

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Built upon Peter Cooper's vision of education, The Cooper Union from its inception has been dedicated to the highest ethical standards. The School of Architecture, founded on principles of independent and exploratory thought, maintains that individual creativity within a willing community is a profoundly social act. In fostering a context of intellectual rigor, the program gives emphasis to a broad spectrum of cultural and ethical concerns which are of significance in the preparation of students for a professional degree and their role in society as practicing professionals of intelligence, creativity and integrity.

Authorship Acts of academic dishonesty are extremely serious violations of both the spirit and the substance of this community. The Academic Standards Committee of the School of Architecture will review acts of academic dishonesty including cheating, plagiarizing or the submission of work that has not been prepared by the person claiming authorship. Such acts are viewed as extremely serious violations, punishable by probation, suspension or dismissal. The action of the Academic Standards Committee in such cases will become part of the student's permanent academic record.

The Studios/Studio Culture Central to maintaining a creative environment for intellectual investigation and intuitive exploration are the shared design and computer studio spaces on the third and seventh floors of the Foundation Building. Students must be aware of and observe all policies and conditions for the use of the studios (which are distributed at the beginning of each academic year). Students are required to be present in studio for all hours that their design studio meets and to develop their work in the studio.

In the studios, students work together as a community of individuals. Here, students and faculty from all years engage in a process of rigorous inquiry, discussion and critique, freely sharing knowledge, ideas and methodologies. Students study the principles and works of architecture that have contributed to the betterment of the human condition in the development of their own projects. Students of the upper years serve as mentors for the lower years. Diversity and balance are critical values in generating an academic ambiance where humanistic ideals and ethical views serve as a constant reference for individual growth and development. The social and intellectual environment thus created is considered a vital part of the students' experience at The Cooper Union.

As articulated by our Architectonics (first-year Design studio) faculty: Educational institutions are the stewards of discipline, they are the crucibles in which the living form of a discipline is transferred through the generations. Many forms of resource are marshaled toward animating this stewardship; the primary

resource, in fact the meaning and purpose of education, lies in the community of teachers and students at the heart of an institution. Young minds filled with endless possibilities come searching for a sanctuary in which they can be inspired, strengthened and tempered by listening to and working with voices of wisdom, knowledge and experience. There is no higher calling for an educational institution than the stewardship and advocacy of this community. The particular modes of knowledge that form the discipline of architecture are to a large extent embodied knowledge; they are acquired through a combination of intense study and present tense creativity. The education of an architect requires a studio culture that encourages the faculty and students to explore their creativity in teaching and learning, it requires crafting and maintaining an evolving studio environment that cultivates the personal imagination. Individual creativity within a willing community is a profoundly transformative act. As each moment contains the potential for reinvention, "school" is not a means to a predetermined end, but rather it is a place for significant works, for research and exploration, a place of creative urgency, for people and their works to listen to each other. Great educational institutions are great communities: physically, geographically and intellectually, the studio is the center of the community at the School of Architecture. The myriad personal and public exchanges that form our studio culture lead to new ideas, new forms of expression and movements of thought that ultimately enrich our discipline and our humanity.

Annual Exhibition of Student Work The End of Year Show is an essential part of the pedagogy of the school, exhibiting student work developed during the academic year to the academic and professional communities and the public at large. It is an opportunity to present the pedagogical framework of the school and faculty and to celebrate the rigor and diversity of the student work. The School of Architecture exhibition covers approximately 10,000 square feet of space. Preparation of exhibition spaces—lobbies, halls and classrooms of the third and seventh floors, and the Houghton Gallery—and hanging the work is a tremendous task that must be accomplished in the very short period of time between the end of classes and commencement. All students must make requested projects available for the exhibition and are expected to fully participate in the installation.

In addition to the Annual Exhibition, individual student work may be requested for other purposes (other exhibitions, accreditations, etc.). Students are required to provide requested projects or other materials, which will be returned to them in a timely manner. While student work is to be available for these purposes, work produced by students as part of their coursework remains their property.

Students are required to sign a release form at the start of their studies granting the school permission to use, copy, publish or distribute, perform or publicly display, create derivative works, and incorporate into compilations or collective works the works of authorship created during their enrollment as a student at Cooper Union in any form, format or media now known or later developed or created in the future, for educational purposes and for promoting, marketing and advertising Cooper Union and its educational services worldwide, without compensation. The student retains the copyright to the work.

FACILITIES AND RESOURCES

The facilities of the School of Architecture are housed on the second, third and seventh floors of the Foundation Building, initially completed in 1859 and now a National Historic Landmark widely referred to as one of New York City's great monuments. In 1974, John Hejduk, the first dean of the School of Architecture, completed a major alteration of the interior. In 2002, the restoration of the brownstone exterior was completed after two years of work.

The Studios All students in the School of Architecture are provided workspace on the third floor within a shared studio. With the first through fourth years sharing a single large studio and the fifth-year thesis class and graduate students in smaller studio spaces, a unique environment fostering cross-fertilization between classes and individual students is maintained. Students are provided with individual studio workspace with individual and shared tables for drawing, work, study, reference, model building, etc. The school does not support the principle or practice of continual 24-hour studio access. Studios are generally open Monday–Thursday 7:30 am–2 am, Friday 7:30 am–midnight, Saturday 8 am–midnight, and Sunday noon–2 am.

Computer Studio The School of Architecture Computer Studio on the seventh floor of the Foundation Building is specifically intended to support a design curriculum that recognizes the use of computing as an instrument of investigation and practice and which urges students to explore its formal and cultural implications. The facility utilizes both Macintosh and Dell Precision PCs (including high-end multiple-processor rendering stations), scanning and printing capabilities and two large-format plotters. Software includes an array of imaging, drawing, drafting and 3D modeling and rendering programs. This facility is open to all students of The Cooper Union. Considered integral to the activities of the design studio, the computer studio is generally open whenever the design studios are open, giving students access an average of 17 hours a day. A student monitor trained to assist in the effective use of the facility and to do simple troubleshooting on the hardware is present whenever the center is open.

The School of Architecture Computer Studio also supports a 3D printer and laser-cutter; other three-dimensional output capabilities include a laser-cutter in the School of Art and CNC and rapid prototype machines in the School of Engineering.

Computing facilities designed to serve the specific needs of the Schools of Art and Engineering are open for use by students of the School of Architecture.