



The School of Architecture adheres to the National Architectural Accrediting Board's Student Performance Criteria (NAAB/SPC). What follows is the first 6 of the 34 NAAB criteria. A full list of these criteria is available in the 2004 Edition of the *NAAB Conditions for Accreditation*: http://www.naab.org/usr_doc/2004_CONDITIONS.pdf

COMMUNICATION (Written Communication, Oral Communication): Students will demonstrate the ability to read, write, listen and speak effectively (NAAB/SPC #1: Verbal and Writing Skills).

CRITICAL THINKING (Analytical Skills): Students will demonstrate the ability to raise clear and precise questions, use abstract ideas to interpret information, consider diverse points of view, reach well-reasoned conclusions, and test them against relevant criteria and standards (NAAB/SPC #2: Critical Thinking Skills).

CONTENT KNOWLEDGE (Technical Skills): Students will demonstrate the ability to employ appropriate representational media, including freehand drawing and computer technology, to convey essential formal elements at each stage of the programming and design process (NAAB/SPC #3: Graphic Skills).

CONTENT KNOWLEDGE (Research Skills): Students will demonstrate the ability to gather, assess, record, and apply relevant information in architectural coursework (NAAB/SPC #4: Research skills).

CRITICAL THINKING (Creative Skills; Practical Skills): Students will demonstrate an understanding of the fundamentals of visual perception and the principles and systems of order that inform two- and three-dimensional design, architectural composition, and urban design (NAAB/SPC #5: Formal Ordering Systems).

CONTENT KNOWLEDGE (Technical Skills): Students will demonstrate the ability to use basic architectural principles in the design of buildings, interior spaces, and sited (NAAB/SPC #6: Fundamental Design Skills).

Almost one-third (28 out of 99) of the upper-division credit hours for the B. Architecture are obtained in performance studios. The studio sequence concludes with a Comprehensive Design Project, in which students must demonstrate in an integrated way all components of the Academic Learning Compact. As in all of the other required courses, students must obtain a grade of C or higher as a minimum passing grade. In each studio, students prepare and submit 2-dimensional and 3-dimensional representations. For the Comprehensive Design Project studio students also submit a journal of the design process that includes written and drawn components. All studios conclude with student presentations to a multi-member jury composed of several members of the faculty and the instructor of the course. These juries frequently include invited professionals, the phase-coordinators, and the School's director. The course-instructor assigns the grades, but s/he considers the comments made by other jury-members in developing a final assessment.