

4.104/Joel Turkel

Assignment 1 – Written Intentions – Why Architecture?

Due: M Feb 7 @ 2pm

“Architecture is a synthesis of intention”

-Fernando Domeyko-Perez

Your assignment due next Monday is to write a one-page paper to respond to the following:

1. Describe the moment or event when you first *knew* you wanted to study architecture.
2. Regarding your studies in architecture, which one ability/insight would you most like to gain this term? Why do you feel it to be important?
3. What is the greatest creative/intellectual challenge you will need to overcome to feel you have been successful in studio this term? (By this I mean *your* challenge, not one imposed by the curriculum, pressures of other courses, annoying roommates, etc...)

OK – let’s face it - the purpose of this one-page paper is to help me understand what it is that interests you about architecture, what *you* want to get out of this studio, and what you’re concerned about that may prevent you from succeeding.

It’s also to help me work with you to make sure you do succeed. So try to be honest with yourself - these assignments will not be read in class, but will remain as a touchstone between you and I over the course of the semester. I expect that some of your goals may shift, but I want you to force yourselves to at least enter into the discussion with yourself and with me.

Like most creative fields, architecture requires passion, so I expect your answers to contain a little of that – if you saw the Empire State Building shrouded in mist from a train in New Jersey when you were seven years old and just knew you had to build buildings, great. If you had an uncle who drew cool houses and lived in a really funky one, and you always admired him, great. If you just woke up one day and said “Oh no, I gotta declare a *major*”, and then picked architecture because it was “kinda cool” – then tell me *why* it’s kinda cool.

Try to keep your answers succinct – please give me a one-page printout at 2:00pm on Monday.

If you have any questions prior to that time, please ask.