ARCH 576 section SRB
Course Credits – 3

Professor: Joy Malnar
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Course Description: In this seminar we will explore the nature of our sensory response to the spatial environment; this includes architecture, landscape architecture, art installations, and fantasy constructions. The approach is multidisciplinary, involving sensory research in phenomenology, anthropology, environmental sciences, and psychology. Evocative literary depictions will also be examined, as literature abounds with spatial descriptions that often invoke a sense of architecture in more profound ways than does architecture itself.

Required text (average of 28 pages of required reading per week)
Sensory Design, Joy Monice Malnar and Frank Vodvarka (pages 356)
Reviews: http://www.bobbyopen.com/publ0501ar.html
http://www.archidose.org/books/sensory.html

Location and Meeting Day: See schedule
Tours: Walking tours of UIUC campus sites
Faculty Presentation: A PowerPoint presentation will accompany some of the readings.

Each student will be responsible for one writing assignment with a PowerPoint presentation, one small design project, one observation presentation and classroom discussions with the occasional small exercises. The intent is to develop your power of perception and provide design students with opportunities to apply information obtained from the text and handouts, (as well as observations made during campus walking tours) to their own designs.

Components of final grade:
Student Discussion: Students will be required to participate in discussions of the readings (15%)
Mini-Exercises/Assignments/Tours: Small exercises to facilitate understanding of readings (10%)
Exam: Mid-term exam (10%)
Documenting Human Behavior: PowerPoint presentation to class (15%)
Paper: 1000 word paper (15%) with PowerPoint presentation to class (10%)
Project: Small design project that must positively (and safely) activate three or more human senses as outlined by J.J. Gibson – see Figure 3.1 in Sensory Design. For an example of how to apply the outline to architecture – see Figure 3.5 (25%)