

ESSAYS

150 POINTS – 3 Essays at 50 pts each

During the semester you will write several, short essays. Topics and due dates are listed on your syllabus.

Essays must be typed and written with correct grammar and spelling. Essays should be approximately two pages in length, double-spaced with standard margins and page lay-out.

Each essay topic poses a question. Your responses should include what you have identified as the fundamental issues of each question and why, as well as your answer. Excellent work will include references to specific buildings and integration of concepts from the readings. Buildings included should include the architect and the date of the work.

Essays will be submitted electronically through MyCOD. It is your responsibility to familiarize yourself so that you can do this successfully. Essays are due at the start of class on the date due.

Late work will be reduced by one letter grade, except in cases of excused absences, essays must be turned in no later than one week after the initial due date.

You may also periodically be asked to discuss the content of your essays in class.

Plagiarism:

Essays must be your own original thought and analysis. If you choose to use information other than your own personal analysis of the topic, you must cite your sources. Please see the College of DuPage Academic Integrity Policy for more information:

<http://www.cod.edu/resources/studentaffairs/integrity.pdf>

Essay # 1

After watching the Design Wars video in class (complete as necessary in the library) determine what you think are the most important factors in choosing a design for Chicago's Harold Washington library. Remember that this is a public building which is expected to last for 100 years and which will serve as a landmark and symbol for the City of Chicago. How do the designs express the society that built them? Evaluate each of the designs based on the factors you have identified and select the one which you judge best meets your standards.

Essay # 2

In both Hagia Sophia and Gothic Cathedrals the designers' visions exceeded their structural expertise and experience. In each case this challenge had direct and specific consequences on the forms. Though the challenges were similar the solutions are very different. Describe the problems faced by the designers and how their solutions contributed to the forms of the structures.

Essay # 3

You have seen how different cultures set different goals for their designs and had different standards of beauty and value. What is your definition of "good" architecture? Are all buildings "architecture" or is the term only appropriate for important buildings or those designed by architects? How do function, budget, style and other factors relate to your definition?

Student: _____

Essay: _____

	EXCELLENT	VERY GOOD	GOOD	AVERAGE	FAIR	POOR	INCOMPLETE
QUESTION ANALYSIS Analysis and response to all aspects of the essay question. Identification of the fundamental issues of each question.	15	13.5	12	10.5	9	7.5	3
DEPTH & DETAIL OF RESPONSE Thorough analysis of topic with sufficient and supportive detail. Includes references to specific buildings and concepts from your assigned readings or personal experiences.	25	22.5	20	17.5	15	12.5	5
CLARITY & ORGANIZATION OF DISCUSSION Argument is clear and well organized including spelling, grammar and sentence structure.	10	9	8	7	6	5	2
TOTAL							