ARCHITECTURE NEWSLETTER

2024-2025 SPRING

EXHIBITION VISIONARY

COLLABORATION WITH THE MADINAH REGION DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (MRDA)

OUR WORKSHOP AT THE **ISLAMIC BIENNALE**

Architecture

ARCHITECTURE

SEMESTER \ISSUE
2025-SPRING

PERIOD
JANUARY 2025-MAY 2025

Our Workshop at the Islamic Biennale

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1. Introduction:

جامعة دار الحكمة
DAR AL-HEKMA UNIVERSITY

Bachelor of Architecture Mission:

To graduate professionals in architecture and equip them with the necessary knowledge and skills, focusing on sustainable design while preserving the cultural and aesthetic values of Saudi Arabia.

Bachelor of Architecture Goals:

The vision and goals of the university are being followed up on in the architecture student's outcomes and performances. The Department of Architecture prepares young women to assume leadership positions in the design profession in local, regional, and international communities.

1) Expand and diversify the University's academic programs, emphasizing research and graduate programs and vigorously preparing our graduates for a seamless transition into the workforce.

2) Engage students in meaningful co-curricular experiences and provide robust support to produce confident, well- rounded graduates ready to contribute to the economic and cultural vitality of the Kingdom.

3) Develop new facilities to accommodate enrollment growth and provide the advanced technologies infrastructure that supports a world-class education.

4) Invest in our people to create satisfied and committed employees and develop the next generation of leaders to ensure the University's vision becomes reality.

5) Ensure financial sustainability by securing new sources of revenue to support our mission.

DR. MOHAMMED GOMAA

THE CHAIR OF THE
ARCHITECTURE DEPARTMENT

DR. SHIFANA KAFIL

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

DR. DJIHAD BERKOUK

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

MS. SIMA REFAE

LECTURER, ARCHITECT

MR. ABDULMOHSIN ADAS

LECTURER, ARCHITECT

MS. SHATHA ABU ALFARAJ

LECTURER, ARCHITECT

MS. SUMAN.M.FARUQUI

PART TIME FACULTY,
ARCHITECT

MS. RASHA FARSI

PART TIME FACULTY,
ARCHITECT

Faculty members

RECAP OF ISSUE 2024-2025 FALL

INTERNATIONAL TRIP
ITALY-ROME- MILAN

ALULA TRIP\WORK SHOP

URBAN DESIGN STUDENTS ENGAGE IN QUBA PROJECT WITH AL-MADINAH AUTHORITIES

01. Cover page of previous issue

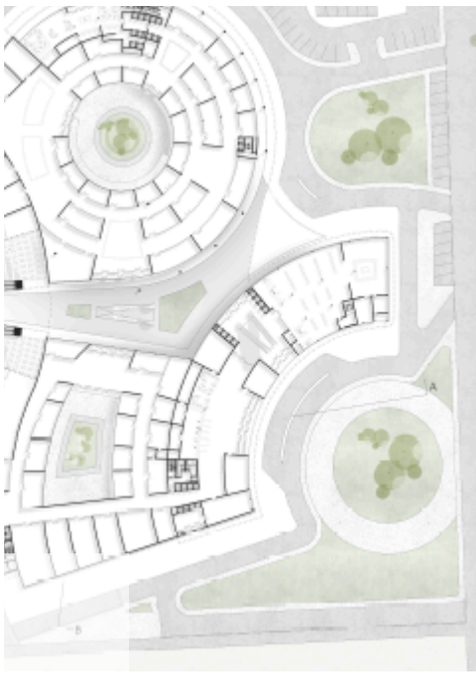
02. Picture of the Italy Trip

03. Picture of the Al-Ula Trip

01

02

03



WHAT NEW IN THIS ISSUE

Studio1

FORM AND ORDER IN CULTURAL

Course Code: 5502

STUDIO I

FORM AND ORDER IN CULTURAL

Instructors:**Dr. Djihed Berkouk**
joury members :
Dr.Mohammed Gomma
Dr.Shadin Nemry

This studio course focuses on the basic strategies and techniques of architectural design. It highlights architectural design as an outcome of human needs. This course covers historical, conceptual, and visual ordering systems of the discipline as informed by cultural, climatic, environmental, behavioral, and geographical factors.

COURSE TOPICS:

A. Architectural ordering principles

B. 2D and 3D Visual Order

C. Social, cultural, and behavioral influences on building design

D. Design process

E. Model-making

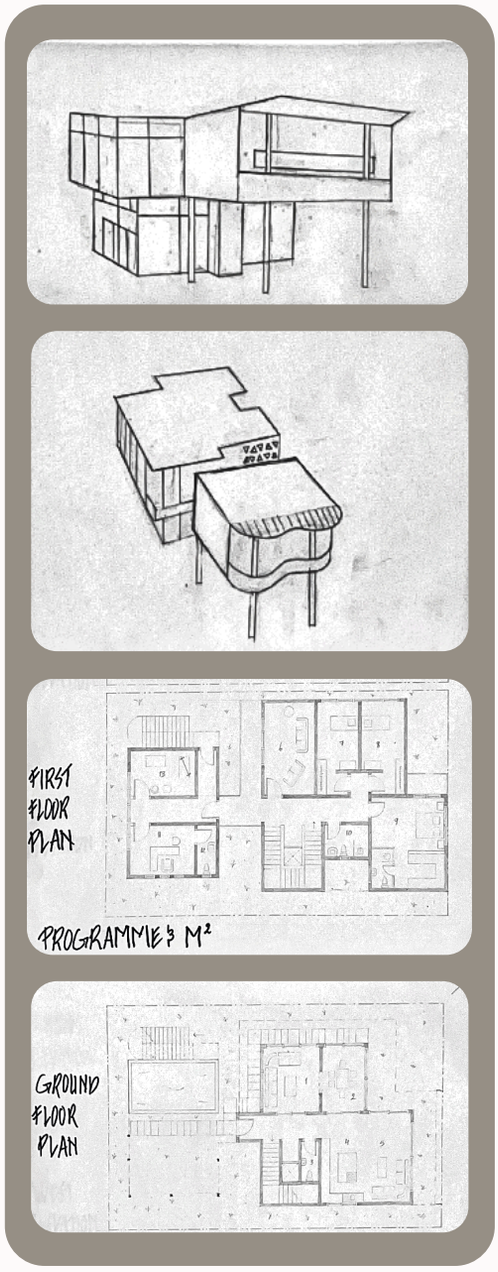
F. Basic 3D modeling computer program techniques

G. Presentation skills

A RESIDENTIAL PROJECT INSPIRED BY RICHARD MIERS

This unique home design draws inspiration from the distinctive style of Richard Miers, known for his elegant balance of form and function. The project reflects his signature approach—clean lines, thoughtful proportions, and a timeless sense of sophistication—bringing a touch of architectural artistry to modern living.

Final project jury by our student :MARIA TARIK



MODEL MAKING

Sara Baghdadi

Sara Baghdadi

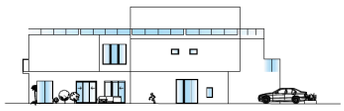
STUDENT WORK

Exploring Architecture Through Model Making
As part of the course, students dive into the art of model making—a hands-on process that deepens their understanding of a building's form, structure, and spatial relationships.
Working in three dimensions allows them to see how design ideas translate from paper to reality, fostering problem-solving skills, precision, and creativity.
These models are more than miniature buildings—they are learning tools that bring architectural concepts to life. Here's a glimpse of some inspiring student work.

Digital Design For Architecture

Course Code: ARCH 2306

DIGITAL DESIGN FOR ARCHITECTURE



Instructors: Ms. Shatha Abualfaraj

project done by :Maryiah Maghrabifetaih

Digital Graphics for Design Communication
This course explores digital graphics as a powerful tool for developing, documenting, and presenting design ideas. Students learn to create and refine two-dimensional architectural drawings using CAD, enhance them with raster and vector graphics, and combine these tools effectively in publishing packages—understanding the strengths and limitations of each.

Course Learning Outcomes

Knowledge & Understanding

1.1 Identify key computer terminology for architecture.

Skills

1. Create 2D architectural drawings using CAD.
2. Convert and share files across formats.
3. Add entourage, colors, and textures to enhance drawings.
4. Discuss digital presentation concepts and challenges.

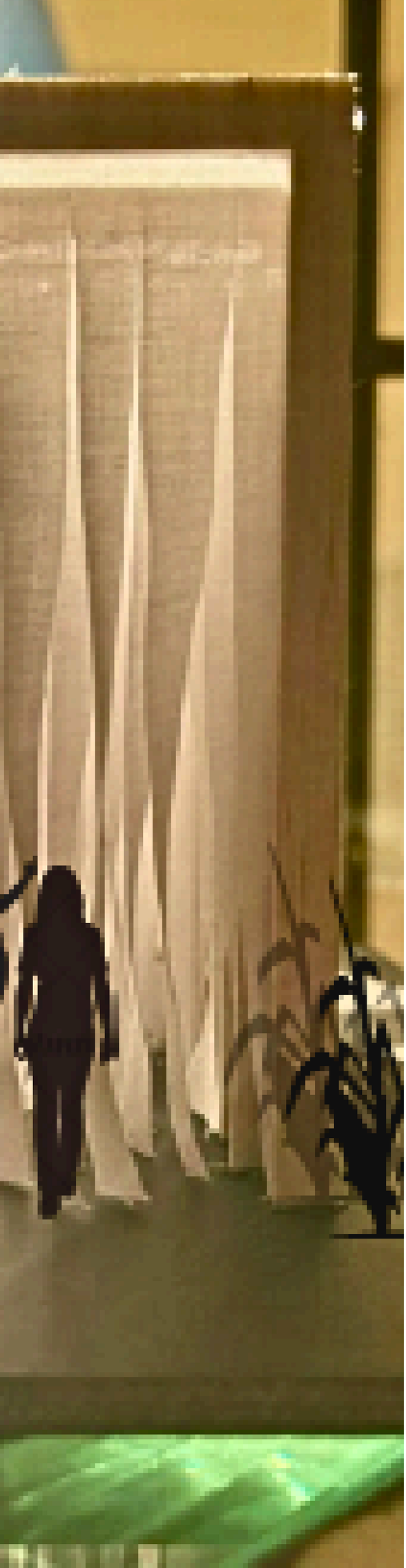
Values

3.1 Build a digital portfolio from varied sources.

Maryiah Maghrabifetaih

DAYLIGHTING

Project done by:
Raghad Hassan
Noorhan Abofaria
Sara Alahmari



Course Code: ARCH 4307

DAYLIGHTING

Instructors: **Dr. Djihad Berkouk**

Assignment Type: Midterm

The course explores the many roles of daylight in architectural design through an experiential, collaborative learning approach. Class presentations introduce key concepts that inspire student-led design explorations. Daylighting is studied as a field that bridges quantitative and qualitative methods, blending the scientific with the poetic, and the sustainable with the experiential.

Course Learning Outcomes

1. Knowledge and Understanding:

1.1 Demonstrate the advanced use of daylight in buildings.

1.2 Engage in the exploratory architectural design process.

1.3 Incorporate phenomenological design-decisions.

2. Skills

2.1 Prepare and analyze case studies.

2.2 Engage in making physical and digital models.

2.3 Develop presentation skills in the form of sketches and diagrams.

3. Values

3.1 Integrate architectural theory with practice.

3.2 Navigate from schematic to construction details.

3.3 Learning by doing and reflecting on the design experience.

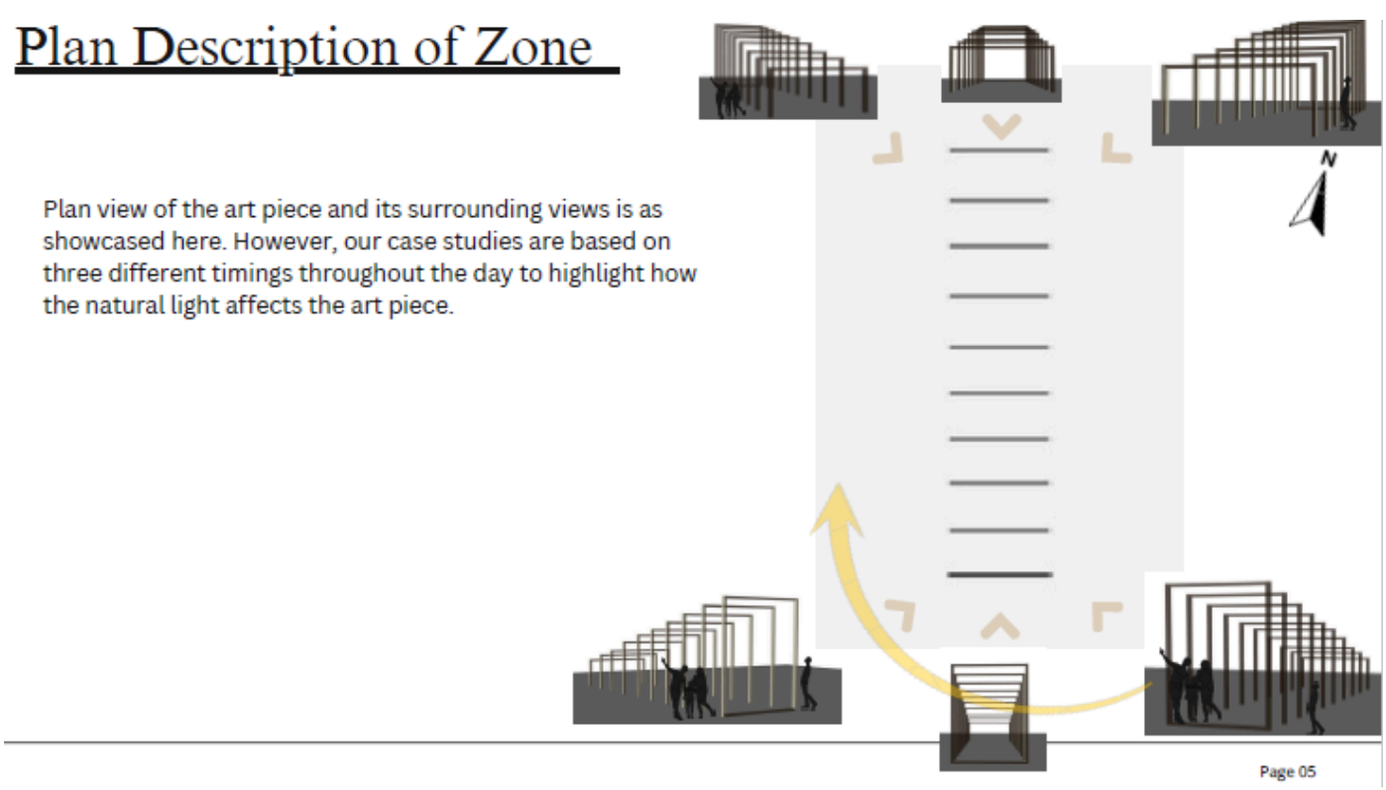
MIDTERM PROJECT: EXPLORING LIGHT IN ARCHITECTURE

Midterm Project: Exploring Light in Architecture

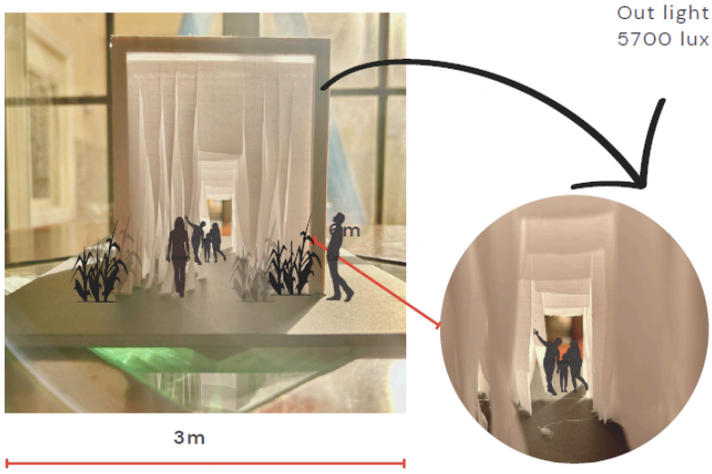
Building on earlier lessons, Assignment 3 takes students into a practical study of how light shapes architectural spaces. Using physical models, they assess daylight quality and quantity along a chosen pathway, applying real measurement techniques and analysis methods. This hands-on project blends technical skills with creative exploration, encouraging collaboration and deeper understanding of lighting in design.

Lighting Analysis – Case One

The histogram for Case One shows a high-contrast scene with low brightness, caused by limited light penetration. Most pixels fall in the darker range, shaping how the space feels—deep shadows from minimal filtered light create a dramatic and striking atmosphere.



RESULT OF DAYLIGHT FACTOR

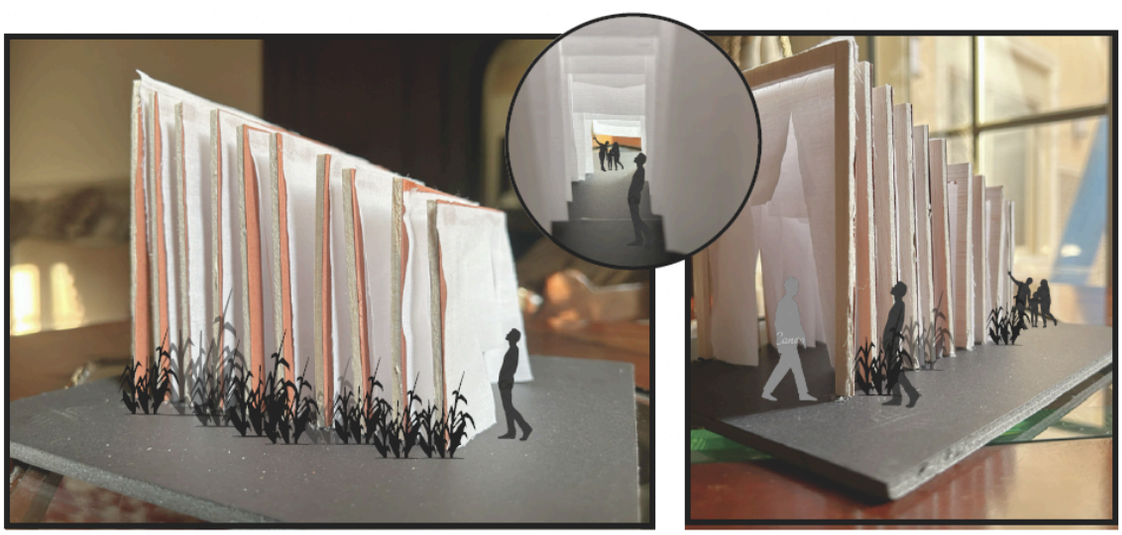


Out light
5700 lux

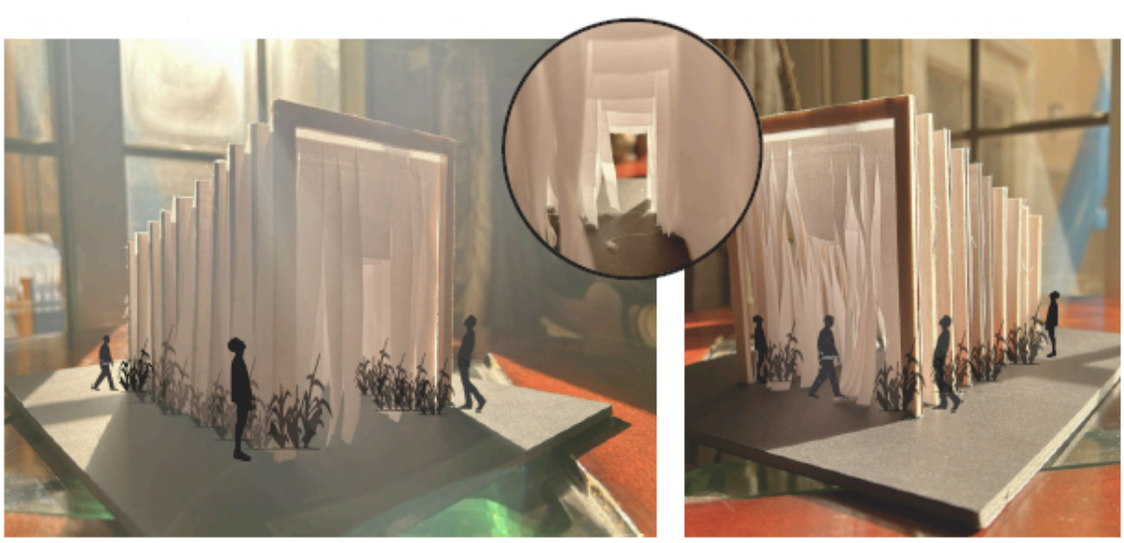
Project done by:
Raghad Hassan
Noorhan Abofaria
Sara Alahmari

In light:
95 lux/5700 X100%= 1.66%
60lux/5700 X100%= 1.05%
110 lux/5700 X100%= 1.92%
67 lux/5700 X100%= 1.17%

Average : 1.45%



- Scenario two examines the model's realistic quality, where wooden frames support suspended sheets that emphasize dynamic movement, enhanced by the influence of the wind.



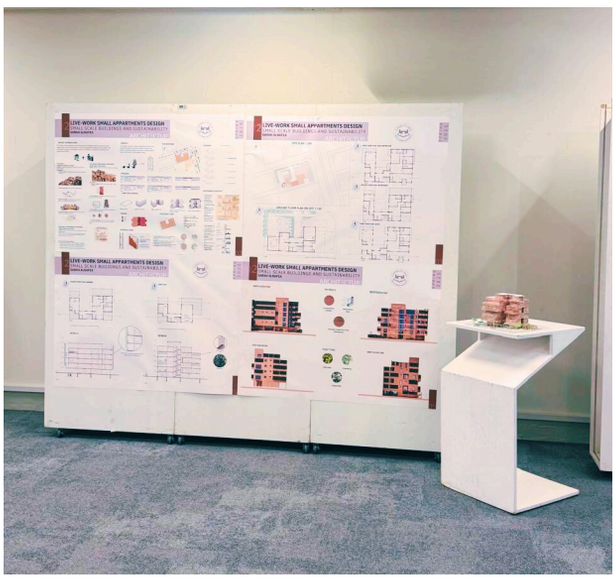
- Scenario one reinterprets the model's realistic qualities through a horizontal pattern, highlighting the dynamic movement generated by the wind and its impact on the individual.

Small Scale Buildings and sustainability

Project done by:

Shatha Boablad

Project done by: Sarah Alnafea



Course Code: ARCH 2502

STUDIO II:
SMALL SCALE BUILDINGS AND SUSTAINABILITY

Instructors: Ms. Suman Faruqui

Joury members :
Dr. Djihad Berkouk
Mr. Abdulmohsin Adas

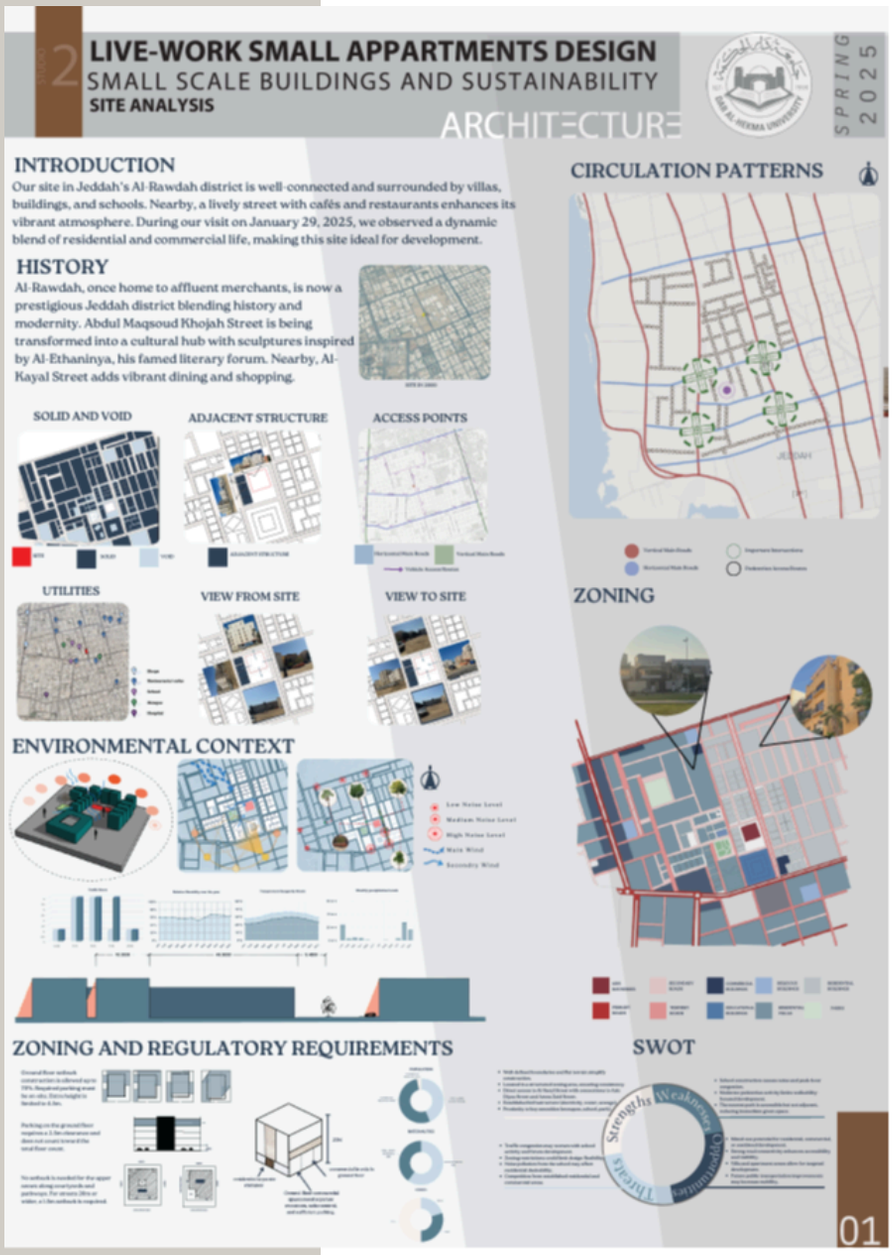
This studio course focuses on concepts of program, site characteristics, climate and principles of sustainable design. These factors are explored through studio-based design problems, as well as their role in shaping small scale buildings. This course also introduces site and climatic analysis, along with knowledge and application of conservation and sustainable practices while designing the projects.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

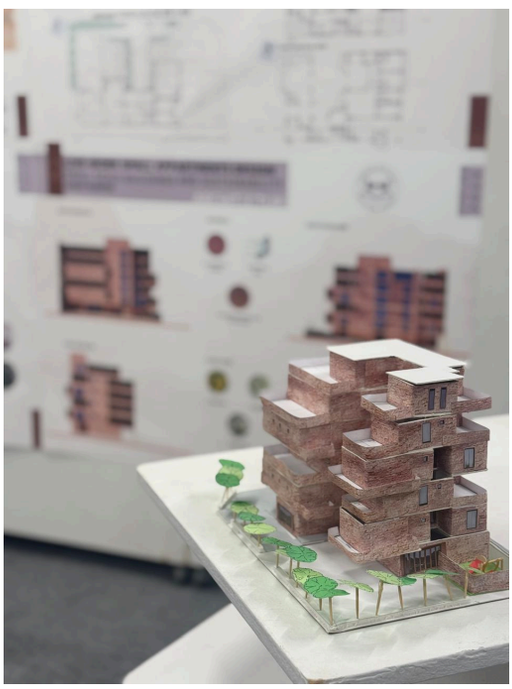
Knowledge & Understanding
Identify the sustainable principles of building in relation to context
Discuss the site characteristics, including the contour manipulation in the development of a project design

Collaborative Site Analysis

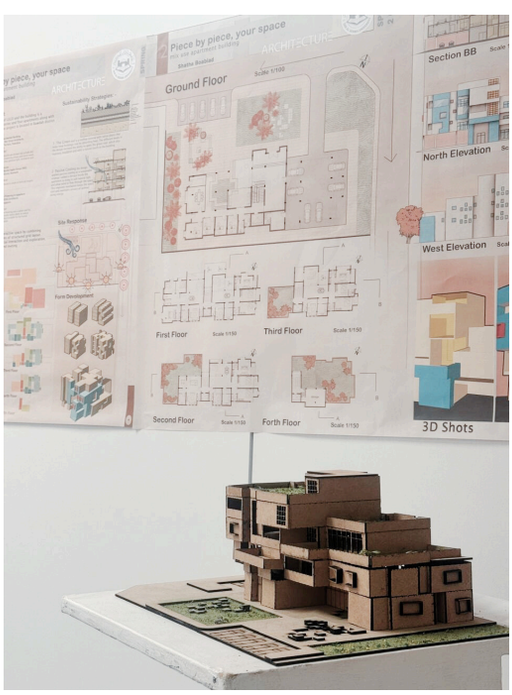
Working in groups, students conducted in-depth site research following an on-site visit. This hands-on experience allowed them to observe real conditions, gather data, and analyze key factors such as location, environment, and spatial context—building a stronger foundation for their design projects.

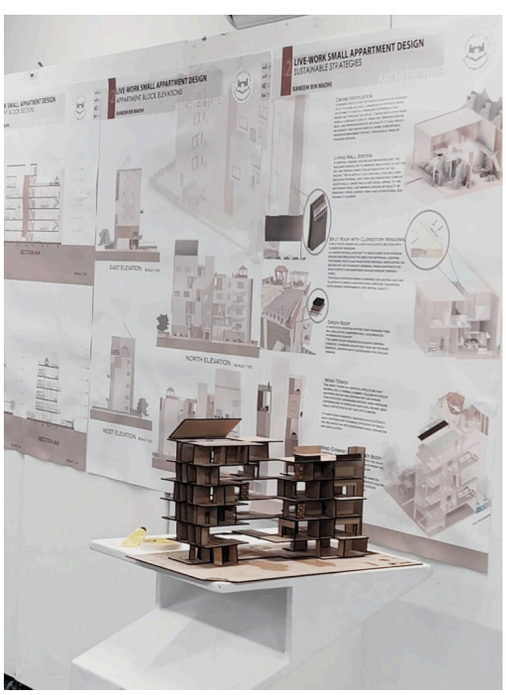


Project done by:
Sarah Alnafea

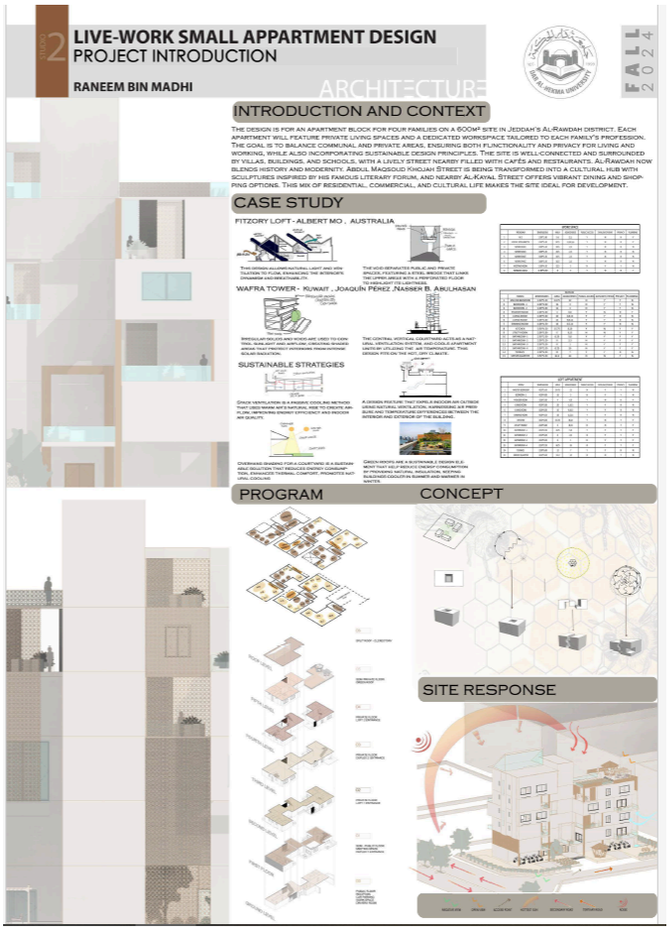


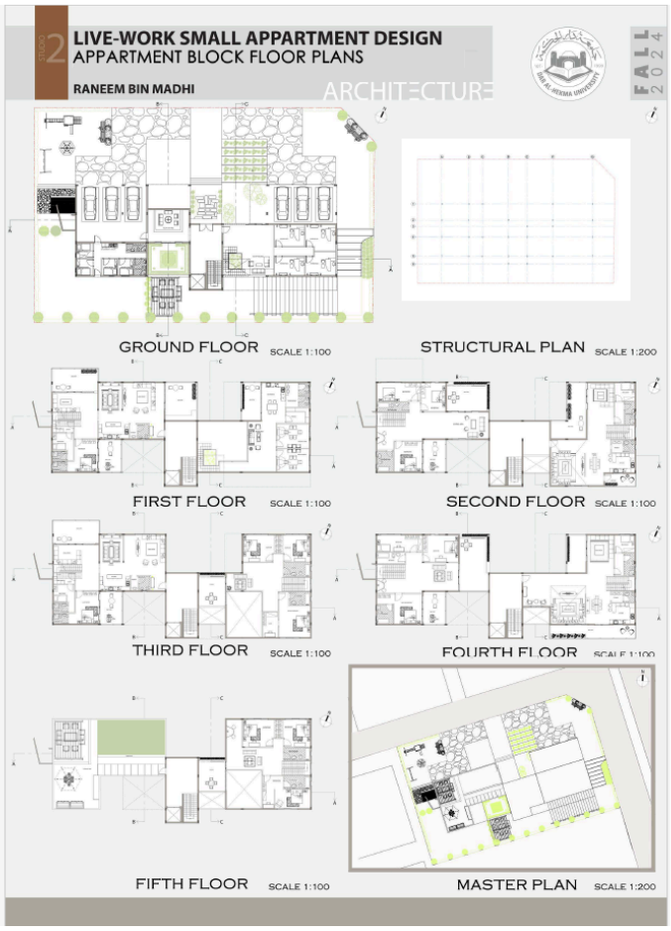
Project done by:
Shatha Boablad

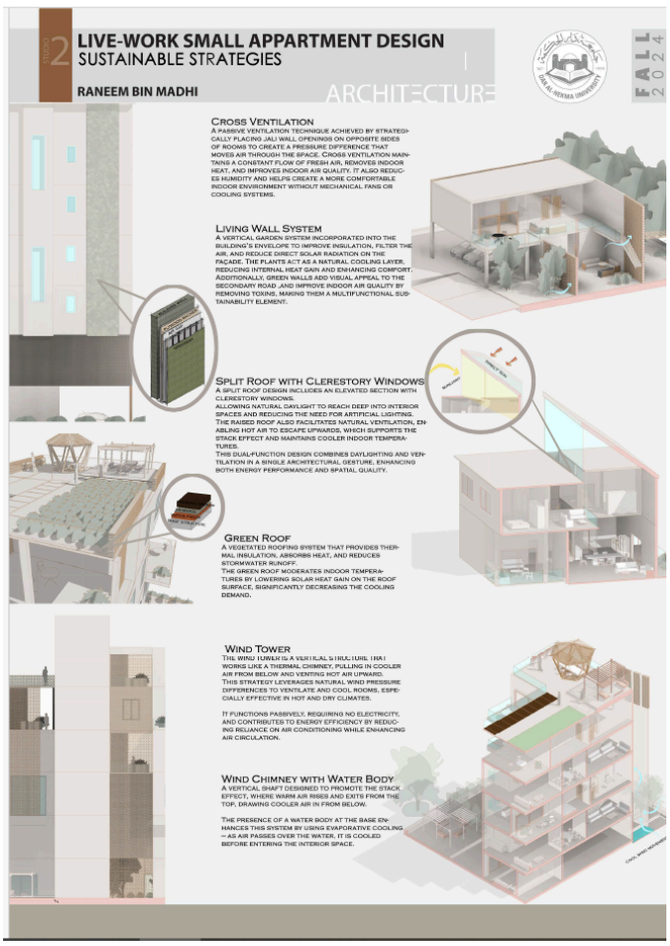




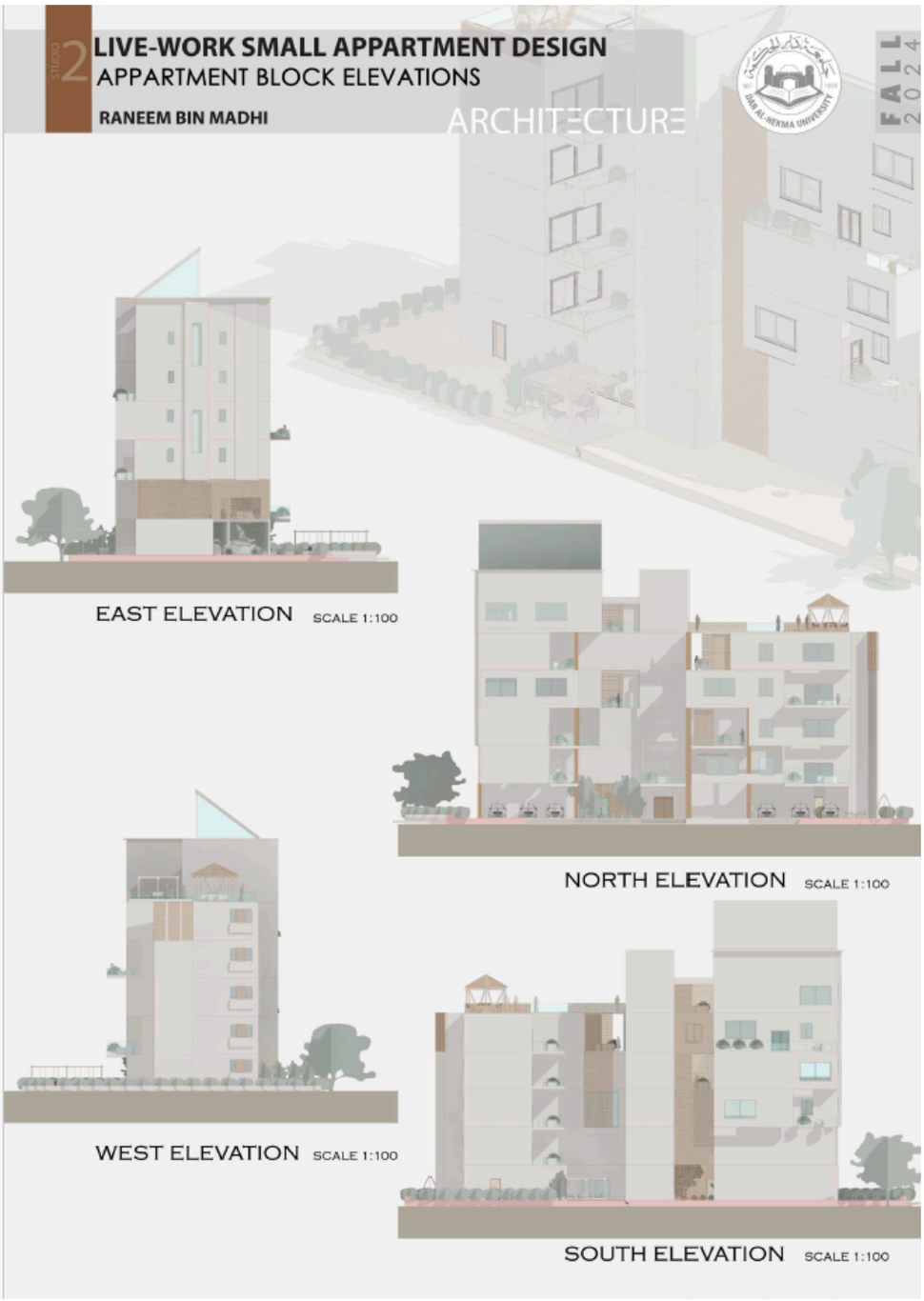
Project done by:
Raneem Bin Mahdi







Project done by:
Raneem Bin Mahdi



Project done by:
Raneem Bin Mahdi

MIXED-USE DESIGN

project done by:

Farah Algslan

Course Code: ARCH 4501

STUDIO V:

MIXED-USE DESIGN

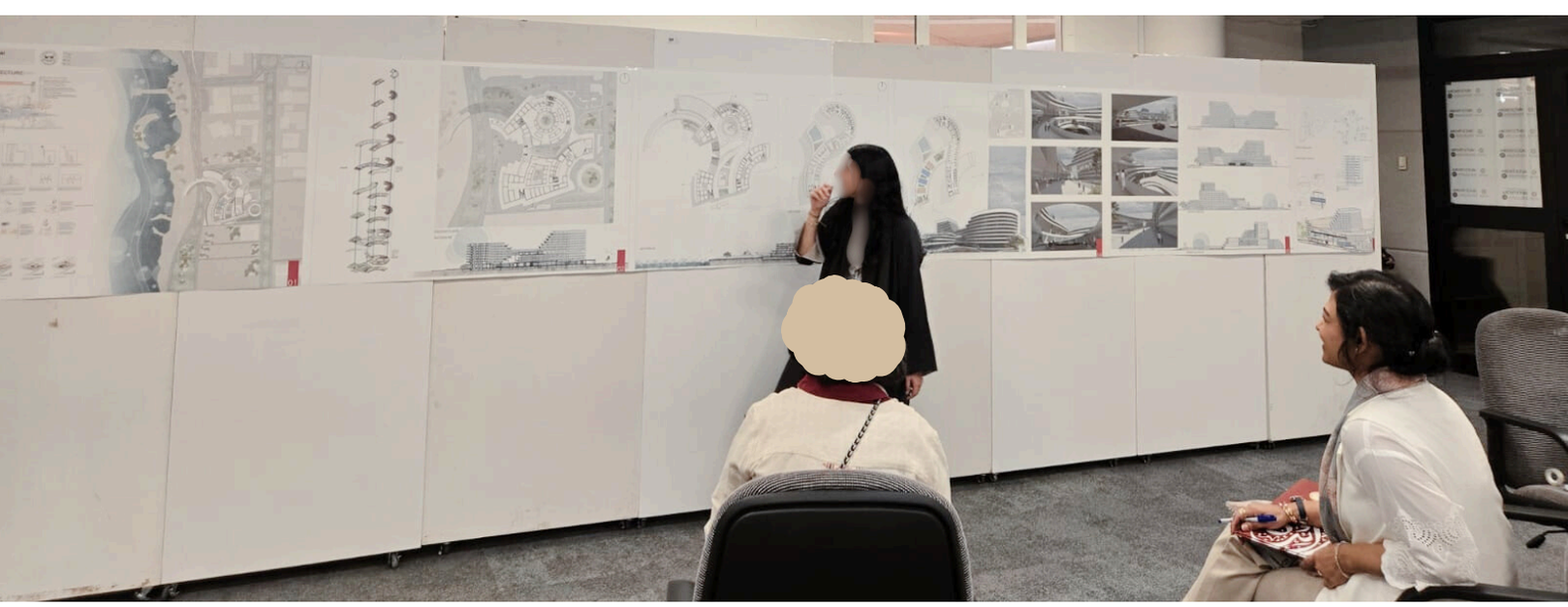
Instructors: **Ms. Suman Faruqui**

Jury member :**Ms. Sima Refae**

This studio course focuses on the complex relationships between regions, culture, site context, buildings' requirements, their use, and their users. It introduces the development process of mixed-use building programs and typologies. This course covers the research and documentation of the site analysis as it relates to various contextual forces. It emphasizes the architect's ethical role and responsibility towards his client as well as the community at large.

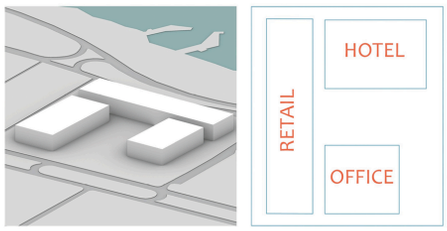
COURSE TOPICS:

1. Precedent studies on mixed-use building approaches.
2. Mixed-use program analysis:
2.1 Understanding user needs and relationships
2.2 Balancing public and private spaces
3. Site analysis:
3.1 Land use codes
3.2 Pedestrian & vehicular circulation
3.3 Accessibility & parking
4. Developing innovative design solutions that respond to program needs.
5. Exploring massing, materials, and building envelopes to express different uses.
6. Communicating designs effectively through various media.



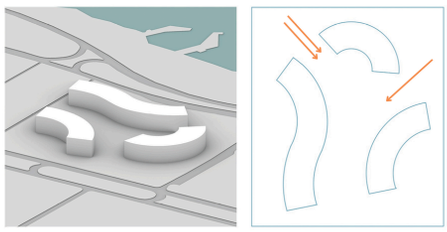
project done by: Farah Algslan

FORM GENERATION



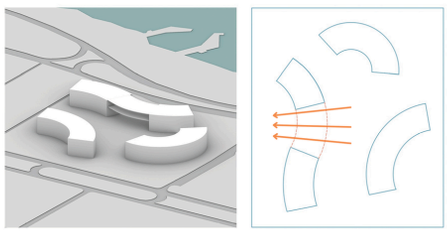
1.

Starting with 3 blocks that represent the 3 main areas.



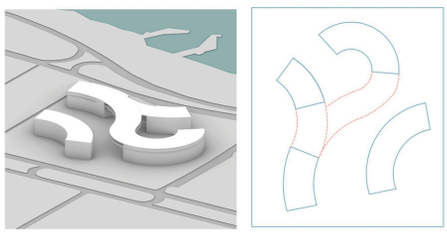
2.

emphasizing the entrance and made the mass respond to the site



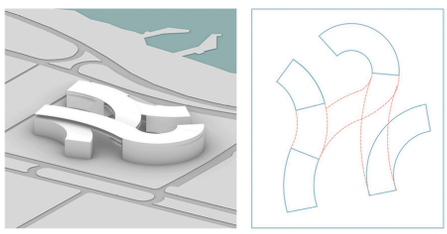
3.

framing the view



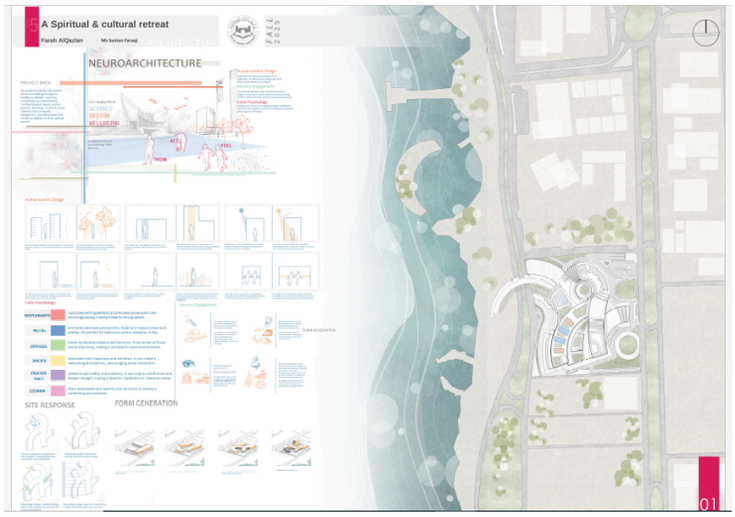
4.

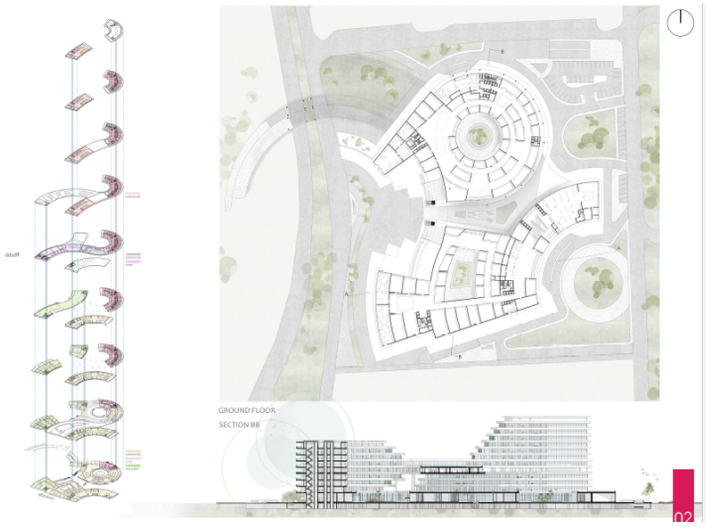
make connection between retail and hotel



5.

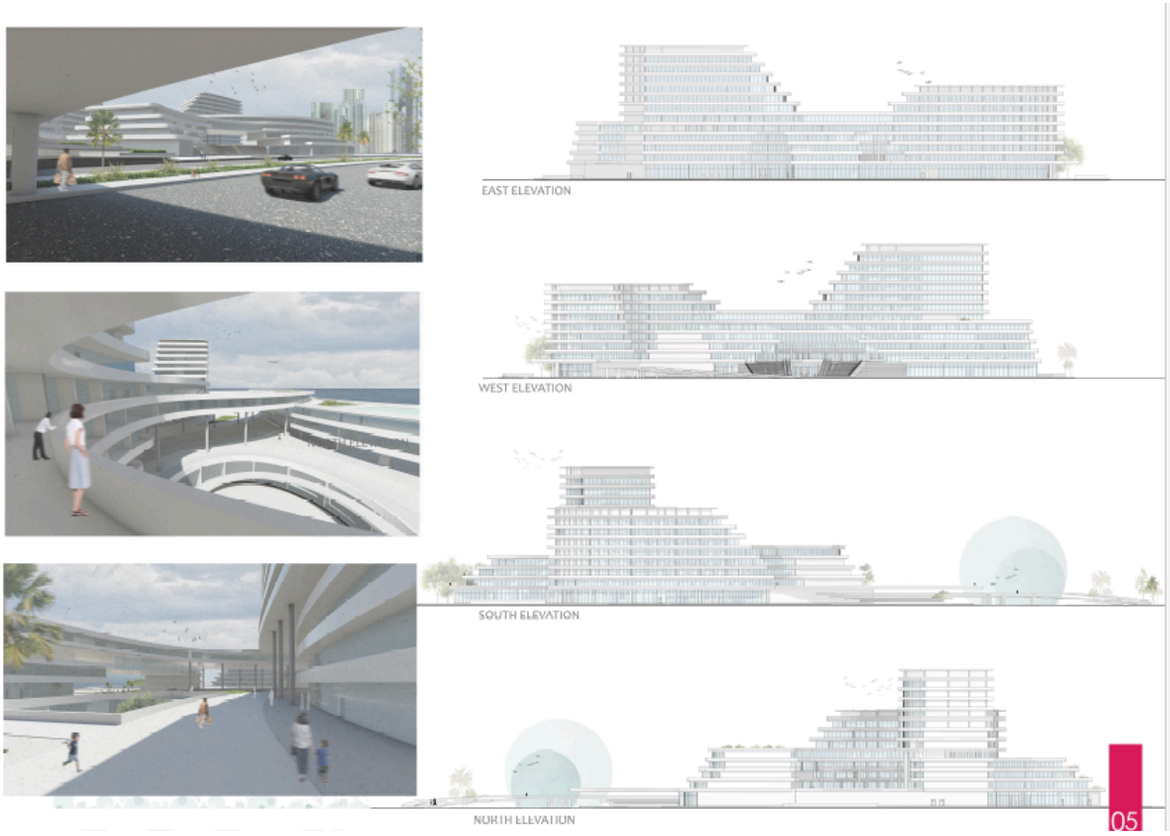
make connection between hotel and offices

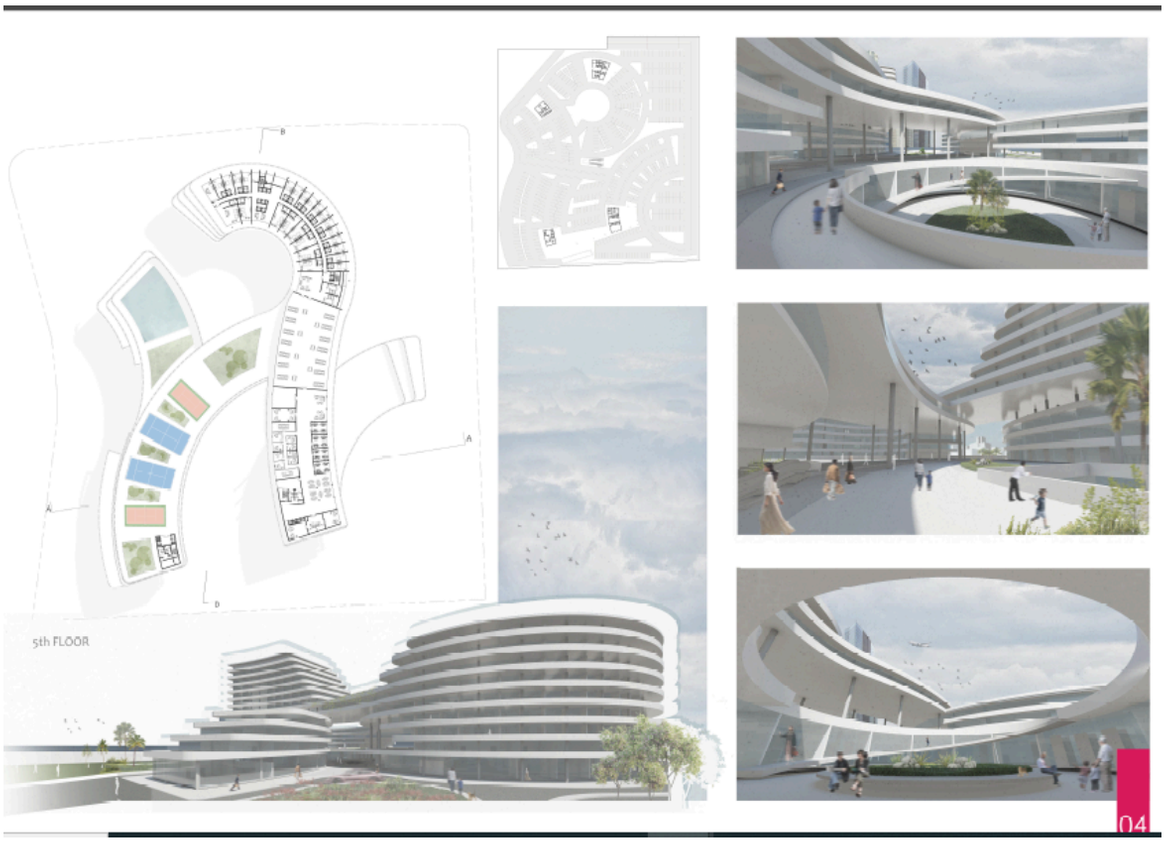




project done by: Farah Algslan

project done by: Farah Algslan





Civic Design

project done by: Kadi

Course Code: ARCH 3502

STUDIO IV:

CIVIC DESIGN

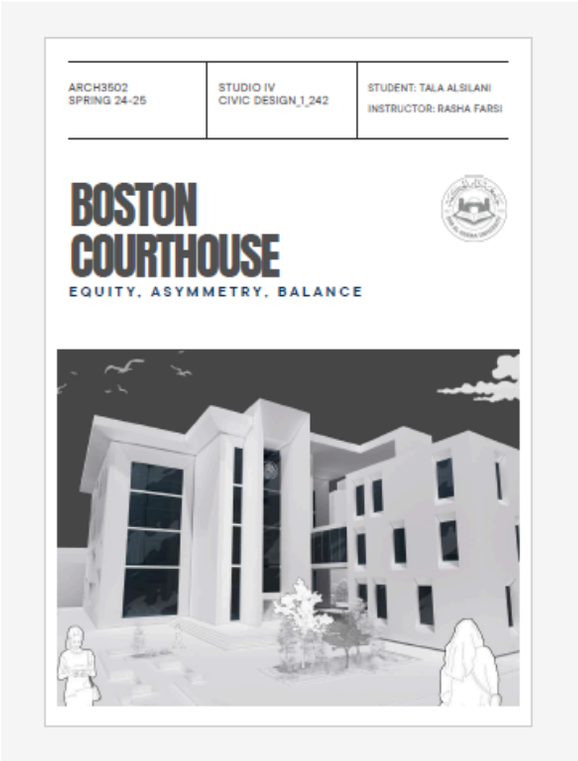
Instructors: Ms. Rasha Farsi

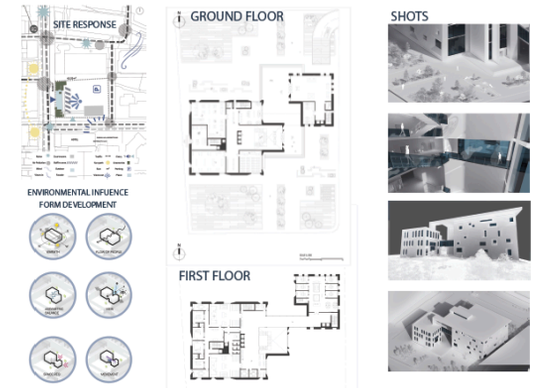
This studio course explores possibilities of cultural, environmental and programmatic contexts for mid-scale Civic
buildings. While considering sustainable practices in architecture, the course highlights meaning, space, form,
structures and materiality in the design of a Civic buildings.

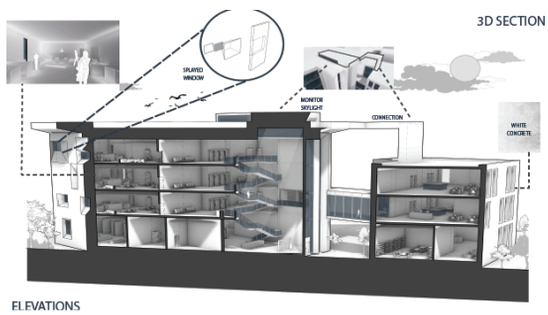
Design Studio: Courthouse in Boston
In this studio, students are exploring how to design a modern courthouse set in Boston. The course introduces them to essential architectural considerations for judicial buildings, such as clarity of circulation, separation of public and private zones, accessibility, security, and the symbolic expression of transparency and justice.

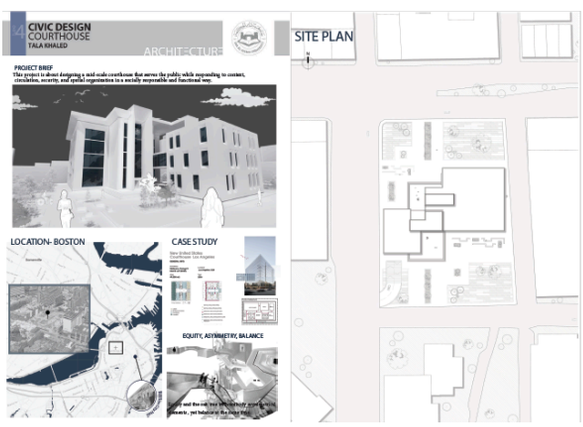
By studying these principles, students gain insight into how civic architecture balances functionality with representation. At the same time, they are encouraged to look outward—drawing inspiration from international examples that open doors to new ideas and design possibilities.

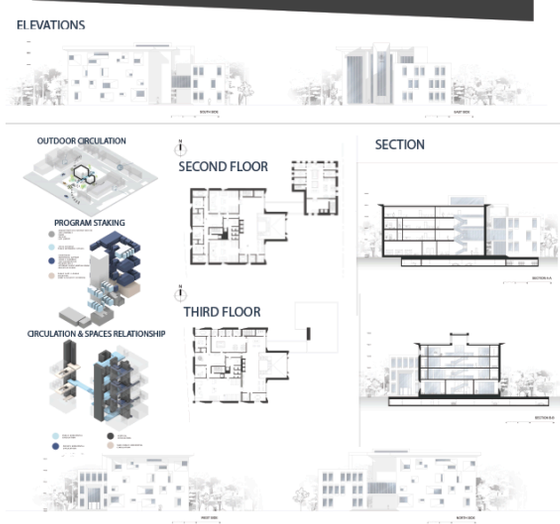
project done by: Tala Khaled

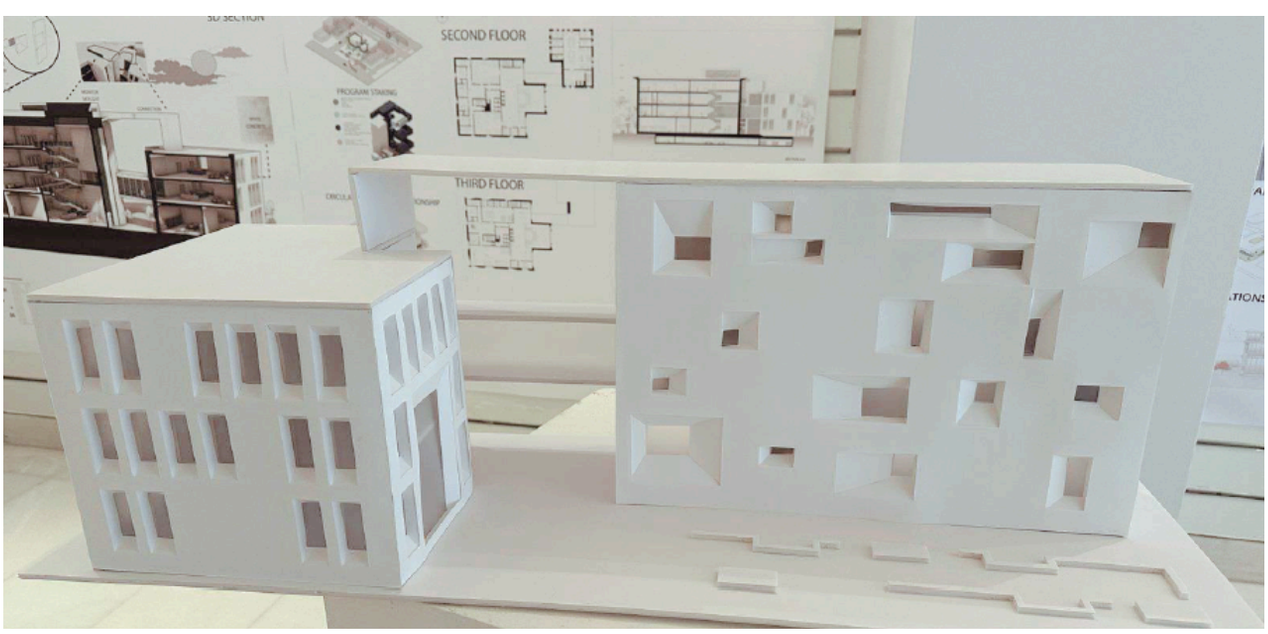


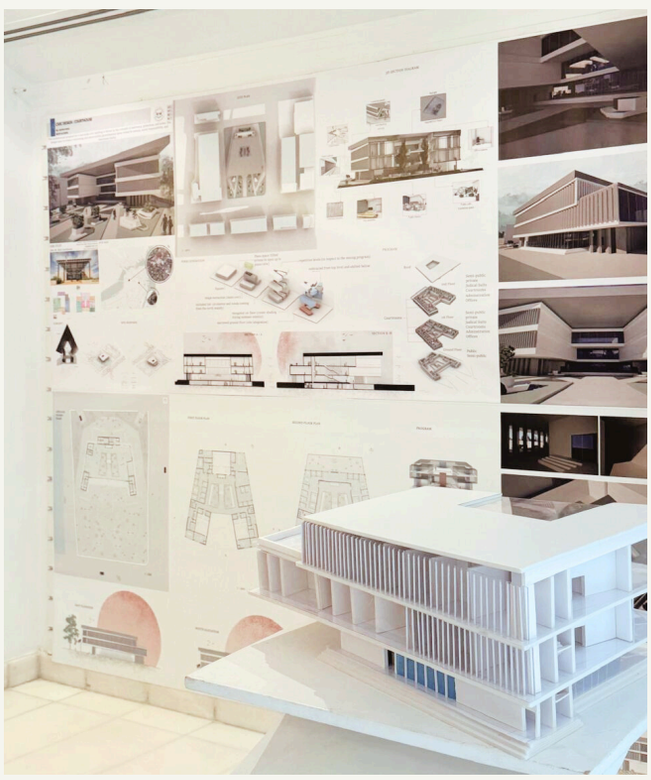












INTERIOR SHOT

CIVIC DESIGN : COURTHOUSE

Capstone Project

Project done by :Zayn Alsham

Course Code: 5502

STUDIO 8-

CAPSTONE PROJECT

Instructors:: Ms. Rasha Farsi
Dr. Mohammed Gomaa

This studio course focuses on developing advanced insights regarding local, regional, and global challenges in architectural design. It emphasizes sociological, economic, culturaland environmental issues in complex design projects. This course addresses specific issues of project development in professional and technical terms and reinforces the application of sustainable design principles in comprehensive studio problems

I.COURSE TOPICS: (add as per the course specification)

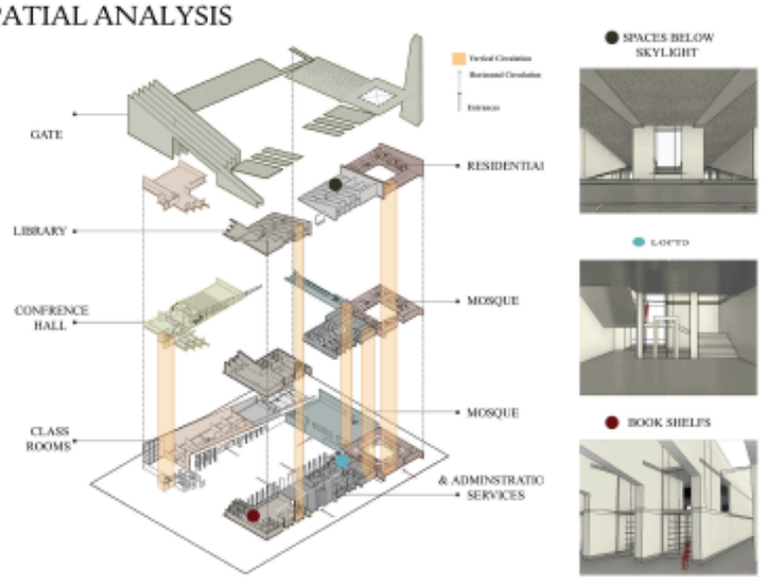
1. Design Process.
2. Project definition, scopeand limitations based on the research proposal.
3. Methods of projectscheduling and development in the context of local and global practice.
4. Design development.
5. Architectural details as a representative of the whole.
6. Presentation methods for speaking with public and professional audiences including strategies for the final jury presentation.
7. Graphic design and packaging of capstone projectas a reflective learning portfolio.

FENA'A

PROJECT DONE BY :ZAYN ALSHAM

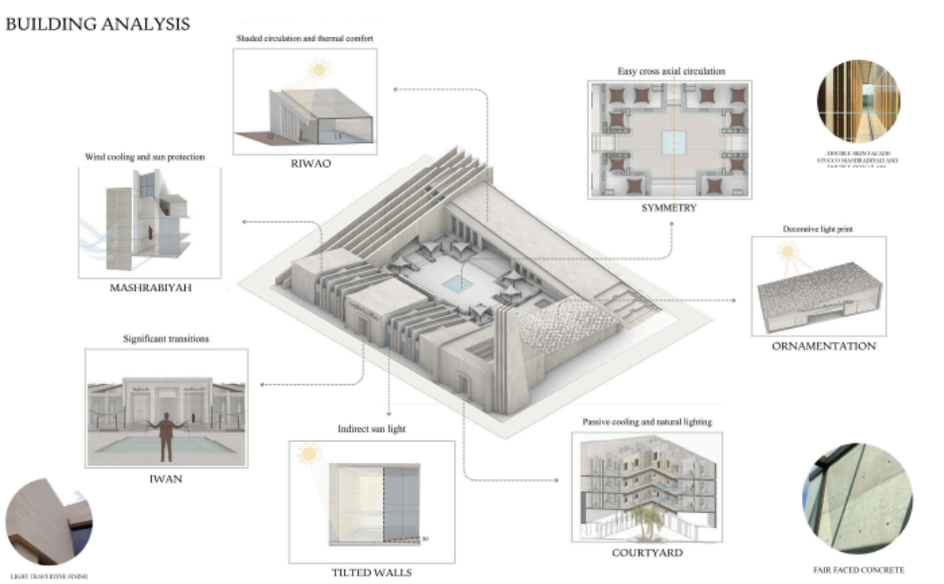
Fena'a is a mixed used building of an Islamic institute, a mosque, a library, and aguesthouse. It is located in the diplomatic quarter in Riyadh and spans 21,000 squaremeters. The project delivers core common values between educational and Islamicbuildings by focusing on sustainability, functionality, spirituality, and social engagement.The project reintroduces Islamic architecture through contemporary design. It combinessustainable strategies such as Riwaq, inner courtyards, and mashrabiyas.Fana is characterized by a spiritual essence, reflected in the use of materials with earthycolor palette which enhances the divinity of the space. The design of the inner courtyardcontribute to the illusion of paradise through the inclusion of various water andvegetative elements.

SPATIAL ANALYSIS



NW ELEVATION

NE ELEVATION



The courtyard is designed to host a variety of functions, includingoutdoor learning, workshops and bazaars. The entrances of each mass are distinguishedby verses from the Qur'an, serving as holy reminders that foster tranquility. The buildingdouble skin facade is inspired by Najdi pattern, allows natural light and ventilation.The projects name can be pronounced with either a fatḥa (a) or a kasra (i). Whenpronounced with a kasre, it refers to the "courtyard," a key element in Islamicarchitecture. When pronounced with a fatha, it signifies the concept of "ephemirality"reflecting the idea that all creation is subject to disappearance. This dual meaning isembodied in the architectural masses, which appear to either emerge or dissolve,capturing the essence of both interpretations.

Achievement & Milestone

هيئة تطوير منطقة المدينة المنورة
Al Madinah Region Development Authority

Urban Heritage

This course project was carried out in collaboration with the **Madinah Region Development Authority (MRDA)**, represented by the
Director Arch. Taha Alandejani.

Urban Design Studio Enhances Quba Vision through Historic Site Visit and Regional Collaboration

Instructor: Sima Refae

In a remarkable educational experience this semester, students from the **Urban Design Studio** in the Architecture Department, led by faculty member **Sima Refae**, had the opportunity to take their learning beyond the classroom into the heart of **Al-Madinah**.

As part of their first-semester work for the 2024/25 academic year, the students developed design proposals for a **real site in Al-Ayn**, near the historic **Quba Mosque** — an area rich in cultural and spiritual significance, home to landmarks such as the **Al-Yaseer Well**, where the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ once drank, and the historic **Banu Umayyah** Mosque.

Turning Knowledge into Impact

The students presented design solutions that thoughtfully responded to the site's identity, natural environment, and historical layers, place-sensitive visions that reflected a strong understanding of how urban design can connect people to their cultural and physical surroundings.
Their work balanced authenticity with innovation— proposing ways to preserve heritage while improving quality of life in the area.

This collaboration showcases contributing to sustainable, heritage-driven urban development in alignment with Saudi Vision 2030.
Our sincere thanks go to the jury panel for their valuable insights throughout the semester:
Dr. Adnan Adas, Dr. Alsaleh Sugati, Arch. Taha Alandejani, Mohammed Gomaa, and Djihed Berkouk.
Special appreciation to Suman Mansur and Abdulmohsin Adas

All student groups were selected to exhibit their work at the Amanat Al-Madinah. Their proposals were presented to an esteemed group of local and international architects and received excellent feedback. Each student was awarded a certificate of appreciation from the Authority

Student Groups:

Group 1:

Fatima Hassan, Rafal Makki, Zayn Alsham Ammar, Sedrah Mando, Hala Alsultan

Group 2:

Naseem Hussein, Esma Abdullah, Raseel Al-Bokari, Yara Alnajdi

Group 3:

Shahad Azhar, Rania Zahid, Bashayer Almalki, Fotoon Fakieh

Mud, Memory & Making Together

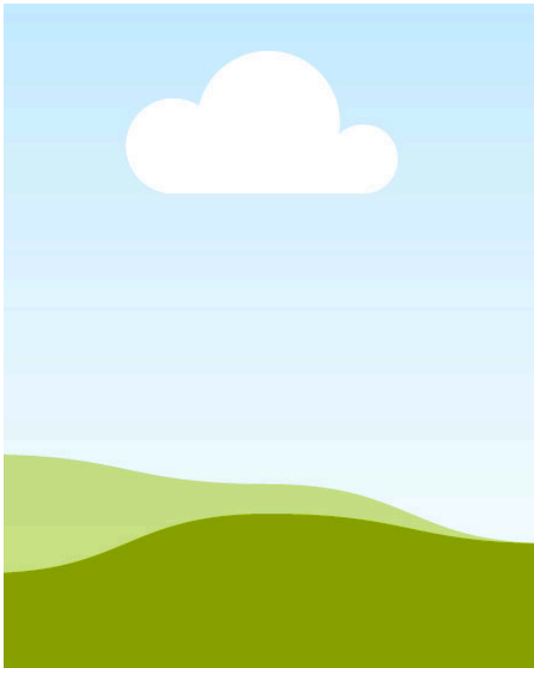
Our Workshop at the Islamic Biennale

At the Islamic Biennale, we collaborated to create a unique course exploring the story of mud and its uses through the years.

We brought tools, opened the space, and invited participants into a hands-on workshop where learning and creativity met. Together, we experimented, shaped, and discovered mud not only as a building material, but as a language of culture and connection.

In a spirit of fun and collaboration, everyone contributed to a shared process. By the end, we had formed one large sculpture—unified in rhythm and harmony, a reflection of collective effort and shared meaning.

Deep Gratitude to the Biennale team:
Dalia Alireza@Samaher Alderhali · Ali
And our amazing workshop assistant @Fathyah Ahmed—your hand & spirit grounded it all.



Along the way, we studied four different types of mud, each with its own qualities and stories, deepening our understanding of how earth continues to shape architecture and expression.

Grateful Collaboration

Co-led with
Muzna Al-Quaiti, Suman Mansur, and Abdulmohsin Adas, this workshop was as much about hearts as it was about hands.
To everyone who joined us—thank you for lending your energy, ideas, and spirit.
You gave the mud its meaning and the space its soul.

Participants:
Somaya Alsayed · Yasir Siddiqui · Layan Aloufi · Dr. Etidal Basri · Farah Aburemsh · Reem Abed · Yara Aljohani · Wid Alsabban · Ahmed Alsulimani · Sohad Refae · Alia El Akhras · Dalal Alahmri · Swalah Eshki

Visionary 2025 Exhibition

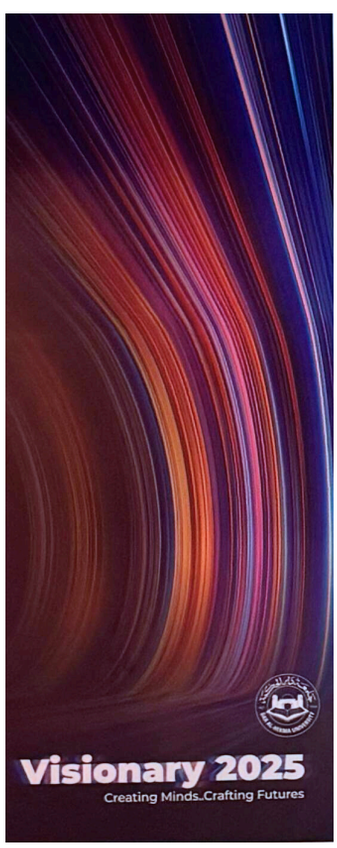
Visionary 2025 Exhibition

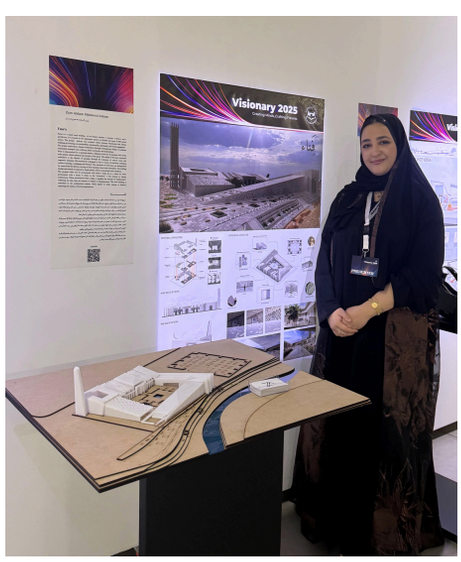
Dar Al-Hekma University proudly hosted the “Visionary 2025” exhibition at Jeddah Park, showcasing the graduation projects of students from the College of Engineering, Computing, and Design.

The exhibition featured outstanding projects from the departments of Visual Communication, Interior Design, Architecture, Computer Science, Cybersecurity, and Information Technology.

Led successfully by Mr. Abdul Muhsen Adas, the event welcomed a remarkable audience, including esteemed architects, industry professionals, and family members who came to celebrate the creativity and innovation of our graduating students.

The exhibition was a true testament to the talent, dedication, and vision of Dar Al-Hekma's students as they step into their professional futures.





Architecture
العمارة
Visionary 2025
Creating Minds..Crafting Futures

Graphic Design
التصميم الجرافيكي

Visionary 2025
Creating Minds..Crafting Futures
الدانوب
Danube
BAYTONIA
بيتونيا

Visionary 2025
Creating Minds..Crafting Futures
Your Attendance
MATTERS
And So Do

Credits & Acknowledgments

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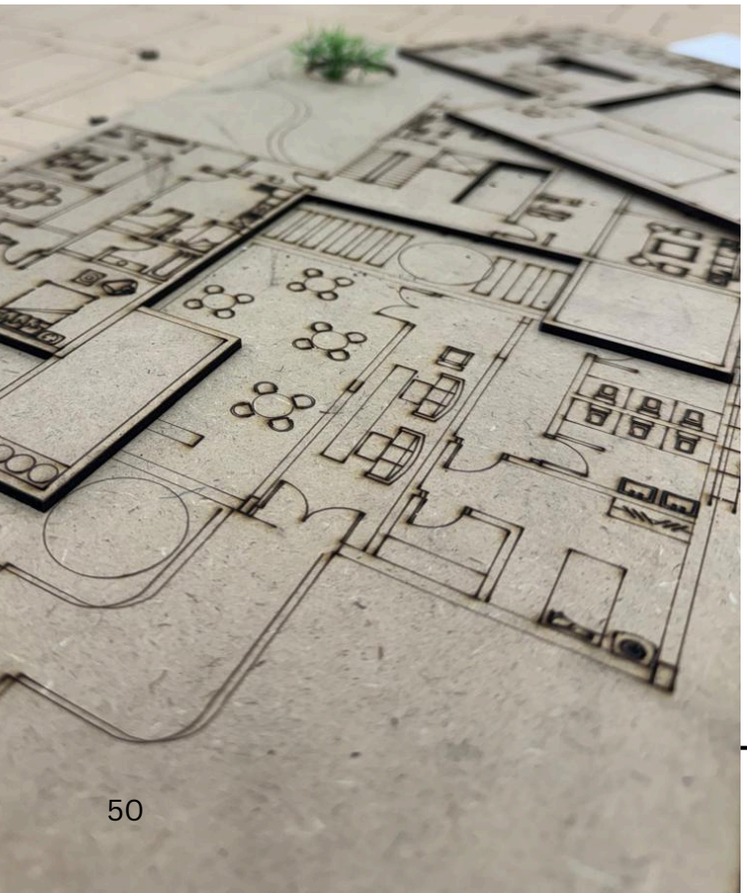

Special Thanks

We would like to express our sincere appreciation to:
-The Architecture Department Faculty & Staff
-Student Contributors & Photographers

Contact Us

Stay connected with us for future updates, events, and student achievements:

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office :187-5 Ext: 309

"Great architecture begins with great ideas — and even greater people."

CONCEPT
ADAPTABILITY
CONNECTION
APPROACH
Neurobiological effect of Physical Activity

PROJECT BRIEF
CHALLENGES
PROBLEM BRIEF
USERS
A human is a collection of humans.
USERS
INSPIRATIONS
CONCEPT
The Black Canvas: An Emotional Journey Through Color
BLACK (AS ABSENCE) AND COLOR (AS PRESENCE)
KEYWORD
APPROACH
SENSE OF CALMNESS
SPACE OF SENSE
SENSE OF SELF

ARCHITECTURE

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