

# What Is an Advanced Design Studio?

## Worksheet

An advanced design studio is a project-based architecture course in which students develop a complex design proposal through repeated iteration, research, and public critique (jury review).

## Questions

1. What best defines an advanced design studio?

- A) A lecture-based history course
- B) A project-based course centered on iterative design and critique
- C) An exam-only architecture class
- D) A software training workshop

2. What happens during a jury review?

- A) Students take a written exam
- B) A panel critiques the presented design work
- C) Students grade each other anonymously
- D) The building is physically constructed

3. What is the purpose of a mid-review?

- A) To finalize grades
- B) To catch design problems before the final review
- C) To assign new projects
- D) To skip the design process

4. Why do studios rely on iteration rather than a single final design attempt?

- A) It's faster
- B) Repeated refinement produces stronger, more resolved designs
- C) It's required by law
- D) It reduces research time

5. A student is asked to design a community center for a waterfront site. How would an advanced studio approach this?

6. Why do advanced studios use juries instead of just a grade from the instructor?

7. A studio project fails its mid-review critique. What is the typical next step?

8. Define: What is an advanced design studio?

9. Define: What is a 'jury' in studio culture?

10. Define: What is a 'desk crit'?

## Answer Key

1. B) A project-based course centered on iterative design and critique - Advanced studios are defined by hands-on, iterative project work reviewed through critique.
2. B) A panel critiques the presented design work - A jury is a panel of critics who evaluate and question the design proposal.
3. B) To catch design problems before the final review - Mid-reviews are checkpoints for feedback before the project is finished.
4. B) Repeated refinement produces stronger, more resolved designs - Iteration lets students test, fail, and improve ideas before the final proposal.
5. Research the site context, climate, and community needs Develop 3-4 concept sketches exploring different massing strategies Select one concept and test it through a physical or digital model Present at mid-review for critique and refine based on feedback Finalize drawings, model, and presentation for jury review
6. Juries expose students to multiple professional perspectives Public critique builds the ability to defend design decisions verbally Feedback from outside critics mirrors real client and permitting reviews This prepares students for practice, where designs are constantly challenged
7. Identify the specific weaknesses raised by the jury (e.g., weak site response) Revisit research and concept sketches to address the gap Produce a revised iteration addressing each critique point Schedule a follow-up desk crit with the instructor before the final review
8. A project-based architecture course where students design a complex proposal through iteration and critique.
9. A panel of critics - often practicing architects or faculty - who review and question student design work.
10. A one-on-one feedback session between a student and instructor at their workstation.

### **Bounlu**

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