

Think Sheets

WHAT: a one (1) page typed, 12 pt font, topical, discursive paper.

GOAL: To codify your thoughts into a coherent, critical, and personal body of writing.

The purpose of a Think Sheet is to get your thoughts out of your head and into a format that requires you to focus, synthesize, and edit your research on a chosen building. Think Sheets should primarily be editorials - a tract of writing comprised of your thoughts. As such, it is very important they are as much about your own thoughts on the topic as they are about giving a thoughtful response. The open-ended nature of the prompts does not give you license to submit a paper that is a stream of consciousness or incoherent ramblings. Such papers will not receive high marks.

The following considerations are equally applied to determine how to score your paper: **TOPICAL** Does the Think Sheet address the topic?

COURSE RELEVANCE Are the thoughts presented well, are they synthesized and related to the material in the class (reading, lectures)?

BUILDING Are the thoughts presented in the context of your research related to your chosen building?

CRAFT Is the Think Sheet well written?

CRITICAL Does the Think Sheet use the formation to try to understand or draw something out of the topic through insights and observations?

Think Sheets are a significant portion of your grade and, along with the Scavenger Hunt and Pecha Kucha, are worth twenty-five percent (25%) of your final evaluation. Please take time for due diligence in thought and craft for this work. The class is not curved, but it is designed around you meeting our expectations, with the mean representing a B. That is the statistical historical average for this class. It is not easy to get an A although it is not designed to be difficult. However, it is very difficult to score perfect or get very high marks. Just the same, it is equally as difficult to score very poorly. Use your brain, take some time, and it will pay off.

Remember, using the Think Sheets to just report, or repeat a collection of information

gathered from books or the recollection of lectures will not receive full marks. Do not simply repeat what you read, and do not regurgitate lectures. In order for you to get something out of this exercise, it is paramount that you offer something up for consideration so that I may engage you in my responses. This is about you demonstrating proficiency as much as it is about a discussion between us. This is to be limited to ONE PAGE. You may add citations in the form of footnotes at the bottom of the page and/or relevant images and sketches to the back of the page (sourced if necessary), however it is the ONE PAGE of text that really counts. You should have plenty to write about, but successful Think Sheets are in depth and informative while also concise.

THINK SHEET #1 -

Thus far in class we have been discussing architectural **form**, its role in communicating something to us (both sensually and intellectually), and the inspiration for that form. Please describe your building in terms of its **form** using specific information from your readings and from images you have collected in your research. You should include specific points from Rasmussen's *Experiencing Architecture* as well as from topics covered in lectures.

Please include as many images as you would like along with your one page of text that you think illustrate your points. This should not be an exercise in listing information. Be sure to take a constructively critical stance.

THINK SHEET #2 -

In the second part of the course we have been discussing **physical considerations** in architecture-- issues related to geography, topography, ecology, structure, materials, construction, and climate response. Please describe **your** building in terms of its **physical considerations** using specific information from your readings and from images you have collected in your research. You should include specific points from Heschong's *Thermal Delight in Architecture* as well as from topics covered in lectures.

Please include as many images as you like along with your one page of text that you think illustrate your points. This should not be an exercise in listing information. Be sure to take a constructively critical stance .

THINK SHEET #3 -

In this final section of the course we have been discussing **human factors** in architecture--issues related to the designation and organization of uses, architectural determinism, humanism, and the meaning conveyed by buildings. Please describe **your** building in terms of how it deals with **human factors** using specific information

from your readings and from images you have collected in your research. You should include specific points from Moore, Lyndon, and Allen's ***The Place of Houses*** as well as from topics covered in lectures.

Please include an annotated copy of the plan of the building as well as images you think illustrate your points. This should not be an exercise in listing information. Be sure to take a constructively critical stance.