

Course Syllabus

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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course investigates tiling and modular fabrications, from two simultaneous motivations:

- 1) To explore the organizational, experiential, and aesthetic performance of units and repetition in architectural composition. This trajectory of the course will consider the history and application of tiling effects and techniques in the making of architecture, as well as study the geometric principles that lead to existing and potentially new systems of connections of parts.
- 2) To develop the skill sets involved fabricating the units: through mold-making, casting substances, and other shop-based materials and methods. This trajectory of the course will look at moldmaking craft as an analog to construction logics writ large, efficiencies and economies of modular fabrication, and the development of fabrication systems that apply the lessons of the first trajectory in new and innovative ways.

CLASS CALENDAR:

- 1) **Sept 5** Introduction, Tiling histories, Course history, moldmaking
- 2) **Sept 12** “forceful approaches to organization”; tiling instruction
- 3) **Sept 19** “even a brick wants to be something”; sketch roundtable
- 4) **Sept 26** working sessions + small group crits
- 5) **Oct 3** “variation, deformation, discrete change”; proto-tile review
- 6) **Oct 10** “material matters”; working session + small crits
- 7) **Oct 17** field trip: TBD
- 8) **Oct 24** working session and small crits
- 9) **Oct 31** Mid - Presentation : invited guests and public mini-exhibition
- 10) **Nov 7** - “formal efficiencies, fabrication economies” presentation
- 11) **Nov 14** final working sessions, systems proposal

12) **Nov 28** exhibition

GRADING:

Grades are administered in accordance with GSAPP policy. Full attendance is essential for maximizing grade potential.

<https://www.arch.columbia.edu/grades>