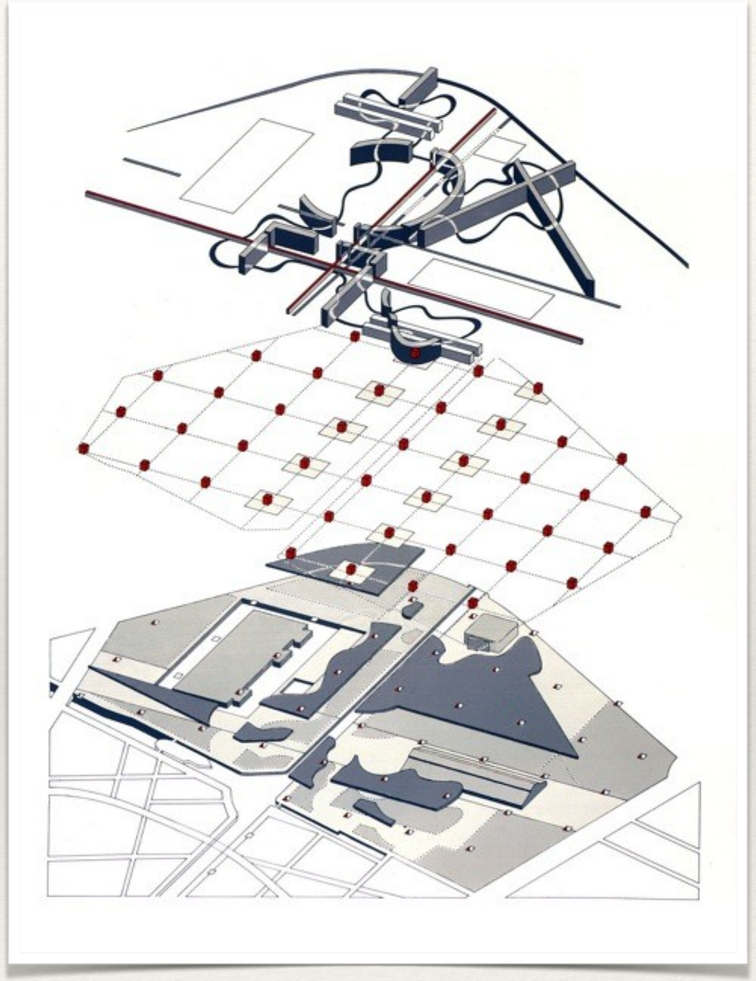

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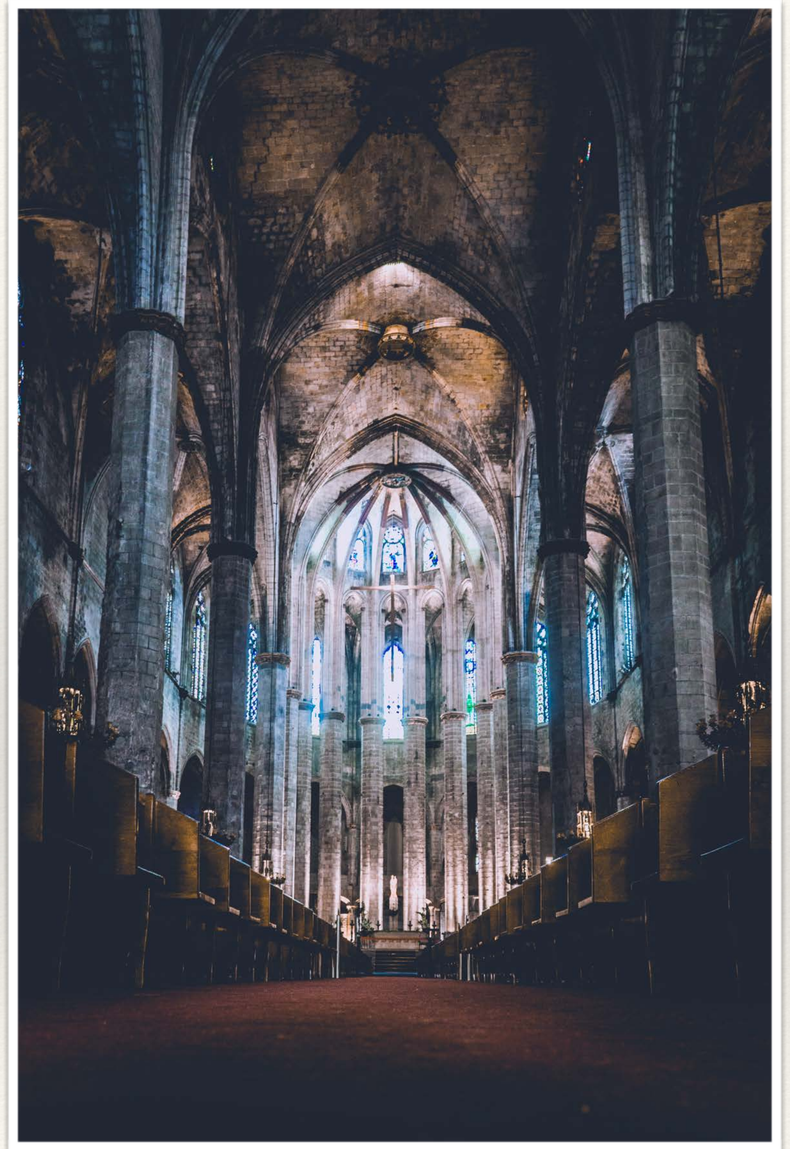
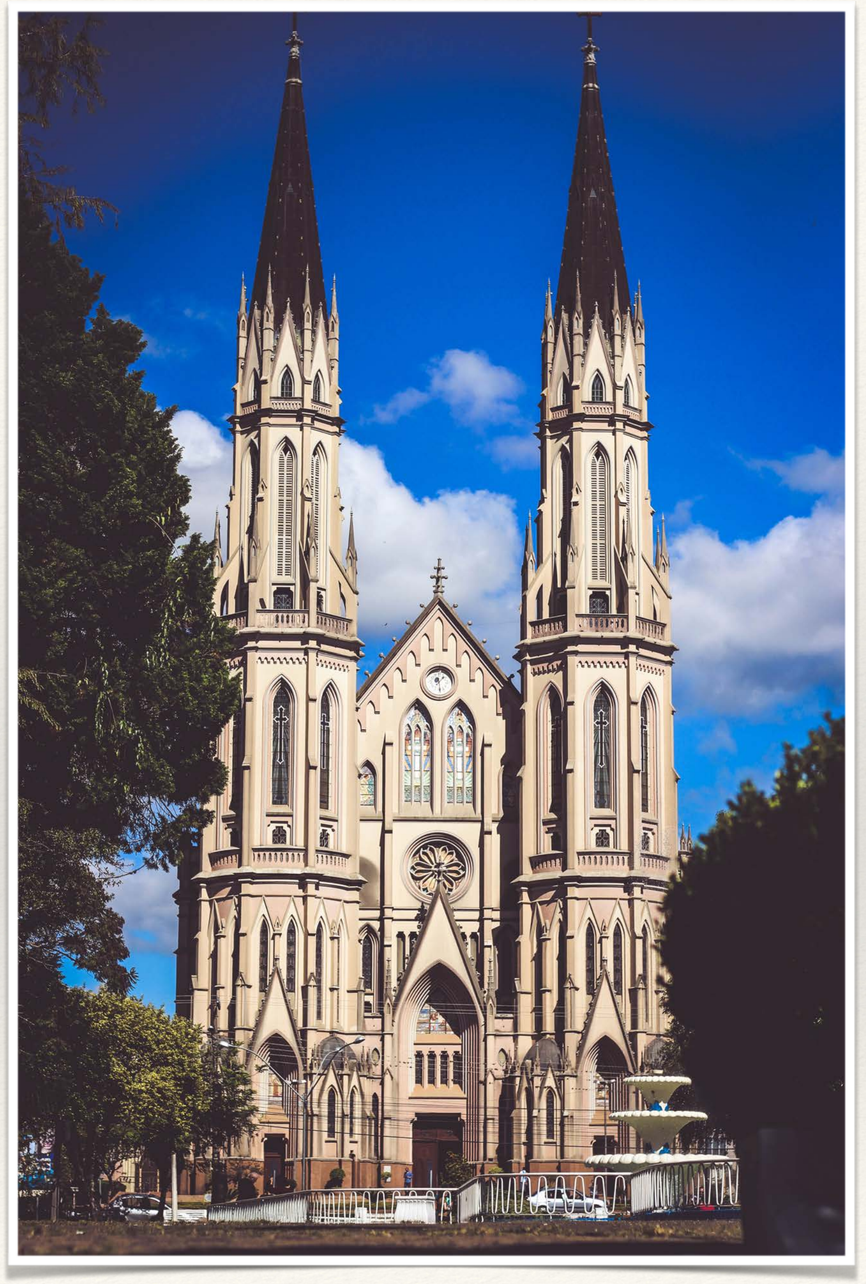
BAUHAUS

CHARLOTTE STREET HOTEL





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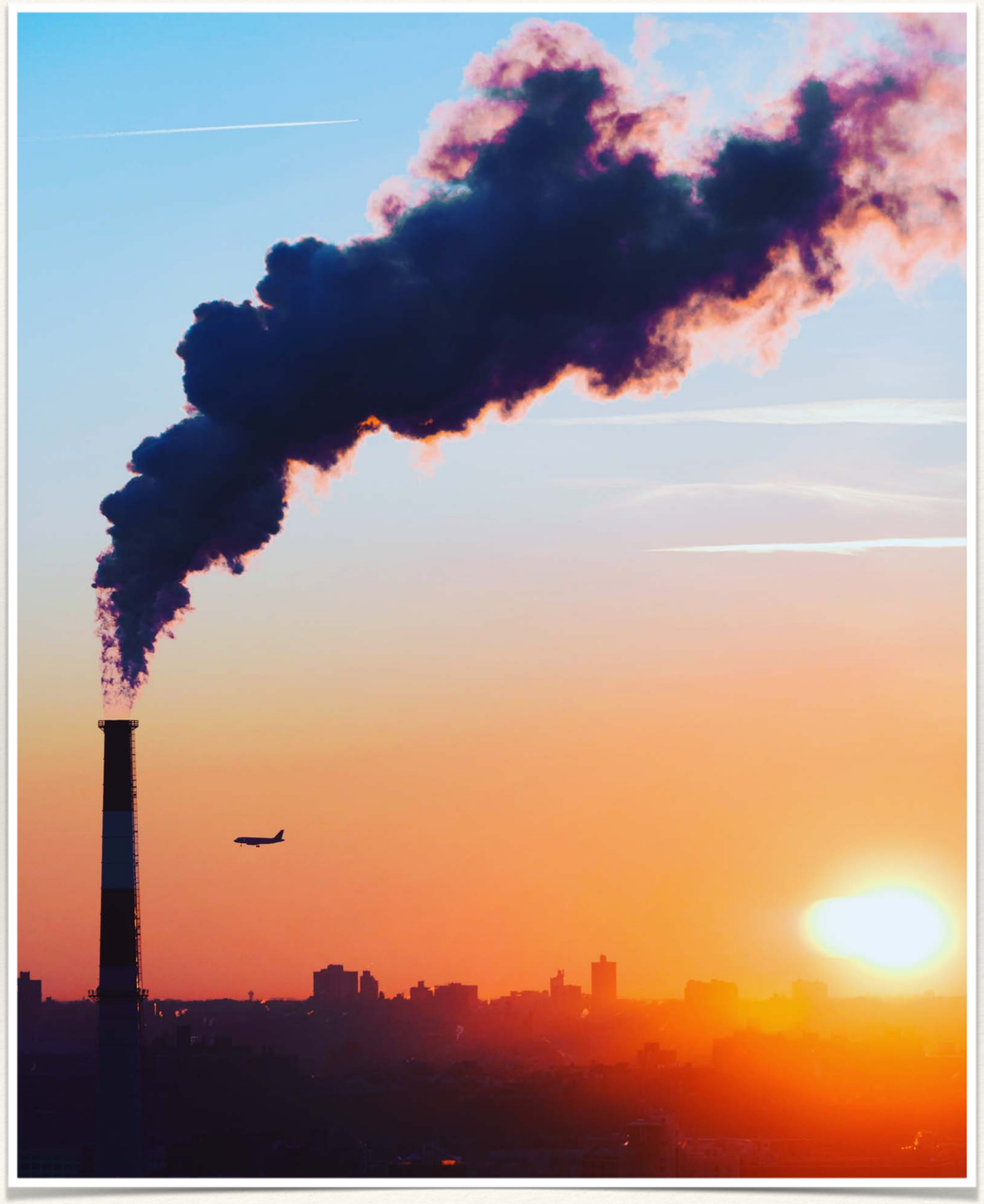
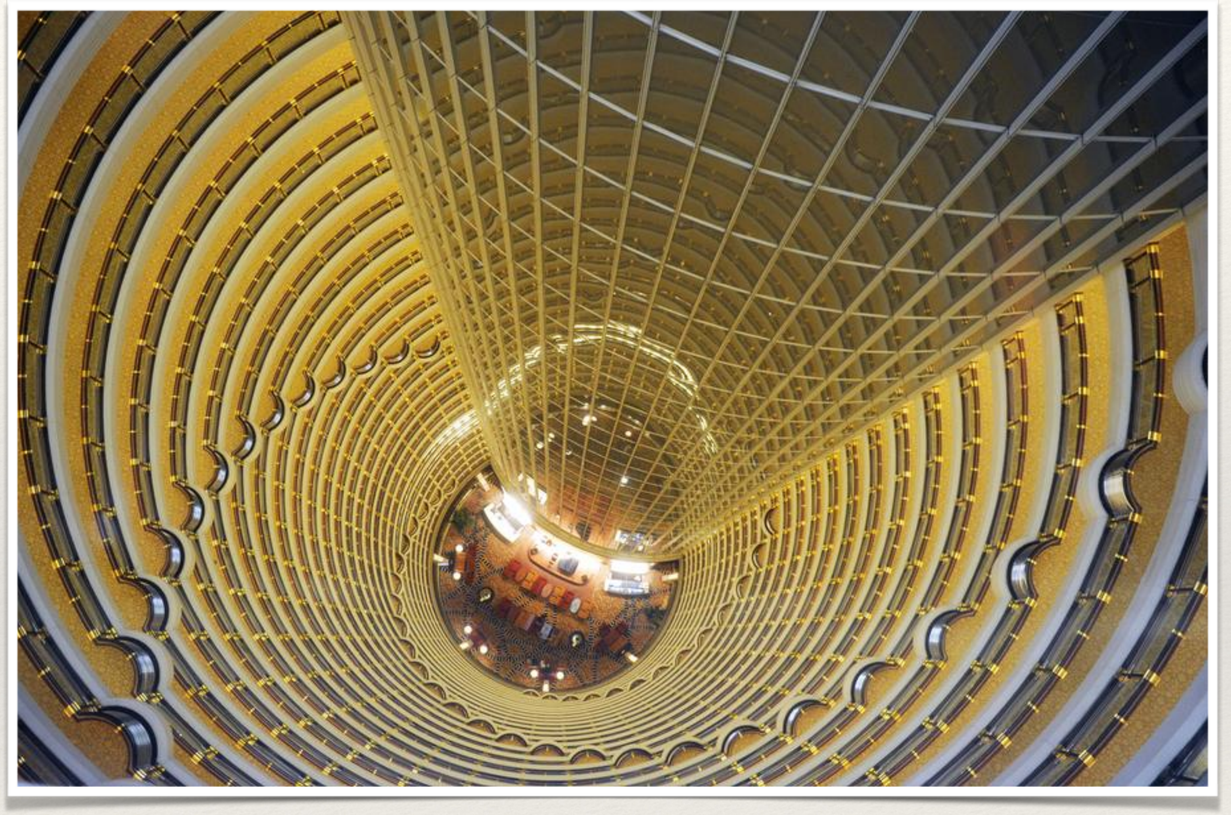
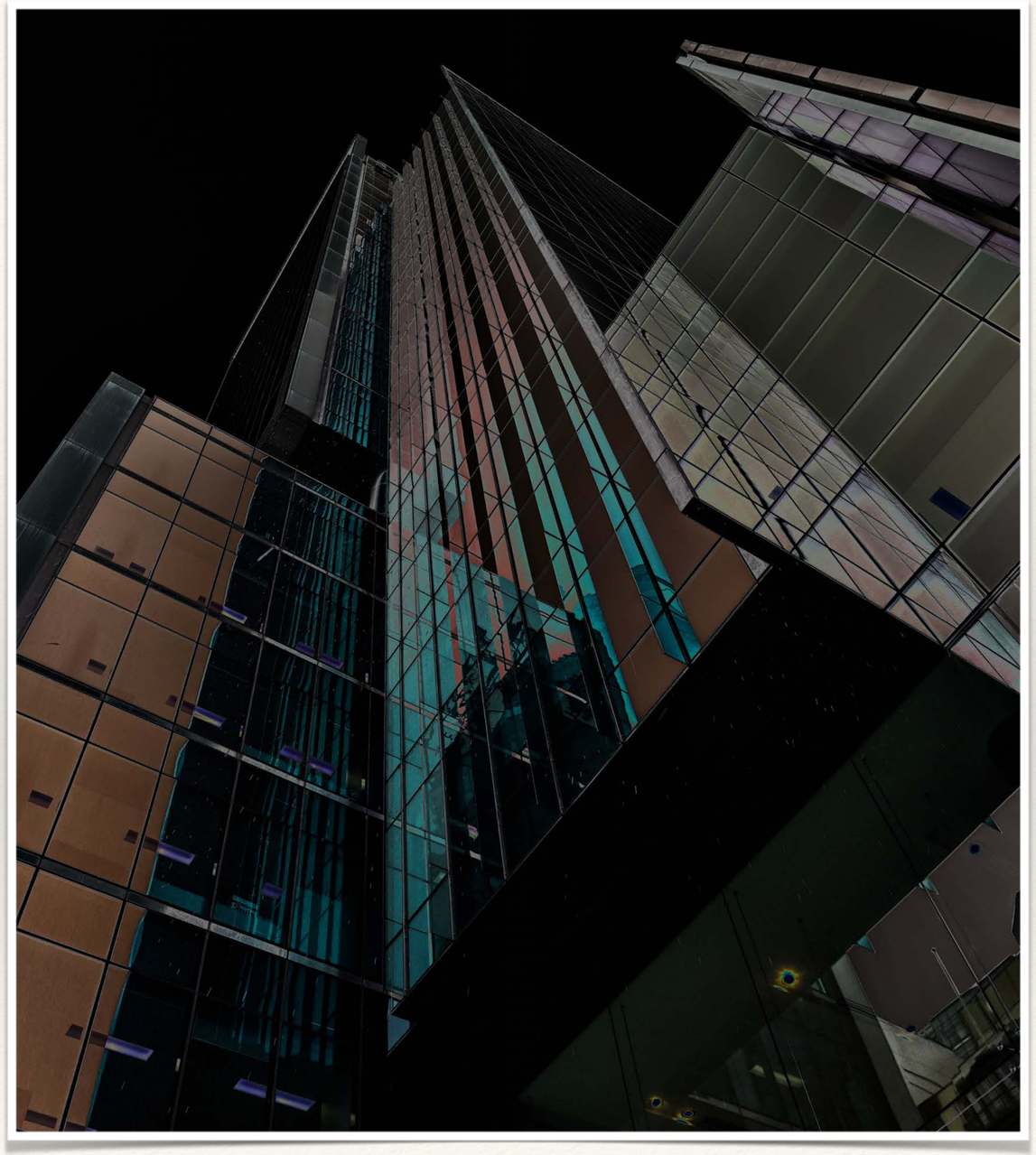




ARCH 1110/FALL 2020

SECTION 05:

GUIDING “FRAMES”



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COMPLEXITY

TRANSITORY/FLUX

APPROPRIATE

CRITICAL THOUGHT

BUILT ENVIRONMENT

PROCESS

(vs PRODUCT)

what constitutes architectural agency in the 21st century?

PRAXIS?