

MArch Thesis 1

ARCH 9014.09 (F 2024)

MArch Thesis 2

ARCH 9015.09 (W 2025)

MArch Thesis Continuation

ARCH 9009.00 (S 2025)

Dalhousie University
School of Architecture



Clockwise from top left: The Living, Probiotic Architectural Pavilion / Marina Tabassum, Khudi Bari Mobile House / De Vylder Vinck Taillieu, PC Caritas / Territorial Agency, Oceans in Transformation

The Dalhousie University Senate acknowledges that we are in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq People and pays respect to the Indigenous knowledges held by the Mi'kmaq People, and to the wisdom of their Elders past and present. The Mi'kmaq People signed Peace and Friendship Treaties with the Crown, and section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982 recognizes and affirms Aboriginal and Treaty rights. We are all Treaty people. The Dalhousie University Senate also acknowledges the histories, contributions, and legacies of African Nova Scotians, who have been here for over 400 years.

This course recognizes the diverse histories that shape our institution and the built/natural environments. It encourages reflection on how design thinking and research can foster a greater awareness of space and place to further the objectives of decolonization and reconciliation.

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[Calendar Descriptions](#)

ARCH 9014.09: MArch Thesis 1

Within a seminar group, each student formulates an architectural hypothesis and explores it through research and creation. The student is expected to develop and demonstrate expertise in the chosen topic. This culminates in a design portfolio and a thesis outline that frames the research and defines an architectural design project for completion in MArch Thesis II. ARCH 9014.09 and ARCH 9015.09 must be completed in consecutive terms.

ARCH 9015.09: MArch Thesis 2

Each student proposes, develops, and completes an architectural design project that investigates the thesis question. The thesis concludes with a graphic/model presentation, an oral examination, and a formal thesis document that is submitted to the university. The entire thesis requires a minimum of two consecutive terms of residence. Prerequisite: Successful completion of ARCH 9014.

ARCH 9009.00: MArch Thesis Continuation

This continuation of ARCH 9015 Thesis 2 is for students who have not completed the thesis in the minimum two terms. The maximum duration of a thesis is five terms, including ARCH 9014.

[What Is a Thesis?](#)

A thesis in the Master of Architecture program is a mobilization of **original research** through **design**. It is not simply a design for a program and site. A provocative idea or polemic can be a strong departure point for a thesis. Urgent contemporary questions about society, culture, technology, and the environment can also be a foundation for an architectural thesis. The research question may be framed in different ways. Common approaches include problem solving (how can a particular design help address a specific issue?), speculation (could a combination of a theory, site, program, technology, building type, or poetic intent lead to benefits or discoveries?), or critique (how can the built environment facilitate greater social justice?). Ultimately, the thesis involves an informed speculation about how a design process can contribute new knowledge to the wider world.

of theory and practice. This informed speculation is a “hypothesis” that helps to frame a process with a critical and imaginative intention. Although many theses result in the design of a building for a particular site, other outcomes are possible: emergent material investigations, computational tool development, site-specific full-scale installations, etc. A thesis does not require a major departure from your previous work in the School. It may build on the knowledge and skills gained in previous terms to develop a project that contributes to the discipline.

To develop their research, students continuously motivate analysis, creativity and various modes of making in their research process, which includes several phases: exploring a topic, formulating a core question and a hypothesis, interpreting case studies, generating design speculations, developing new representational strategies and analytic tools, putting together a thesis proposal to demonstrate that the research can be pursued through architectural design, elaborating a clear working method, designing a project that convincingly tests the thesis, articulating findings, and finally writing the Thesis Report, a comprehensive, illustrated essay of 50 or more pages.

Research/Design Methods

“Architectural research” can mean different things for different kinds of practitioners. It includes projects that center technological, constructive, social, cultural, political, economic, environmental, aesthetic, or epistemological issues. Every project should be reflexive about how contemporary issues, tools, and technologies are reshaping the discipline, and thus about how architectural knowledge is produced **today**. Thus, every thesis explores the relationship between theory and design in some way.

Once a research question and hypothesis formulated, a methodology is also identified. The methodology is composed of one or several “methods” that come from within the discipline of architecture or are borrowed from allied fields. These include, but are not limited to: modeling, mapping, fieldwork, interviews, coding, data analysis, diagramming, narrative writing, material experiments, etc. Together, the methods allow you to generate new insights (knowledge) that inform a design process. A clear linkage between your research question, methodology, and design outcomes ensures a successful thesis whose contributions would be recognized by experts in your chosen sub-field.

M3 / M4 Terms: Preliminary Thesis Proposal

Overview

Thesis begins in the Fall Term. To prepare for this intensive semester, you must start thinking about your project during your work term. Specifically, you will need to answer two questions:

- What is your thesis subject, and what has been written in this area of study?
- How can a design project investigate or test your thesis?

The research you conduct to answer these questions will form the basis of a Preliminary Thesis Proposal, which must be submitted to the Thesis Coordinator via email (michael.faciejew@dal.ca) by July 31, 2024. While this first version is ungraded, it will be followed by a graded, revised version due in early September as part of ARCH9014: MArch Thesis 1. It is thus essential to formulate your design and research agenda in the spring and summer. The Preliminary Thesis Proposal must include the following elements:

1. Working Title
2. Thesis Statement: what you intend to do, why you will do it, and how (150 words)
3. Contribution Statement: discussion of how your project engages contemporary debates about the built environment and how it will contribute to architectural discourse (250 words)
4. Program Description: discussion of the activities, functions, spaces your project will encompass (250 words)
5. User Description: discussion of the population, community, or users your project will serve (250 words)
6. Site Documentation: diagrams, maps, plans, photographs of your site
7. Precedent Analysis: discussion of 5 design projects that are relevant to your thesis (description below)
8. Annotated Reference List: critical discussion of 15 readings that will inform your thesis research (described below)
9. Supplementary Section(s): If you plan to develop a thesis that does not reflect the conventional site/program/design relationship—for example, a materials-based investigation that draws from scientific methodologies—you should include additional sections that describe relevant preliminary research.

Precedent Analysis

To produce an architectural thesis, you must situate your project in relation to other built or unbuilt works of architecture and design. To help establish your design intentions, select five design projects—historical or contemporary, speculative or “real”—that may function as references. Precedents can be selected for a wide range of factors: program, material treatment, social engagement, representational strategy, etc. For each

precedent, develop a critical analysis of approximately 150 words that assesses the work in relation to your design motivations. What questions about your thesis topic do these projects raise? How do they push against conventions in the discipline?

Annotated Reference List

No thesis exists in a vacuum. Scholars, writers, critics, and other experts have explored issues relevant to your thesis. Their work must provide a theoretical foundation for your own. As a graduate student doing academic research, you are expected to produce a literature review that analyzes key references and situates them as part of an original argument. Without an intellectual context, the motivations for your thesis will remain unclear and inhibit its development. A thesis will only bear fruit as part of a larger dialogue in intellectual and design history.

A Core Reading List is attached to this document. It presents a selection of books that can be used to develop a preliminary research framework. The titles are organized into fields of study that represent some of the most important issues, debates, and challenges in architecture today. Before you begin M5 in Fall 2024, select seven titles from this list which are relevant to your topic. Based on your own research, select eight additional readings—not included in this list—which will allow you to develop a research and design methodology. As much as possible, these titles should be scholarly: journal articles, peer-reviewed books published with academic presses, etc. As you complete these fifteen readings, produce an annotated reference list. Each entry must:

- Be between 200 and 300 words.
- Critically assess the author's main argument and situate it in relation to your thesis topic.
- Analyze specific aspects of the work that will be important for your research (evidence, disciplinary framework, omissions in the author's argument, etc.)

Research Involving Human Subjects

If your research involves human subjects, it will require prior written approval from Dalhousie University's Social Sciences and Humanities Research Ethics Board. To see if this is required, submit a one-page description of your research plans to the MArch Thesis Coordinator. If they are used as evidence in your thesis, personal interviews and photographs of individuals are considered research involving human subjects. Before doing any personal research, refer to the Social Sciences & Humanities Research Ethics Board guidelines on the Research Services website: <http://tinyurl.com/dal-research-ethics>. All students should also consider completing an online tutorial, which is an introduction to the 2nd edition of the *Tri-Council Policy Statement: Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans* (TCPS 2): <https://tcps2core.ca/welcome>. Failure to obtain permission in advance may disqualify your research.

MArch Thesis 1

ARCH 9014.09 (F 2024)

Credit Hours: 9

Coordinator: Michael Faciejew michael.faciejew@dal.ca

Instructors: Sarah Bonnemaïson sarah.bonnemaïson@dal.ca
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Catherine Venart catherine.venart@dal.ca

Course website: dal.brightspace.com

Office Hours: By appointment

Class Times and Locations:

Sept 4 – 6: 9:30 am – 5:00 pm

Research Week

Location: 1202

Wednesdays: 9:30 am – 12:30 pm

Lectures, tutorials, student-led seminars, all-class reviews. See schedule for details.

Locations: 1202, Exhibition Room

Mondays/Fridays: 9:30 am – 12:30 pm

Thesis Seminar Groups

Locations: B102 (TBD), 1202 (TBD), 1208 (TBD), 2135A (TBD), 2107 (TBD), Industrial 121 (TBD)

Course Description

In Thesis 1, you develop your thesis through research and design. The course includes lectures, tutorials, and seminars, which help frame a research project, formulate a hypothesis and methodology, and investigate it through a design proposal. In your seminar group, you will consider your thesis's theoretical and practical implications and develop ideas for testing your hypothesis in a research/design framework. You will develop techniques for setting goals and standards that allow you to evaluate the progress of your research in an iterative manner.

To develop your thesis argument, you begin with a review of the relevant literature in your field of interest. You will then explore a specific aspect of that research field where a significant contribution could be made through design. To report on your findings, you prepare an overview of the relevant scholarship ("literature review") and analyze relevant case studies in architecture and design. The thesis's design goals are achieved by

establishing a clear methodology, which allows for a problem to be investigated. As you develop a framework for your thesis:

- Frame the thesis through its urgency for the discipline.
- Formulate your ambitions through a set of arguments.
- Build your argument through architectural means and methods.
- Keep in mind the relationship between research and design.
- Consider your design work to be a testing ground.

The main outcome for the course is a Thesis Dossier, which synthesizes your findings, builds an argument for a design methodology, and presents a preliminary design proposal. While the design is not yet fully developed, the dossier clearly presents a method for reaching the design objectives as well as a schematic design proposal. All statements (whether visual or textual) are supported by references, data, and your original analysis.

Learning Objectives

- Students will learn how to frame a research question and develop an original research and design methodology.
- Students will learn how to productively engage contemporary architectural discourse through design work and to position their work in relation to urgent architectural issues.
- Students will learn to synthesize and critically interpret field-specific literature and case studies.
- Students will learn how to independently moderate seminars and discussions.
- Students will develop presentation skills by framing their project before groups of various sizes.
- Students will develop writing and communication skills by crafting an extensive written document.
- Students will develop an independent idea about their research project's significance in a broader social, cultural, scientific, technological, and political context.

Rationale for the Course

This course prepares students for the completion of their Master's thesis project. It builds on the experience students gained in their preceding three years in all courses from the BEDS and M.Arch programs, allowing them to harness their interests into an independent research project. The course is followed by ARCH 9015: MArch Thesis 2, where students complete an architectural design project responding to the thesis question.

Mode of Interaction

The course is delivered in lectures, tutorials, and seminars. Thesis instructors give lectures and run seminars, and staff from across campus teach tutorials. Students remain with the same seminar instructor throughout the term. Students also lead separate seminars based on their research topics. The core reading list, distributed during the M3/M4 term, provides a foundation for the seminar discussions. The course is taught mostly in-person, including Research Week, seminars, the B1 Research Charette, the midterm review, and final presentations. See schedule for details.

Weekly Hours

For this 9-credit-hour course, an average of 27 hours per week is expected for all course-related activities, including classes. If most students are spending substantially more time, please notify the instructor.

Additional Academic Support

Students with limited experience writing research papers are strongly encouraged to seek the support of the Writing Centre (https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/writing-and-study-skills.html). The centre offers personalized support for written work through in-person and online appointments.

Attendance

Presence and participation are mandatory at all reviews, seminars, tutorials, and lectures.

Citation Guidelines

All citations should follow the Chicago Manual of Style (author-date system): <https://tinyurl.com/quick-author-date>; <https://tinyurl.com/full-author-date>.

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is essential to the completion of this course. Written assignments will be verified using plagiarism software.

How to Develop an Architectural Thesis Proposal

1. Frame a topic

- Explore a topic that corresponds to your interests. What issues, concerns, or approaches drive your research? Use keywords to develop categories for your research findings.
- Review the relevant literature on your topic. A thorough literature review will help you build your foundation, develop your argument, and situate it in terms of other architects or theorists. Your work should be a clear contribution to your chosen field of investigation—you are adding something to the conversation that other thinkers have not considered.
- Analyze architectural precedents relevant to your topic. An in-depth analysis of relevant precedents or case studies—through diagrams and other architectural tools—will help you understand the relationship between design methodologies and outcomes.
- Based on your research, narrow down your topic to a question or proposition that can be explored in architectural terms.
- Assess the interdisciplinary connections for your project. What non-architectural expertise does your approach rely on, and how can design contribute to knowledge in other fields?
- Be explicit about the (social, cultural, scientific, political) urgency of the proposal. Why does your project matter?

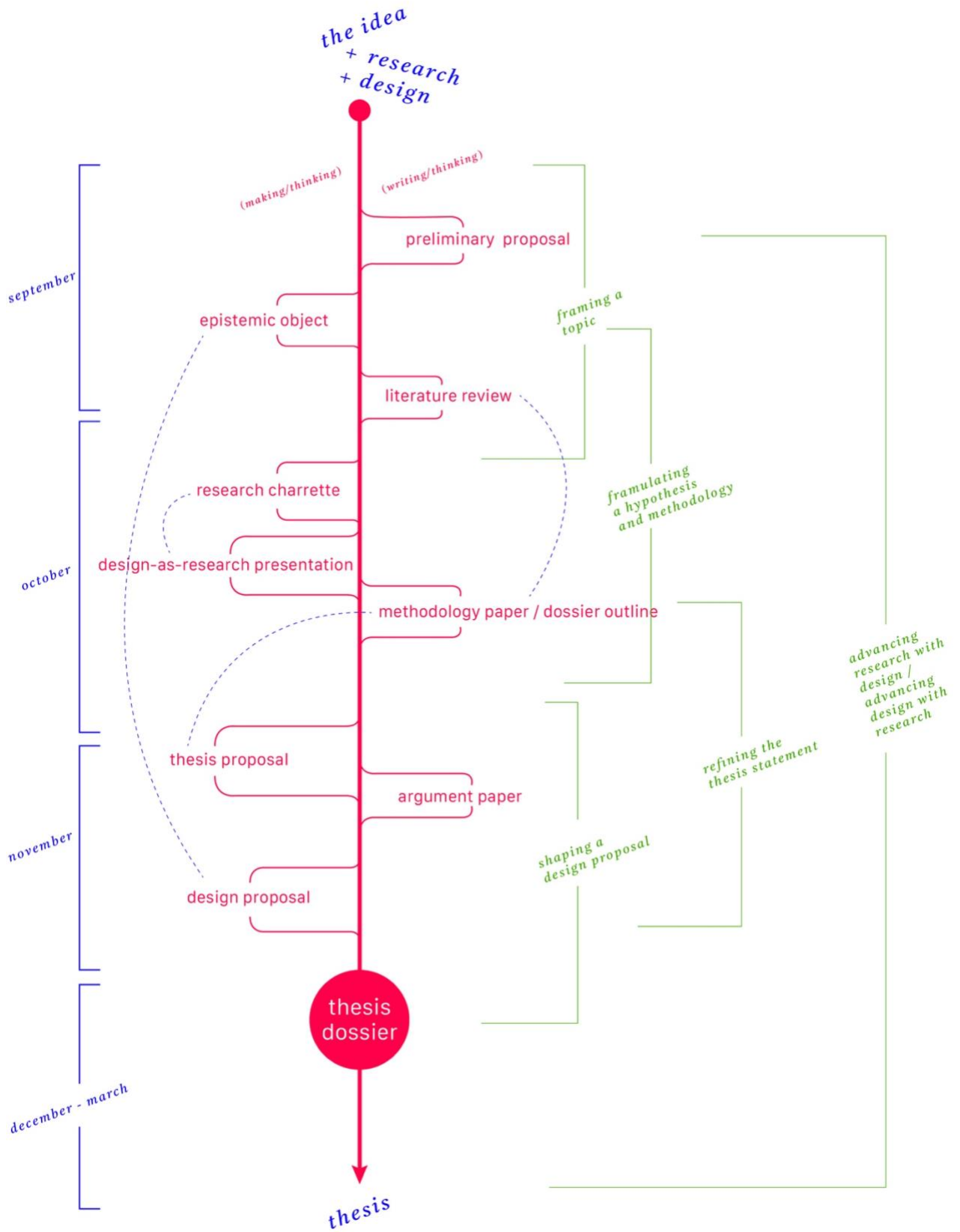
2. Formulate a hypothesis and design methodology

- A hypothesis is a starting point for further investigation. As you collect evidence and start the design, project a potential design outcome that responds to the issues raised by your thesis.
- Experiment: Draw, sketch, model. Produce quick and rough studies that allow you to translate ideas through architectural media. This will help you narrow in on a methodology.
- Develop a clear methodology for your design work. A methodology is an experimental framework for testing an idea. A well-developed methodology can potentially be transposed or translated to other relevant situations, allowing for other design outcomes. As an experimental framework, a method can also fail, leading to an unexpected or undesirable outcome. Failures are unavoidable in research and design, and they help refine the thesis framework.
- Harness expertise. If your thesis relies on knowledge from specific experts or members of the community, forge those connections early on.
- As you refine the method and develop the design, your hypothesis may also evolve and become more focused, eventually leading to a thesis statement.

3. Advance your research through design

- Set clear parameters for the design project, which may include site, program, use, user groups, material performance, aesthetic qualities, application, etc. Not all theses result in the design of a building; if your thesis results in a different outcome, look at examples of similar projects in the field to set your parameters.
- Set clear goals for the design proposal. Keep in mind what is being tested and what outcomes you are working toward. A good design method leads to a plan of action where every piece builds on another. To establish goals for the design proposal, multiple scales of investigation can be considered: small, medium, large.
- Develop your research through design tools. Drawing, modeling, programming, diagramming, and other techniques should be central to your project's development from the beginning. Along the way, ask yourself: what am I learning with these tools? How do the tools influence the outcome?
- Document and organize your work. Over the course of the term, systematically develop your thesis argument through research and design. Set clear objectives for a series of experiments and studies that will test your thesis question. Organize your textual, visual, and three-dimensional work as part of the Thesis Dossier that will be submitted at the end of the term. As a living document, the Dossier can include running commentary that discusses achievements, failures, reflections on your method, or modifications to the project framework.

Thesis 1 Trajectory



Thesis 1 Assignments

1. Revised Preliminary Thesis Proposal

Use the knowledge gained during Research Week to clarify your Preliminary Thesis Proposal. Assignment description on pages 5-6 of this document.

Format: PDF 8.5" x 11" portrait.

Submission: Upload on Brightspace in the Assignment folder labelled "Preliminary." Maximum file size is **10 Mb**. Please use the following file naming convention: LastName_ARCH9014_Prelim Proposal.pdf.

2. Epistemic Object

The first assignment is an experiment in "design as research." It is exploratory in nature and is meant to introduce creative thinking early in the thesis process. To mobilize design as research is to consider architectural techniques (drawing, modeling, representing) as tools of discovery. Design tools can be reshaped by a research question and a hypothesis so that they produce new and unexpected knowledge about an important issue in your thesis. Design tools thus complement textual or data-driven tools in the research process.

The assignment's two key terms (*episteme* and *object*) identify the purpose of this exercise: to produce an **artifact** that generates a new **knowledge**. Ideally this knowledge helps to refine your thesis ambitions and push your project forward. The artifact can be analog, digital, or ephemeral. This assignment is somewhat analogous to the idea of an architectural "model," but it asks for expanded thinking about the tools and techniques that shape research in architecture. This assignment is not only about the "representation" of a space, but about developing tools that can facilitate new ways of thinking. You may produce a more conventional "model"—as long as it serves an "epistemic" function for your project—but consider other media such as:

- Game
- Code
- Simulation
- Mappings
- Collages
- Fictions/narratives
- Performance
- Score
- Theoretical diagrams
- Installation
- Material experiment
- Etc.

The Epistemic Object results from a **technique** that is applied toward a **method**. The *process* of making, working, and re-working can provide different insights and testable claims. Variables, parameters, and objectives should be identified as part of this process. The Epistemic Object can also be thought of as a “theory of” your project. Additional context for this assignment will be presented during a course lecture.

In summary, the Epistemic Object:

1. tests a spatial, tectonic, aesthetic, or architectural dimension in your thesis.
2. can be understood as a response to a research question.
3. produces useful knowledge for your thesis.
4. goes beyond mere reference or representation.
5. implies a method.

Format: Any medium. Each student has a 2 ft-wide and 8 ft-high area in the Exhibition Room, which they can use in the manner that best represents their investigation.

Submission: Documentation of your work in a PDF, uploaded on Brightspace in the Assignment folder labelled “Epistemic Object.” Maximum file size is **10 Mb**. Please use the following file naming convention: LastName_ARCH9014_Epistemic Object.pdf.

3. Literature Review

Assignment description TK (2,000-word essay)

Format: Word document. 8.5” x 11” portrait.

Submission: Upload on Brightspace in the Assignment folder labelled “Literature Review.” Maximum file size is **10 Mb**. Please use the following file naming convention: LastName_ARCH9014_Lit Review.pdf.

4. Design-as-Research / Methodology Paper

Assignment description TK (1,500-2,000-word illustrated essay)

This submission includes documentation of the October 16 midterm review. The methodology paper narrates the design exercise completed for the midterm review and frames a precise methodology for the development of the thesis.

Format: PDF 8.5” x 11” portrait.

Submission: Upload on Brightspace in the Assignment folder labelled “Preliminary.” Maximum file size is **10 Mb**. Please use the following file naming convention: LastName_ARCH9014_Methodology Paper.pdf.

5. Dossier Outline

Assignment description TK

The outline breaks down the Thesis Dossier into chapters and subtopics and identifies the main claims and sources that will structure the argument. Include a revised thesis statement and hypothesis.

Format: PDF 8.5” x 11” portrait.

Submission: Upload on Brightspace in the Assignment folder labelled “Preliminary.” Maximum file size is **10 Mb**. Please use the following file naming convention: LastName_ARCH9014_Dossier Outline.pdf.

6. Thesis Presentation + Argument Paper

The thesis presentation frames your thesis argument and situates your project’s urgency. You use a narrative and images to synthetically describe your hypothesis, method, and anticipated outcome.

As you develop your presentation, keep in mind potential thesis supervisors. Before this presentation, you will have submitted four supervisor choices. The faculty will work together to create the best match for M6 thesis committees. Meetings with the student, M5 instructor, and M6 supervisor will be arranged in the following weeks.

This assignment evaluates both the thesis presentation and an additional Thesis Argument paper. **Further assignment description TK.**

Format: Five-minute presentation with 10-15 slides. Audience questions and comments will follow.

Submission: PDF submitted on Brightspace in the corresponding Assignment folder. Maximum file size is **10 Mb**. Please use the following file naming convention: LastName_ARCH9014_Argument Paper.pdf.

7. Design Proposal

The term culminates in a preliminary design review. The design outcome need not be a resolved building, but a clear strategy for moving forward with the design project. Each student will define the nature of this design experiment based on their project parameters with the help of the seminar instructor.

Format: Exhibition. Each student has a 2 ft-wide and 8 ft-high area in the Exhibition Room, which they can use in the manner that best represents their investigation.

Submission: Compile a PDF of the Design Outcome materials and submit on Brightspace in the corresponding Assignment folder. Maximum file size is **10 Mb**. Please use the following file naming convention: LastName_ARCH9014_Design Proposal.pdf.

8. Thesis Dossier

The Thesis Dossier is the primary and summative assignment for Thesis 1. It establishes a clear framework for your architectural thesis, combining research and design work. The Dossier brings together text and images to situate your research, present your argument, and explore design research and design studies. The document itself can be designed and laid out in the way that best communicates your thesis. Your document's format and design can be discussed with your seminar instructor.

The Thesis Dossier is also the foundation for the Thesis Report, which will be completed in the Winter term. Keep in mind that the Thesis Report follows strict formatting guidelines. The work produced in the fall term will eventually have to be formatted based on these university standards, which will be discussed in a workshop.

The following content should be included in the Dossier:

a) Front Matter

- Name, course number, date
- Title/subtitle (max. 8 words)
- Abstract (max 150 words)
- Keywords describing the scope of the project (max. 5)
- Table of contents

b) Introduction

- Statement of the problem, question, or challenge
- Hypothesis of what you are arguing and proposing

c) Literature Review

Situate the problem, hypothesis, and method in the discipline. Engage the issues theoretically and critically to establish why the hypothesis is important. The literature review clarifies the contribution of the thesis to the discipline. It identifies a gap in existing knowledge, and creates a space for your thesis to fill that gap.

d) Analysis of Research

The report can be broken down into subsections that frame your argument and design proposal. These subsections can account for the multiple research fields encompassed by your thesis. For example, if your thesis is concerned with intergenerational social housing, you may have a subsection on the relationship between architecture and Canadian housing policy and another that performs spatial analysis of literature on intergenerational living. Or, if your thesis looks at bioplastics in architecture, you may have a theoretical subsection that rethinks architecture's relationship to natural building materials and another that discusses the limitations of contemporary bioplastic applications to construction. Other projects may require subsections that clearly frame their sites through the thesis question or frame the representational issues addressed in the hypothesis. This analysis is essentially a roadmap for your method. The subsections collect the necessary information and data to inform a design investigation.

Your research, analysis, and synthesis should be textual and visual. Include analytical maps and interpretive diagrams. Case studies and precedents should be woven into a clear argument. Be precise and concise: include only what is necessary to understand your design direction.

e) Method

The method for the design project should be clearly identified. This part of your dossier outlines the experimental framework for testing your hypothesis. What steps will you take to develop your project, and how were these steps generated? Discuss the significance of this method in relation to what others are currently doing in the discipline.

f) Design Studies and Proposal

The design studies and proposal are architectural responses to the research framework outlined in the previous sections. These are investigations that mobilize your method within the parameters of your design project. Although the design studies can be discussed separately, they would ideally be incorporated into the research subsections discussed above. In either case, the relationship between research and design should be clear, and the thesis problem laid out in textual form should correspond clearly to the architectural proposal.

g) Conclusion and Work Plan

The Thesis Dossier concludes by explaining how the design outcomes respond to the thesis question and how they can lead to a complete design project. Not all experiments will have been fruitful, and a reflection on method and approach can clarify next steps for the project. Synthesizing the research and design work that took place throughout the term, you establish a clear design brief and project objectives that will be developed in the coming months. Set up a clear work plan for the interim period and the winter term, including activities, schedule, and expected outcomes. Map out the phases of your design work and your deliverables.

h) References

Reference list of cited works and images. Please refer to the Chicago Manual of Style: <https://tinyurl.com/quick-author-date>; <https://tinyurl.com/full-author-date>.

i) Appendices

If necessary, you may include relevant research materials in an appendix. Examples include an annotated reference list, interviews, larger data sets and summaries, background material on your site and program, additional photographic documentation, etc.

Format: PDF. The formatting and layout for the Thesis Dossier is decided by the student and approved by the seminar instructor.

The target word count for the Dossier is approximately 5,000-6,000 words. This is a substantial research document that provides a complete and synthetic framework for your project. The document should be richly illustrated with original diagrams, drawings, photographs, and design investigations.

Submission: There are two submissions for the Thesis Dossier. The midterm submission may be an extended outline in point form but should include all the required components. The final submission must be complete and carefully edited. Submissions are made on Brightspace in the corresponding Assignment folders. Maximum file size is **20 Mb**. Please use the following file naming convention: LastName_ARCH9014_Thesis Dossier.pdf. See the "Thesis Report Guidelines" for tips on file management to keep file sizes small.

9. Seminar Leadership

Each student leads a seminar based on their research topic. The goal is to explore theoretical ideas that will help advance the thesis and frame a mode of inquiry in a supportive and intellectually safe environment. Each student selects one or two scholarly sources that are relevant to their research topic (book chapter, journal article, etc.) to orient the discussion. Total readings should not exceed 40 pages per seminar. Because this component of the course is self-organized and does not directly involve the instructor, please follow these guidelines:

- The seminar leader must post their reading(s) on Brightspace (in the seminar group's dedicated Discussion Forum) at least one week prior to the seminar date;
- Each seminar participant must post a reading response or discussion question on Brightspace (in the seminar group's dedicated Discussion Forum) at least 24 hours before the seminar;
- The seminar leader crafts an introduction to the seminar, which responds to the main issues raised in the reading(s) and proposes discussion questions about the topic (approximately 5 minutes);
- The seminar leader moderates the discussion, keeping in mind the responses and discussion questions submitted by the other seminar participants;
- The seminar leader may supplement the discussion with additional precedents or visual material.
- Seminar participation and leadership are evaluated by the students. Each student completes an evaluation sheet for the seminar and submits a pdf on Brightspace in the Assignments tab, under "Student-led Seminar Leadership –

Submissions.” When you submit the evaluation, include the name of the presenter at the end of the filename, e.g.: Peer Evaluation_Faciejew.pdf

- The seminar leader records attendance and posts the attendance sheet on Brightspace in the Assignments tab, under “Student-led Seminar Leadership – Submissions.”

Format: Seminar discussion. 1 hour per student topic.

Although this outline provisionally identifies times for the student-led seminars during class times, each M5 instructor may propose an alternative schedule. Each individual instructor will confirm the schedule for student-led seminars in their group.

Submission: Seminar evaluations are to be submitted on Brightspace in the corresponding Assignment folder. Please complete these within a day of the seminar taking place.

Detailed Schedule

<u>Blue</u> Lecture, Tutorial, Workshop	<u>Orange</u> Instructor- Led Seminar	<u>Yellow</u> Student-Led Seminar	<u>Pink</u> Submission	<u>Purple</u> Review, Presentation	<u>Green</u> B1/M5 Shared Event
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Week	Date	Activity
0	Sept 4 – 6 (W – F)	Research Week 9:30 am – 5:15 pm, Room 1202 This intensive set of lectures, tutorials, and workshops will cover design research tools and methods. and will consider how to apply them to your thesis topic. See the detailed schedule on Brightspace.
1	Sept 9 (M)	Seminar 1 9:30 am – 12:20 pm For your first seminar meeting, come prepared with a succinct presentation about your thesis topic. Your seminar instructor may provide additional instructions on the format for this first session.
	Sept 10 (T)	Revised Preliminary Thesis Proposal Due @ 5 pm Upload PDF to Brightspace. See assignment instructions above.
	Sept 11 (W)	Lecture: Introduction to First assignment: Epistemic Object 9:30 – 10:30 am, Room 1202
		Tutorial: Crafting an Argument (with Susanne Marshall) 10:30 – 11:30 am, Room 1202 This tutorial will cover how to craft, develop, and organize an argument through writing and research.
Sept 15 (F)	Seminar 2 9:30 am – 12:20 pm	

2	Sept 16 (M)	Seminar 3 9:30 am – 12:20 pm
	Sept 18 (W)	Tutorial: Social Data (with Julie Marcoux) 9:30 – 11:00 am, Room 1202
		Lecture: Literature Review 11 – 11:30 am, Room 1202
		Student-Led Seminar 1 11:30 am – 12:20 pm
Sept 20 (F)	Seminar 4 9:30 am – 12:20 pm	
3	Sept 23 (M)	Seminar 5 9:30 am – 11:20 pm
		Student-Led Seminar 2 11:30 am – 12:20 pm
	Sept 25 (W)	Review: Epistemic Object 9:30 am – 12 pm, Exhibition Room In small groups, students discuss their Epistemic Object assignment. This is a process review that engages questions of method. M5 Thesis instructors and faculty members will be invited to participate.
		Epistemic Object Documentation Due @ 5 pm Upload PDF to Brightspace. See assignment instructions above.
Sept 27 (F)	Seminar 6 9:30 am – 12:20 pm	
4	Sept 30 (M)	Truth and Reconciliation Day – no class
	Oct 1 (T)	Literature Review Due @ 5 pm Upload Word document to Brightspace. See assignment instructions above.
	Oct 2 (W)	Lecture: Design as Research: Methods and Methodology 9:30 – 11 am
Student-Led Seminar 3 11:30 am – 12:20 pm		

	Oct 4 (F)	<p>Seminar 7: Preparation for B1 research charrette 9:30 am – 12:20 pm Prepare a 150-word description of your proposed B1 research charrette activity and discuss it during the seminar. Since B1 students begin their architectural studies with at least two years from another discipline, consider how your charrette could make use of their knowledge. Also consider how collaborative thinking can produce meaningful knowledge for your thesis.</p>
5	Oct 7 (M)	<p>Seminar 8 9:30 am – 11:20 pm</p> <p>Student-Led Seminar 4 11:30 am – 12:20 pm</p>
	Oct 8 (T)	<p>M5/B1 Research Charrette 2:00 – 5:30 pm in Studio Each fall, M5 and B1 students are paired in a mentoring relationship. These relationships often lead to long-term peer engagement. While there are only two structured mentoring events (the M5 research charette with B1 students and the B1 Round Robin Review with M5 reviewers), you may want to connect with your B1 student throughout the year.</p>
	Oct 9 (W)	<p>Workshop: Outlines and the Writing Process (Susanne Marshall) 9:30 – 11 am, Room 1202</p> <p>Student-Led Seminar 5 11:30 am – 12:20 pm</p>
	Oct 11 (F)	<p>Seminar 9 9:30 am – 12:30 pm</p>
	Oct 14 (M)	<p>Thanksgiving – no class</p>
6	Oct 15 (T)	<p>Round Robin Review of B1 Design 2:00 – 5:00 pm, Exhibition Room</p>
	Oct 16 (W)	<p>Midterm Review: Design as Research 9:30 – 12:20 am in Exhibition Room For this review, each student synthesizes their research and situates a design exercise in relation to an expected design outcome. It is the first attempt to “test” something specific in your thesis and frame a methodology in design terms. As part of your pinup, include keywords and thesis abstract; site and program research; case study analysis (as needed); diagrams; charrette results (as needed); a design exercise that sets up a working method; a reference list.</p>
	Oct 18 (F)	<p>Seminar 10 9:30 am – 12:20 pm</p>

		<p>Methodology Paper and Dossier Outline Due @ 5pm Upload as a PDF to Brightspace. See assignment instructions above.</p>
7	Oct 21 (M)	<p>Seminar 11 9:30 – 11:30 am</p>
		<p>Student-Led Seminar 6 11:30 am – 12:20 pm</p>
	Oct 23 (W)	<p>Tutorial: “Communicating Your Argument” 9:30 – 11 am, Room 1202 This tutorial covers how to use text and images effectively in the Thesis Presentation and Thesis Dossier.</p>
		<p>Student-Led Seminar 7 11:30 am – 12:20 pm</p>
Oct 25 (F)	<p>Seminar 12 (Instructors rotate) 9:30 am – 12:20 pm For this seminar, M5 Thesis instructors rotate sections.</p>	
8	Oct 28 (M)	<p>Seminar 13 9:30 – 12:20 pm</p>
		<p>Supervisor Choices Due @ 9 am E-mail the M5 Thesis coordinator your top 4 choices for supervisor (ranked first, second, third, and fourth). For the email’s subject heading, use: “ARCH 9014: Thesis Supervisor Choices.”</p>
	Oct 30 (W)	<p>Tutorial: Thesis Report Formatting 9:30 – 11 am, Room 1202 Please download the format checklist page from the Thesis Report Guidelines on Brightspace.</p>
		<p>Student-Led Seminar 8 11:30 am – 12:20 pm</p>
Nov 1 (F)	<p>Seminar 14 9:30 am – 12:30 pm</p>	
9	Nov 4 (M)	<p>Presentation Slideshow and Pinup Due @ 8 am All students must upload their complete presentation slideshow as a PDF to Brightspace by Monday, November 4, at 8 am.</p> <p>The evening before your presentation, print and pin up a summary of your thesis work in the Exhibition Room. For ease of printing and setup, the format is restricted to 11”x17” sheets in a 2-ft vertical strip.</p>

		Thesis Proposal Presentations 9 am – 1 pm, in Exhibition Room In this presentation, you make the argument for the validity of your thesis using narrative and images. Time limit: 5-minute oral narrative with 10-15 slides, using a data projector and screen. Audience questions and comments will follow. Students may record the conversation.
	Nov 6 (W)	Thesis Proposal Presentations 9 am – 1 pm, in Exhibition Room
	Nov 8 (F)	Thesis Proposal Presentations 9 am – 1 pm, in Exhibition Room Thesis Argument Paper Due @ 5 pm Upload PDF to Brightspace. See assignment instructions above.

10	Nov 11	Remembrance Day – No class
	Nov 12 - 15	Study Break

11	Nov 18 (M)	Seminar 15 9:30 am – 12:20 pm
	Nov 20 (W)	Workshop: Design Proposal as Proof of Methodology 9:30 – 11:30 am, Room 1202 This session will also include time to complete the course SLEQ.
		Student-Led Seminar 9 11:30 am – 12:20 pm
	Nov 22 (F)	Seminar 16 9:30 am – 12:20 pm

12	Nov 25 (M)	Seminar 17 9:30 am – 12:20 pm
	Nov 27 (W)	Review: Design Proposal 9:30 am – 12:30 pm, Exhibition Room This review focuses on a design proposal that responds to your thesis question. Reviews for all five groups will take place in parallel. The M2 class and other faculty members will be invited as guest reviewers. Format: Pin-up is limited to a 24" wide space. Pin-up your title, abstract, and name in addition to your design work.
		Design Proposal Submission Due @ 5 pm Upload a PDF documenting your work to Brightspace. Maximum file size is 10 Mb.

	Nov 29 (F)	Seminar 18 9:30 am – 12:20 pm During this final seminar, students can book an individual meeting with their seminar instructor.
13	Dec 2 (M)	Discussion: Next Steps (all M5 Thesis instructors) 11 am – 12 pm, Room 1202
	Dec 2 – 6 (M – F)	Hand-over meetings Please arrange a meeting with your M5 instructor and M6 thesis supervisor for this week. Share your Thesis Dossier with your supervisor in advance.
	Dec 6 (F)	Final Thesis Dossier Due @ 5 pm Upload a PDF to Brightspace. See the assignment description above.
14	Dec 13 (F)	“Setting up the Thesis” M5 Faculty meet with M2 students

Schedule At-a-Glance

Week	Date	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
0	Sept 4 – 6	Labour Day		Research Week		
1	Sept 9 – 13	Seminar 1	Revised Prel. Proposal (10%)	Lecture (MF): First Assignment Tutorial (SM): Arguments		Seminar 2
2	Sept 16 – 20	Seminar 3		Tutorial (JM): Social Data Tutorial (MF): Literature Review Seminar 1		Seminar 4
3	Sept 23 – 27	Seminar 5 Seminar 2		Review: Epistemic Object Epistemic Object Documentation (5%)		Seminar 6
4	Sept 30 – Oct 4	Truth and Reconciliation Day – no class	Literature Review (5%)	Design as Research: Methods and Methodology (MF) Seminar 3		Seminar 7
5	Oct 7 - 11	Seminar 8 Seminar 4	Research Charrette with B1 students	Workshop: Outline and Reverse Outline (SM) Seminar 5		Seminar 9
6	Oct 14 – 18	Thanksgiving – no class	B1 Round Robin	Midterm Review: Design-as-Research		Seminar 10 Methodology Paper and Dossier Outline (10%)
7	Oct 21 - 25	Seminar 11 Seminar 6		Tutorial (MF): Narrative Seminar 7		Seminar 12 (instructors rotate)
8	Oct 28 – Nov 1	Seminar 13		Lecture: Formatting Seminar 8		Seminar 14
9	Nov 4 – 8	Thesis Presentation Proposal Presentations		Thesis Proposal Presentations		Thesis Proposal Presentations Argument Paper (15%)
10	Nov 11 – 15	Remembrance Day – no class	Fall Break			
11	Nov 18 – 22	Seminar 15		Workshop: Design Proposal Seminar 9		Seminar 16
12	Nov 25 – 29	Seminar 17		Review: Design Proposal Design Proposal Submission (10%)		Seminar 18
13	Dec 2 – 6	Discussion: Next Steps (all instructors)	Hand-over Meetings			Final Thesis Dossier (30%)

Assignment Weighting

10%	Revised Preliminary Thesis Proposal
5%	Epistemic Object
5%	Literature Review
10%	Design-as-Research / Methodology Paper / Dossier Outline
15%	Thesis Presentation and Argument Paper
10%	Design Proposal
30%	Final Thesis Dossier
5%	Student-led seminar leadership
5%	Participation in instructor-led seminars
5%	Participation in student-led seminars

Feedback on Assignments

Seminar instructors are responsible for marking all the assignments and to give written feedback to their students, but the Thesis Coordinator reviews all the grades to ensure fairness across seminar groups.

If a marked assignment is reworked and resubmitted, the final mark for that assignment will be an average of the old and new marks.

Thesis Dossier and Thesis Presentation. Seminar instructors will provide a grade and written feedback on these assignments, using the assignment rubrics. This feedback will be provided within 7 weekdays of the submission. Seminar instructors may also provide additional comments, either verbally or in writing. If you would like more feedback on your work, please set up a time with your instructor for this purpose.

Student-led Seminar. Seminar leaders are peer-evaluated to get feedback on their performance. The grade for this assignment will be the average of the peer evaluations. Fillable forms for the leadership assessment are available on Brightspace.

Due Dates and Late Work

Assignment	Due date	Is an SDA accepted?	Is late work accepted?	Deduction per weekday for late assignments *
1. Revised Preliminary Thesis Proposal	Sept 11	yes	yes	3%
2. Midterm Thesis Dossier Outline	Oct 16	yes	yes	3%
3. Thesis Presentation	Nov 6 - 10	no	no	—
4. Presentation Submission	Nov 10	yes	yes	3%
5. Design Outcome	Nov 29	yes	yes	3%
4. Final Thesis Dossier	Dec 1	yes	yes	3%
5. Seminar leadership	Once a term	no	no	—

* For example, if an assignment is evaluated at 80% before applying a 3% per weekday deduction, it would receive 77% for being 1–24 hours late; 74% for 25–48 hours late; etc.

University Standards for Individual Assignments

Letter	Grade point	Percent	Description
A+	4.3	90–100%	Considerable evidence of original thinking; outstanding capacity to analyze and synthesize; outstanding grasp of subject matter; evidence of extensive knowledge base.
A	4.0	85–89%	
A–	3.7	80–84%	
B+	3.3	77–79%	Evidence of grasp of subject matter, some evidence of critical capacity and analytical ability; reasonable understanding of relevant issues; evidence of familiarity with the literature.
B	3.0	73–76%	
B–	2.7	70–72%	
F	0.0	0–69%	Little or no evidence of understanding of the subject matter; weakness in analytical and critical skills.
INC			Incomplete
W			Withdrew after deadline
ILL			Compassionate reasons, illness

All assignments are individual and are graded by the instructor. Assignments are evaluated in accordance with Dalhousie’s graduate grading system — this means that grades for individual assignments may include marks below B-, however a final grade below B- will be recorded as an F.

Student Declaration of Absence (SDA), Medical Conditions, Emergencies

The Student Declaration of Absence (SDA) is intended for use when you are absent from the university for up to three days due to illness or an emergency, without having to obtain a doctor’s note. You may use up to two SDAs in a course. Students with an accessibility plan that allows for deadline extensions do not need to submit an SDA. An SDA enables an assignment to be submitted up to three weekdays late without penalty. In this course, they may be used for late outline or paper submissions, but they will not apply to

seminar leadership and presentation days. If you must miss a class, notify your instructor before the deadline and upload an SDA within three days.

An absence of four or more consecutive days requires a medical note submitted to the Architecture office. This will allow you to complete the work without being subject to late penalties — the extension depends on how long you were unable to work, as indicated in the medical note. If more than one course is affected, please consult with the Graduate Coordinator to set a new schedule of due dates.

Calculation of Final Grades

Letter grades for individual assignments will be converted to their mid-point percentage, multiplied by their weight, added, then converted to a final letter grade.

Grading Format

Assignment evaluations will be issued with a mark and written comments. Verbal feedback will also be provided during seminars and reviews.

Accessibility and Accommodation Plans

Students requiring learning accommodations are asked to contact Dalhousie's Student Accessibility Centre (access@dal.ca) at the beginning of the term. This office will work with the student to develop an accommodation plan; they will also inform the instructor regarding the relevant details (extended deadlines, etc.)

References

Introduction to Research Ethics: This recorded lunch and learn presentation covers the basics of research ethics, how to design a study, and how to prepare for ethics review. <https://dal.hosted.panopto.com/Panopto/Pages/Viewer.aspx?id=4c68cf2d-6b1a-4d3d-af61-b04d01157006>

Online Tutorial TCPS 2: CORE (Course on Research Ethics). This online tutorial is an introduction to the 2nd edition of the *Tri-Council Policy Statement: Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans* (TCPS 2). It consists of eight modules focusing on the guidance in TCPS 2 that is applicable to all research regardless of discipline or methodology. <https://tcps2core.ca/welcome>

How to do Design Research
Booth, Wayne C., Gregory G. Colomb, and Joseph M. Williams. 2016. *The Craft of Research*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

To find books and articles, start with the Architecture subject guide for the Sexton Library: <http://tinyurl.com/sexton-library>. Novanet, Dalhousie Libraries' search engine, provides access to a range of physical and online resources, including JSTOR and other journal databases.

Progress into Thesis 2

Clear sailing. A final grade of B and above indicates that you are prepared to proceed to Thesis 2 and have met the following expectations:

- you have established a thesis that contributes to the discipline;

- you are well versed in the intellectual context of your topic and have demonstrated how your investigation can contribute to it;
- you have convincingly synthesized your research and developed a clear method to proceed with your thesis; and
- you have identified clear design goals that address the issues you have set out to investigate.

Marginal Pass. A grade of B- is a passing grade but it shows a real concern about your ability to do well in Thesis 2, since the winter term requires you to be much more self-reliant. Please discuss your work plan with the Thesis Coordinator, M6 supervisor, and/or the Graduate Coordinator.

Failing Thesis 1. In graduate programs at Dalhousie, a grade below B- is a failing grade. If you receive a failing grade for ARCH 9014, you are not eligible to proceed into ARCH 9015 MArch Thesis 2 in the winter term, and must drop the course. At the end of the fall term, please meet with the Graduate Coordinator to discuss the best way to complete the M.Arch program. Returning the following fall to retake Thesis 1 may be a good option.

Evaluation Criteria and Standards

Students are encouraged to review these rubrics to understand the evaluation criteria and standards, and what is expected for each assignment. There are five rubrics for the term: Preliminary Thesis Proposal, Thesis Dossier, Thesis Proposal Presentation, Design Outcome, and Peer Evaluation of Seminar Leadership.

Assignment Rubrics

Assignment rubrics TK

MArch Thesis 2

ARCH 9015.09 (W 2024)

Credit Hours: 9

Coordinator: Diogo Burnay diogo.burnay@dal.ca

Supervisors:

Diogo Burnay	diogo.burnay@dal.ca
Ted Cavanagh	ted.cavanagh@dal.ca
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Talbot Sweetapple	talbot@mlsarchitects.ca
Catherine Venart	catherine.venart@dal.ca
Cristina Verissimo	cristina.verissimo@dal.ca

Course website: dal.brightspace.com

Course Description

During this term, you use your M5 work as a basis for your thesis project. You work closely with your thesis committee, normally meeting once a week with your supervisor and every few weeks with both supervisor and advisor. You present your design work at a penultimate review that anticipates the thesis examination two weeks later.

Thesis Committee

A Thesis Committee is comprised of a supervisor, an advisor, and an external reader. The supervisor and advisor work with you over the course of your thesis development. The external reader first encounters your thesis by reading your penultimate thesis report, which they receive a week before the examination. For a thesis to pass, all members of the committee must agree that the thesis work meets the required standard.

- **Thesis Supervisor.** The Thesis supervisor generally meets with you weekly. Because you have already defined your thesis in Fall Term, the supervisor's primary responsibility will be to assist you in developing the design portion of your thesis investigation. As they review your design work, they will supply, where appropriate, detailed comments on design intentions, project parameters, design strategy, design development, feasibility, representational strategies, and evaluative criteria, among other constructive suggestions for improving your thesis and its presentation. For more information about the supervisory relationship, please see Graduate Calendar, FGS regulations, IX. Thesis Supervisor and Supervisor Committees.

- **Thesis Advisor.** The thesis advisor is arranged by the student and the supervisor shortly after you have been paired. A thesis advisor is less involved than a supervisor and may provide a complementary area of expertise. They meet with you and your supervisor every few weeks, attend your penultimate review, read your penultimate thesis report, attend your final thesis examination, and are involved in evaluating your thesis. An advisor may be any faculty member in the School of Architecture or the School of Planning; a part-time instructor at the School of Architecture; a faculty member from another Dalhousie unit; or a qualified individual from outside the School.

An advisor who is not a Dalhousie University faculty member must be informed of their responsibilities and approved by the School and the Faculty of Graduate Studies. In this case, please download "MArch Thesis Advisors from outside Dalhousie" from the Thesis Brightspace site. This document describes the advisor's responsibilities and indicates the review/exam dates. An external advisor must also submit a Faculty of Graduate Studies Adjunct (Scholar) application and a Curriculum Vitae to the School of Architecture Graduate Coordinator, who will forward these to the Faculty of Graduate Studies for approval.

- **External Reader.** External readers are adjunct faculty members of the School of Architecture, appointed by the Faculty of Graduate Studies for a period of five years. They review work by individual thesis students and provide long-term observations on the directions and standards of thesis work at the school.

Assignments

- **Thesis Report.** During Thesis 2, you develop your Thesis 1 Dossier into a Thesis Report. There is no prescribed number of words, but strong thesis reports typically have between 60 and 80 pages. A conventional chapter structure includes: introduction, research chapter(s), methodology, design, conclusion.
- **Penultimate Review.** The aim of this review is to determine whether your thesis is likely to be ready for formal examination two weeks later, and if so, what remains to be done. Display your design work in the format anticipated for your thesis examination, including placeholders for any missing items. After the review, the thesis coordinator will confirm whether your committee recommends that you present your thesis for examination. If you proceed to the examination, your supervisor advises you on what still needs to be done.
- **Thesis Examination.** You present your thesis to the examining committee (supervisor, advisor, external reader), other faculty members, and students. Keep in mind this is a formal academic examination. It takes approximately fifty minutes, beginning with your fifteen-minute oral presentation addressing the thesis topic, summarizing the major points in the thesis report, and presenting the design work. Because the examining committee will have read your penultimate report, the presentation should concentrate on the design and conclusions. Following your presentation, the external reader makes the first response to the work. The full committee then discusses the work with you. If time allows, the discussion is opened to others.

Thesis examinations are scheduled a month before the end of the winter term. For

students continuing into the summer, another set of examinations will be scheduled in the middle of that term.

Evaluation

Following the thesis examination, the examining committee (supervisor, advisor, and external reader) assesses your thesis and may require additional work. This may affect your expected date of completion.

Assessment	What that means	What needs to be done
Approved	The design work and the thesis report are complete.	The student must submit the approved thesis report by the due date for that term or must register for ARCH 9009: MArch Thesis Continuation in the following term.
Approved pending design work and/or thesis report	The supervisor ensures that the examining committee’s concerns are addressed.	The student must complete the remaining work and submit the approved thesis report by the due date for that term or must register for ARCH 9009.
Rejected with permission for re-examination	Substantial changes or developments are needed in the design work and the thesis report, so the thesis requires another examination.	The student must register for ARCH 9009.
Rejected outright	A failing grade is recorded and the thesis is abandoned.	Subject to restrictions of the Faculty of Graduate Studies, the student may be able to begin again, at Thesis 1.

Schedule (Winter 2024)

Week	Date	Activity
1	Jan 8 (M)	Winter Term begins
	Jan 8 - 12	Preliminary thesis project presentation Organize a meeting with your supervisor during the first week of the term. Pin up the visual material to demonstrate how your thesis question will be answered through architectural means and methods. Provide copies of your Thesis Dossier (from the Thesis 1 course) to your committee.
8	Feb 26 (M)	Draft of Penultimate Thesis Report Provide your supervisor with an updated Penultimate Thesis Report so they have time to review it before the final version is due on March 8.
9	Mar 5 - 7	Penultimate reviews

DRAFT 7/18/2024 – OUTLINE SUBJECT TO CHANGE – DO NOT CIRCULATE

	Mar 8 (F)	DUE: Penultimate thesis report (PDF), uploaded to Brightspace At this stage, the report should be complete except for a few images showing the final design work. The thesis coordinator will forward this PDF to the graduate secretary and your examining committee (supervisor, advisor, and external reader) to read before your examination. <u>This is the only version the external reader will see, so it will serve as a basis for evaluating your thesis.</u> It must follow the Thesis Report Guidelines and its format will be checked by the graduate secretary, on behalf of Graduate Studies.
10	Mar 12 (T)	DUE: Thesis forms Submit two forms to the graduate secretary, as described in the "Thesis Submission - April 2024" instructions on Brightspace. Once you have submitted your Master's Thesis Approval Form, your thesis title cannot be changed.
11	Mar 19– 21	Thesis examinations
12	Mar 27 (W)	Completed Thesis Report At this point, the Thesis Report must be complete, including high quality reproductions of the final design work and any revisions required by the examining committee. Submit a PDF on Brightspace for review by the graduate secretary and your supervisor. During the following week, they will notify you if additional corrections are needed. The thesis coordinator will notify you when both the content and format of the report have been approved.
13	Apr 5 (F)	12:00 pm DUE: Submit approved thesis report Submit a PDF of your approved thesis report on Brightspace.
15	Apr 15 (M)	11:59 pm DUE: Approved thesis report (PDF/A), uploaded to DalSpace Upload a PDF/A of your approved thesis report to DalSpace by this time. For all graduate students at Dalhousie University, this is a firm deadline to graduate in May. Detailed instructions are provided in the "Thesis Submission - April 2024" instructions on Brightspace.

MArch Thesis Continuation

ARCH 9009.00 (S 2024)

Credit Hours: 0

Coordinator: TBD tbd@dal.ca

Additional Course Description

Thesis Continuation is primarily independent study, but you may continue to meet with your supervisor and advisor. Your committee will convene for the penultimate review and thesis examination. Some supervisors may not be in Halifax during the summer term, so online video conference and email communication may be needed.

Schedule (Summer 2024)

For details on each item, refer to the Winter Schedule and the "Thesis Submission - July 2024" instructions on Brightspace.

During the hiatus between the last day of Winter term and the first day of Summer term, Thesis Continuation students are encouraged to work on their Thesis Report: editing it, removing early material that may no longer be relevant, and updating with new material. This will allow you to begin the summer term with renewed energy and focus.

Week	Date	Activity
3	May 24 (F)	DUE: Updated thesis report to supervisor
6	Jun 10 – 12	Penultimate reviews
	Jun 13 (Th)	DUE: Penultimate thesis report (PDF) to Brightspace
7	Jun 18 (Tu)	DUE: Thesis forms
8	Jun 24 – 26	Thesis examinations
9	July 3 (Tu)	DUE: Completed Thesis Report (PDF)
10	Jul 12 (F)	DUE: Approved Thesis Report to office
	Aug 3 (Th) (TBC)	DUE: Upload approved report to DalSpace (PDF/A)

Regulations Affecting Thesis Students

Research Involving Human Subjects

If your research involves human subjects, it will require prior written approval from Dalhousie University's Social Sciences and Humanities Research Ethics Board. To see if this is required, submit a one-page description of your research plans to the MArch Thesis Coordinator. Personal interviews and photographs of individuals are considered research involving human subjects. Before doing any personal research, refer to the memo "Research Involving Human Subjects" on the Thesis Brightspace site and/or check with the Thesis Coordinator to find out what is required. Failure to obtain permission in advance may disqualify your research. Refer to the Social Sciences & Humanities Research Ethics Board guidelines on the Research Services website:

<http://tinyurl.com/dal-research-ethics>.

Full-time Status

A student who has completed all program requirements except Thesis can ask to be classified as a full-time student during a thesis-only term, assuming that s/he will be working full-time on the thesis. Please submit a request to the Graduate Coordinator a month before the term begins. It will be forwarded to the Faculty of Graduate Studies for approval. The incidental fees for that term will be somewhat higher (approximately \$400) but full-time status may have other benefits: e.g., the interest-free period for a government student loan.

Time Limit

All students must spend at least two terms of residence at the school (ARCH 9014 and ARCH 9015) and may continue for up to three additional terms (ARCH 9009) to a maximum of five terms. With the thesis supervisor's approval, residence may include short periods away from the school, as required by the thesis.

Leave of Absence

A leave of absence is permitted only in certain circumstances, described in the Graduate Studies regulations. A discretionary leave is not permitted. A student must maintain continuous registration until graduation from the M.Arch program.

Thesis Continuation

If your thesis is completed by the last day of a term, you are eligible for the next convocation. If not, you must register again for ARCH 9009: M. Arch Thesis Continuation (and REGN 9999, for thesis-only students) in the following term(s) until your thesis is presented successfully and your report is approved. No thesis activity occurs at the School between the last day of a term and the first day of the next term. Continuing students will return to the School for the next round of thesis examinations in either the winter or summer term. Additional thesis examinations will not be scheduled outside these two dates.

Changes in Supervisor or Advisor

A request for a change must be submitted in writing to the thesis coordinator and approved by the thesis faculty.

Examination Absences

Thesis exams are scheduled near the end of the winter and summer terms. If a supervisor is unable to attend in person, a video link will be arranged. If an advisor is unable to attend, s/he is expected to review the thesis work in advance and leave comments for the rest of the examining committee.

Citations and Copyright

Academic integrity and responsible research require a proper citation of sources. As you gather text, images, or other items (from publications, the Internet, or approved interviews), record complete information about the source. If you decide to include quotations, paraphrases, or images in your thesis report, this information will be required. Images must be attributed to the creator or copyright holder (i.e., not the source from which it was retrieved). Refer to the Thesis Report Guidelines for the types of information that are needed. Because your thesis report will become a public document, you must obtain written permission from the copyright holder if you wish to reproduce over 10% of their publication.

Awards

Graduation awards and thesis prizes are presented at convocation each May. Several students are also invited to prepare a submission for the annual *Canadian Architect* thesis competition. Students who complete their thesis in summer are considered for graduation awards at the May convocation in the following year.

Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

The Faculty of Architecture and Planning is committed to recognizing and addressing racism, sexism, xenophobia, and other forms of oppression within academia and the professions of architecture and planning. We, the faculty, are working to address issues of historic normalization of oppressive politics, segregation, and community disempowerment, which continues within our disciplines today.

University Policies and Resources

This course is governed by the academic rules and regulations set forth in the University Calendar and the Senate. For university regulations, go to <https://academiccalendar.dal.ca> > Graduate calendar.

A. University Statements

Academic Integrity

http://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/academic-integrity.html

At Dalhousie University, we are guided in all of our work by the values of academic integrity: honesty, trust, fairness, responsibility and respect (The Center for Academic Integrity, Duke University, 1999). As a student, you are required to demonstrate these values in all of the work you do. The University provides policies and procedures that every member of the university community is required to follow to ensure academic integrity. Read more:

[https://www.dal.ca/content/dam/dalhousie/pdf/dept/university_secretariat/Syllabus_State ment_\(Aug%202015\).pdf](https://www.dal.ca/content/dam/dalhousie/pdf/dept/university_secretariat/Syllabus_State ment_(Aug%202015).pdf)

Accessibility

The Student Accessibility Centre is Dalhousie's centre of expertise for student accessibility and accommodation. The advising team works with students who request accommodation as a result of: a disability, religious obligation, or any barrier related to any other characteristic protected under Human Rights legislation (NS, NB, PEI, NFLD). Read more: https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/accessibility.html

Student Code of Conduct

Everyone at Dalhousie is expected to treat others with dignity and respect. The Code of Student Conduct allows Dalhousie to take disciplinary action if students don't follow this community expectation. When appropriate, violations of the code can be resolved in a reasonable and informal manner—perhaps through a restorative justice process. If an informal resolution can't be reached, or would be inappropriate, procedures exist for formal dispute resolution. Read more:

https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/safety-respect/student-rights-and-responsibilities/student-life-policies/code-of-student-conduct.html

Diversity and Inclusion – Culture of Respect

Every person at Dalhousie has a right to be respected and safe. We believe inclusiveness is fundamental to education. We stand for equality. Dalhousie is strengthened in our diversity. We are a respectful and inclusive community. We are committed to being a place where everyone feels welcome and supported, which is why our Strategic Direction prioritizes fostering a culture of diversity and inclusiveness (Strategic Priority 5.2). Read more: <http://www.dal.ca/cultureofrespect.html>

Recognition of Mi'kmaq Territory

Dalhousie University would like to acknowledge that the University is on Traditional Mi'kmaq Territory. The Elders in Residence program provides students with access to First Nations elders for guidance, counsel and support. Visit the office in the McCain Building (room 3037) or contact the programs at elders@dal.ca or 902-494-6803 (leave a message).

B. University Policies and Programs

- Important Dates in the Academic Year (including add/drop dates):
http://www.dal.ca/academics/important_dates.html
- University Grading Practices: Statement of Principles and Procedures:
https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/policies/academic/grading-practices-policy.html
- Scent-Free Program:
<http://www.dal.ca/dept/safety/programs-services/occupational-safety/scent-free.html>
- Student Declaration of Absence:
https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/safety-respect/student-rights-and-responsibilities/academic-policies/student-absence.html

C. Learning and Support Resources

- General Academic Support – Advising:
https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/advising.html
- Fair Dealing Guidelines:
<https://libraries.dal.ca/services/copyright-office/guidelines/fair-dealing-guidelines.html>
- Dalhousie University Library:
<http://libraries.dal.ca>
- Indigenous Students:
https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/communities/indigenous.html
- Black Students:
https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/communities/black-student-advising.html
- International Students:
https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/international-centre.html
- Student Health Services:
https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/health-and-wellness.html
- Counselling:
https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/health-and-wellness/services-support/student-health-and-wellness.html
- Copyright Office:
<https://libraries.dal.ca/services/copyright-office.html>
- E-Learning website:
<http://www.dal.ca/dept/elearning.html>
- Dalhousie Student Advocacy Services:
<http://dsu.ca/dsas>
- Dalhousie Ombudsperson:
https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/safety-respect/student-rights-and-responsibilities/where-to-get-help/ombudsperson.html
- Writing Centre:
https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/writing-and-study-skills.html
- Faculty or Departmental Advising Support: Studying for Success Program:
http://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/study-skills-and-tutoring.html

D. Safety

- Biosafety:
<http://www.dal.ca/dept/safety/programs-services/biosafety.html>

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- Research Laboratory Safety Policy Manual:
<http://www.dal.ca/dept/safety/documents-policiesprocedures.html>
- Faculty of Architecture and Planning: Work Safety:
<https://www.dal.ca/faculty/architecture-planning/current-students/inside-building/work-safety.html>

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