ARCH 3993 – Directed Study
Representation in Professional Practice

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1. The premise for and purpose of the directed study/internship.
The purpose of the independent study is to develop my portfolio in a way that starts to tie all of my academic experiences so far with my experience at my internship at BKV Group. Design representation is something that is a vital part of architectural portfolios, and my desire is to develop my portfolio even further by incorporating representations that are more directly a part of professional practice. Illustration and imaging of various kinds is something that I need to develop. A large part of architecture school is communicating ideas and I plan to increase this ability through this independent study course.

2) The primary learning goal and 3-5 learning objectives.
The primary goal of this directed study is to develop a greater understanding of the kinds of architectural representation in professional practice, and to practice applying these modes of representation to my own projects. Specific learning objectives are:

- To explore how different design tools (e.g., Revit, Rhino, AutoCAD, Photoshop, hand drawings, etc.) affect the process and create different kinds of representations.
- To develop academic projects and representations of academic projects that are relatable to professionals who may be interviewing or reviewing me and my work. By the end of the directed study, I will have developed a set of representations that are worthy of an architecture student graduating with the intention of pursuing professional practice in the future as well as a master's degree.
- To develop a portfolio of representations that demonstrates a dialogue between the project and the idea, and a dialogue between the outcome and the process.

3) Student’s background or coursework that serves as preparation.
I have taken two BDA workshops so far. The first one was Design Foundations in Architecture and the second class was Synthetic Ecology. In both workshops, we designed and developed small-scale projects through both two- and three-dimensional modes of representation. I have also taken Revit and AutoCAD. The directed study is an opportunity to develop, refine and or build on this work so as to present it more professionally.

4) The mode of inquiry, research methods and resources.
Work will be done through understanding professional practice and using my experience at BKV to create work reflects this professional perspective. The professional process can be quite different and I hope to use this experience to expand my own design thinking. Specifically, I will be observing and practicing professional forms of representation as they are a part of the firm culture at BKV. Using BKV projects as a precedent, I may revisit my academic design projects and re-present/develop them with a different audience (i.e., the client, the contractor or the prospective employer) in mind.

5) The intended outcome/results and evaluation means.
The resulting project will be a collection of portfolio-worthy representations that shows an increased understanding of the architectural design process especially as it relates to professional practice. Practical considerations (e.g., how a client understands the project, how to construct the project) should also be seen within the project. The resulting final document should be professional and be marketable to professional companies. The specific deliverables will be negotiated with the instructor after a time of immersion at BKV. A written summary will be included with the collection of representations.

6) Intended contact hours/meeting dates.
Contact will be done through email and in person. Ms. Lindt will be going to Italy for 3-4 weeks so the first weeks of the internship so I will be concentrating on working in this new professional environment and observing especially how representation is a part of professional practice. I will make sure to take notes and write down inspiration for project ideas as I am working on work responsibilities. I feel that these first few weeks will give me a better understanding and insight into my own project work. After Ms. Lindt has returned, we will set up meeting times and contact through email to maintain and exceed project requirements, minimally meeting every two weeks until the end of term.