DC SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN
VAGAMON

# Add-on Course Contours: “Architectural Design Essentials

- 45 Hours
- 3 Hours per week
- Course Completion Certificate will be provided.


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# Add-on Course

## Contours: "Architectural Design Essentials"

**Relevance of the Course:**

"Contours: Architectural Design Essentials" is a short-term course essential for architecture students to understand the fundamentals of architectural design. It focuses on developing skills in using contour lines to create dynamic and functional building forms. By studying various design principles and techniques, students will learn to integrate contours effectively into their designs, enhancing spatial quality and visual appeal. The course covers the relevance of contour architecture in modern design practices, equipping students with the knowledge and tools necessary to tackle real-world design challenges. Through hands-on exercises and projects, students will gain practical experience in applying contour-based design concepts to their architectural projects.

**Aim of the Course:**

The aim is to equip architecture students with fundamental design principles, focusing on contour lines, enhancing spatial quality, and providing skills for real-world challenges.

**Course Objectives:**

1. Understand fundamental Contour Architecture design principles.
2. Develop skills in using contour lines for creating dynamic building forms.
3. Learn to integrate contours effectively to enhance spatial quality and visual appeal.
4. Recognize the relevance of contour architecture in modern design practices.
5. Gain practical experience in applying contour-based design concepts to real-world architectural projects.

**Scope of the Course:**

This course covers fundamental architectural design principles, focusing on contour lines. Students will learn to create dynamic building forms, integrate contours effectively, understand the relevance of contour architecture in modern design, and apply these concepts through hands-on projects.

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**Learning Outcomes:**

Upon completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate proficiency in basic art, craft, and design techniques.
2. Apply fundamental principles of composition and spatial organization in architectural design.
3. Utilize various media and materials to communicate design ideas effectively.
4. Analyze and critique architectural works from an artistic and design perspective.
5. Engage in collaborative and interdisciplinary design processes.
6. Cultivate a mindset of continuous learning, experimentation, and self-improvement.

**Course Outcome:**

The primary outcome of the course is to empower students with the knowledge, skills, and confidence to embark on their architectural journey with a strong foundation in creativity with contour architecture. Upon successful completion of the course, students will receive a certificate of participation, acknowledging their commitment to developing their creative foundations in Contour Architecture.

**Modes of Learning:**

The course will employ a variety of modes of learning to cater to different learning styles and preferences. These may include:

- Interactive lectures and presentations to introduce theoretical concepts and historical context.
- Hands-on workshops and studio sessions to develop practical skills and foster creativity.
- Group discussions and critiques to encourage peer learning and feedback.
- Guest lectures by practicing architects and designers to provide real-world insights and perspectives.

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**Assessment:**

Assessment will be based on a combination of formative and summative assessments, designed to evaluate students' understanding, application, and synthesis of course materials. Assessment methods may include:

- Participation in class activities, discussions, and group projects.
- Completion of assigned readings, assignments, and projects demonstrating mastery of course content.
- Presentation of a final portfolio showcasing students' creative work and conceptual development.
- Peer evaluations and self-assessment exercises to encourage reflection and self-improvement.

**Number of Hours Allotted for the Course:** 45 hours

**Course Fee:** 1500 INR

**Eligibility:** The course is open to all architecture students, regardless of their level of experience or expertise.

**Certification:** Upon successful completion of the course requirements, including attendance, participation, and submission of assignments, students will receive a certificate of participation in the **Contours: "Architectural Design Essentials"**

**Syllabus**

**Session 1: Introduction to Architectural Design Essentials**

- Overview of the course
- Importance of contour lines in architectural design
- Introduction to basic design principles

**Session 2: Understanding Contours and Topography**

- Definition and types of contour lines
- Reading topographic maps
- Site analysis and understanding topography

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**Session 3: Design Principles and Composition for contours**

- Principles of design: balance, rhythm, proportion
- Composition techniques for architectural design
- Case studies and examples

**Session 4: Contour Modeling Techniques (Part 1)**

- Introduction to contour modeling
- Tools and materials for contour modeling
- Hands-on practice: creating basic contour models

**Session 5: Contour Modeling Techniques (Part 2)**

- Advanced contour modeling techniques
- Creating complex building forms using contours
- Practical exercises: designing with contour lines

**Session 6: Integration of Contours in Building Design**

- Understanding how to integrate contour lines into building design
- Designing for site-specific conditions
- Case studies of buildings with integrated contours

**Session 7: Site Visit**

- Field trip to observe real-world topography and contour lines
- Sketching and documenting topographical features
- Analysis of site conditions for potential design projects

**Session 8: Materials and Construction Techniques**

- Selection of appropriate materials based on contour-based designs
- Construction techniques for building on sloped sites
- Sustainability considerations in material choice

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**Session 9: Aesthetic Considerations in Contour Architecture**

- Exploring the aesthetic value of contour-based designs
- Integrating landscaping and vegetation with contours
- Case studies of aesthetically pleasing contour architecture

**Session 10: Contour Model Making Workshop (Part 3)**

- Hands-on workshop on advanced contour model making
- Refinement of contour models for architectural design projects
- Individual and group feedback

**Session 11: Designing for Functionality and Efficiency**

- Designing functional spaces within contour-based architecture
- Maximizing efficiency in building layout and circulation
- Ergonomic considerations in contour design

**Session 12: Socio-Cultural and Environmental Impacts**

- Understanding the socio-cultural significance of contour architecture
- Environmental impacts and considerations in contour-based designs
- Strategies for minimizing ecological footprint

**Session 13: Presentation Skills and Visualization Techniques**

- Techniques for presenting architectural designs effectively
- Visualization methods: hand-drawing, digital rendering, and modeling
- Developing presentation boards and materials

**Session 14: Contour Model Making Workshop (Part 4)**

- Finalizing contour models for presentation
- Refinement and detailing of contour-based architectural designs
- Critique and peer review session

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**Session 15: Portfolio Submission, Feedback and Certificate Distribution**

- Submission of final design portfolio
- Presentation of projects to peers and instructors
- Review of design portfolios by instructors
- Feedback and suggestions for further improvement
- Celebration of course completion and achievements
- Certificate distribution for course completion

**This syllabus includes sessions dedicated to site visits, contour model making, and covers various aspects of architectural design essentials using contour lines.**

**References**

1. Site planning-Kevin A.Lynch.
2. Site Planning and Design Handbook, Second Edition-THOMAS H RUSS.
3. Site planning standards-Joseph De Chiara, 1978
4. Site Analysis: A Contextual Approach to Sustainable Land Planning and Site Design-James A. LaGro, Jr., 2008

Etc.