

Course Number and Title: **ARCH 155 / Basic Architectural Drawing**

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### **ASSIGNMENT 3: VISUAL DICTIONARY OF ARCHITECTURAL TERMS**

Through the use of photography and architecture lettering, compile a visual dictionary from 12 of the architectural terms (conditions) listed below. Choose three terms from each of the four columns.

#### **Architectural Terms**

Point	Light	Axis	Repetition
Line / Linear	Transparent	Grid	Rhythm
Curve / Curvilinear	Translucent	Orthogonal	Movement
Plane / Surface	Opaque	Non-orthogonal	Circulation / Path
Shape	Reflection	Oblique	Procession / Sequence
Volume	Shade	Radial	Composition
Solid/Void	Shadow	Symmetry	Dynamic composition
Positive vs. negative space	Dark	Asymmetry	Static composition
Form	Value	Balance	Focal point / node
Function	Color/Tone	Hierarchy	Context
Additive	Depth	Scale	Foreground
Subtractive	Contrast	Proportion	Background
Molded	Pattern	Horizontality	Figure ground
Abstract	Texture	Verticality	Figure ground reversal
Ornamentation	Materiality	Position	Continuity
Detail		Juxtaposition	Discontinuity
Structure		Distance	Diagram
Enclosure		Perspective	Simplicity (informed)
Fenestration		View / View corridor	Complexity
Modular		Intersection	Style / Aesthetic
Organic			Concept / Parti

Find examples of 12 (minimum) different architectural terms from the architectural environments you explore and photograph each example. Challenge yourself to pick terms that are unfamiliar or interesting to you and feel free to integrate this work to your current design studio project. Find the perfect location and angle of the view before you take the photograph. Remember each photo is to emphasize one term. Resize and print each photograph to fit a 4" x 4" square.

Use this assignment to explore the built environments beyond the Drexel University campus. As you travel to purchase supplies, work on studio assignments or travel to and from campus and work, keep your eyes open for visual opportunities that illustrate the terms above. Think about these terms in the context of what they mean in the built environment. Can you find these conditions happening at differing scales (sizes)? How does scale affect your perception, or your ability to notice these conditions? How does the "speed" of the condition you've identified or your own personal "speed" of movement affect your perception of your surroundings?

Compose your visual dictionary using the layout on the back of this page. It is important that you match all criteria of the layout.

