

**BGSU**<sup>®</sup>

DEPARTMENT OF  
**ARCHITECTURE AND  
ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN**

**BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY**

# STUDIO CULTURE POLICY

Prepared by the Studio Culture Policy Committee  
in consultation with AIAS and NOMAS

Approved: 03/01/2022

The Bowling Green State University (BGSU) Department of Architecture and Environmental Design Studio Culture Policy is framed by the core values of BGSU and in support of the current six shared values of the discipline and profession as stated by the National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB).

The Core Values for Bowling Green State University are:

- Intellectual and personal growth
- Creativity, innovation, and entrepreneurship
- Diversity and inclusion
- Collaboration with each other and our partners
- Excellence in all we do

Source : <https://www.bgsu.edu/forward.html#vision>

### **1) Design**

We will foster a design approach that encourages students, faculty, and staff to develop their own design methods, thinking, and innovation. We value the studio-based learning model as a demonstration of our passion for architecture and design. As part of a “Public University for the Public Good”, we support a learning environment that is not centered around a right or wrong answer in design, but instead enhances the students’ educational growth through exposure to a variety of ideas and concepts to address current and future design challenges.

### **2) Environmental Stewardship and Professional Responsibility**

We see environmental stewardship as a multidisciplinary pursuit. The creation of significant forms and content by the profession cannot take place in the absence of historical, technical, social, and philosophical awareness.

Professional responsibility requires attention to the relationship of the parts to the whole; a relationship that reflects shifts in attention from objects of experience to qualities of experience. Charting the occurrence and nature of these shifts is to be engaged with our global environment.

As part of professional responsibility, a healthy body and mind is the necessary foundation to be an effective instructor and student. Within this concept, we hold each other responsible for setting reasonable expectations. We expect a fair distribution of academic demands and equally a commitment to pursue the knowledge necessary to be successful in a rigorous and demanding profession. While creating architecture can be demanding of our time, we expect everyone to respect each other’s time both inside and outside of studio.

### **3) Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion**

We believe in fostering a safe and inclusive environment for people of different backgrounds, identities, and ethnicities. While we understand it can be difficult to address all aspects that make each person unique, all are welcome and accepted. One of the most important aspects of equity, diversity, and inclusion is developing an awareness among students, faculty, and staff that everyone needs to be engaged in and interact with others in the community of the Department of Architecture and Environmental Design, Bowling Green State University, our local community and the world at large. This means trusting human potentialities and abilities; having a healthy self-esteem and developing open-mindedness; we will be tolerant of values and standards other than our own; we are knowledgeable regarding contemporary issues; we demonstrate a responsible attitude to social relationships; and we appreciate a critical mind.

### **4) Knowledge and Innovation**

We are a community that wants to harvest ideas. We encourage each other to be a critic of our own design knowledge and innovation. We, as individuals, we can accept healthy and constructive criticism.

The creation of knowledge and innovation requires a dynamic, fluid, and generous learning environment within the School of the Built Environment (SBE), the College of Technology, Architecture and Applied Engineering (CTAAE), and Bowling Green State University (BGSU). This is accomplished by supporting and encouraging those around us to reach their highest potential.

### **5) Leadership, Collaboration, and Community Engagement**

We believe everyone is a leader and we encourage new leaders to emerge. We learn to follow when it makes sense and we understand that others may be better suited to the task. Within this context, the adoption of a collaborative practice as a didactic model will create opportunities for the exchange of ideas between educators, students, practitioners, and the public we serve.

### **6) Lifelong Learning**

Joy is the engine of learning. We will exploit the liberty of casting our learning as beautiful experiments, iterations, attempts, trials, and errors. We nurture a learning community that displays a variety of architectural practices in which we critically engage with the past, present and future of the architecture and design profession.

## **Future Development of Studio Culture Policy**

BGSU Architecture and Environmental Design Studio Culture Policy is a living document that encourages continuous reviews and revisions annually with student leadership from all levels, faculty, and staff of the department and school.