ILLUSTRATED DICTIONARY - 09.25.2009

Overview:

In architecture, we utilize a collection of words to describe spatial characteristics and organizational principles. Although this vocabulary is not unique to architecture, the definitions of the words that we utilize are often specific to three-dimensional space and composition. These words are therefore best illustrated graphically rather than simply through words alone.

The Illustrated Dictionary is a journal in which you will provide graphic illustrations for this terminology. Certain assignments will specify which words you are to define; other assignments will ask you to find words to define on your own. You will begin work on the Illustrated Dictionary in the fall term and will continue to add to it in subsequent studios and drawing courses. Entries for the Illustrated Dictionary will be within the large 11" x 14" sketchbook that has come with your supply kit.

All entries in the Illustrated Dictionary must be hand drawn. You may also include written notes that accompany the illustrations. All writing and drawing in the Illustrated Dictionary must be neat – good craft is important! Be sure to label and date the pages as well. Be consistent in your layout of the pages that comprise the Illustrated Dictionary, ensuring that these pages are easily recognizable even when mixed in with pages containing other information, drawings and notes.

Illustrated Dictionary assignments will accompany studio projects and it is expected that you make progress on the Dictionary according to the deadlines specified. The Illustrated Dictionary assignments may be reflective (after a project is completed) or provocative (to inspire design work) but any previously-defined word is valid for use in any project – we expect you to refer back to earlier entries and incorporate those principles into your design work as well as your design vocabulary.

The Dictionary will be reviewed in class, graded at midterm and issued a final grade at the end of the term. Grades will be based upon the overall development of the Illustrated Dictionary and assessed according to its content, clarity, completeness, craft and overall composition.