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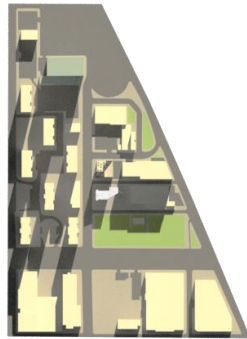
ENG 1121

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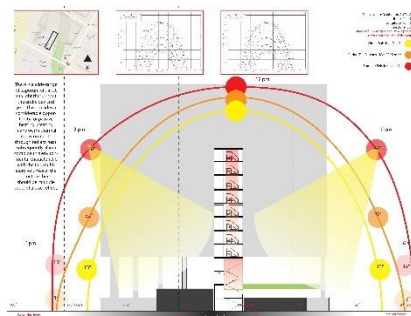
## DISCOURSE COMMUNITY

Architecture is a very diverse professionalism and designing is a part of it. Passion, dreams, hope, long hours, no sleep nights, is what holds us together. An architecture studio class is what excites me and every architect student, there is where everyone gets to create and struggle, where we face with the reality of the world and design for people needs. Designing in architecture is a very precise process and takes time until it meets the requirements and is approved.

In level V design (studio) class at NYCCT designs for “adaptive reuse”<sup>1</sup> hostel. The project is assigned in the beginning of the course, and the very first step the students with the professor take is to visit the building site<sup>2</sup>. While visiting the site, the students take advantage of taking measurements, observe the materials, what surrounds the site, what is more attractive, they get to observe more what is more useful for them to precede a good design idea. Site visit is more consistent to an architect student through the design process. Group activities get to involved into the first phase, individual groups do specific researches about the site and present within two weeks (before they separate into individual work). These researches include: the historical content, the building codes<sup>3</sup>, sun diagrams, climate, etc.



Shades in the building site



Sun diagram though the year

Group members usually communicate through texting, and emails. “When I have time, my group members do not” a student says. For most of the architect students is hard to find the “common” or the perfect time to meet up with each other because of other obligations. They use texting or emailing to share information’s and during class time they held discussions about the topic, get more advices from the professor and at last make the presentations and get to finish the first part of the research.

In the same way of process but individually, we get to do another research of similar and related projects. “My own research is what makes me feel more reliable towards the design process” I say. There is a real struggle when the specificity is required. We design for needs, and the needs are limited and wanted to be as expressed, and as exposable as possible. As an architect the research of the previous works matters a lot because there is always a tendency for innovation and growth in architecture. We live in a world of learning process. Research and practice build more information and becomes more useful resource in the future. We study the way materials get applied, the views created, the program of the building, how the building is observed from the interior and exterior, the techniques involved etc. In this project I had a hard time of finding information’s on hostels, or boutique hotels while I was doing research. Aware of that the hostels and hotels are very private and architectural information’s is limited; the research was very intense – it required for the building to be visited and in some cases to email the firm who designed to gain more information’s. However, the responds most of the times are negative because most of the companies do not share information’s for their security reasons but there are some that really do not mind and happily give more than is required. Students take at least two weeks to research in their own, something that is considered as a really important step before they start to design.

In addition to those two steps, the third step of this process is to create a PARTI. A Parti in architecture is the organization of thoughts, ideas, concepts, that the students gained from doing research and is represented in form of diagrams, photos, sketches, and in the most simplest way such that it can be easy to read and understand even from the people who do not know about the project. Unlike the other two steps, the Parti allows for more “freedom”- in a meaning that the design context does not have to be related to the topic only, but it can include any inspired design way. From this step, the students be more creative and start to develop their design process that takes the rest of the semester.

In conclusion, this process takes a worthy time to really be prepared and studied. Is not a simple research but it has to be very analyzed and be able to be applied in a real world. From this research, talking to my friends tough me a lot more than I thought it existed. Watching the process from other perspectives is more interesting, exciting, intense and the time required for students is different – for some students the process itself is repetitive in every studio class and they have experience in the field so the research part is done in a faster and easier way for them. Therefore, for some students the process takes more time, the research and collecting information’s, drawings and the requirements is done in a slower way. To sum all it up, I have done research into research and explained the way the students deal with.