FACULTY ART DESIGN AND ARCHITECTURE

2015 November

Main Assessment

DEPARTMENT OF ARCHITECTURE

MODULE NAME : THEORY OF DESIGN 4

MODULE CODE : TYD41-1

DATE : 3 NOVEMBER 2015

DURATION : 180 MINUTES

TIME : 8:30

TOTAL MARKS : 100

ASSESSOR(S) : K STUCKE

MODERATOR(S) : KRYNAUW NEL

NUMBER OF PAGES : 3

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

- This is an OPEN book assessment.
- Read the questions carefully and answer only what is asked.
- Number your answers clearly.
- Write neatly and legibly.
- Structure your answers by using appropriate headings and sub-headings.
- The general University of Johannesburg policies, procedures and rules pertaining to written assessments apply to this assessment.
During the Theory of Design course, we have had architectural theories presented by each student. These presentations have led to interesting debates within the class. We have also explored the use of precedent studies in our design process, and considered architecture in relation to other art forms, particularly music.

The first 2 questions in this exam are intended to test your understanding and experience of these aspects of the course. Please feel free to express your own opinion, yet the basis of that opinion and the argument that you present is what will be tested. There are no “right” answers, but rather the understanding of the debates and academic support for your opinion will be scrutinised.

The 3rd question relates to your Urban Design course.

The 4th question is compulsory and relates to the set reading provided for this exam.

**Answer 2 out of the first 3 questions. Question 4 is compulsory.**

**Question 1: Art and Architecture (Optional) 25 marks**

Is Architecture a pure Art form? If so why, and if not what differentiates it from pure Art? Please substantiate your answer with examples and constructive reflection.

**Question 2: The use of Precedents in Design (Optional) 25 marks**

Is anything “new” anymore? Has everything been done already? Is it possible to create a completely new idea, and is that even important? Looking at modern music, and how many artists make their living by mixing and sampling other musician’s work, how true is that in architecture? Is it a valid way to practice? Is it enough that we simply use other people’s ideas and apply them to our projects or do we need to develop our own new ideas from a design theory and methodology perspective? Is this even possible? Discuss in relation to your own precedent study and your own tower project.

**Question 3: Modernist Urban Design Theory (Optional) 25 marks**

Discuss Modernist Urban Design Theory and describe its application in the context of today’s Johannesburg.
Question 4: Permaculture – Set reading (Compulsory) 50 marks

Permaculture is a design philosophy originally used to create productive landscapes at any scale, whether within a city on a high-rise balcony, or on a whole farm. The original idea was the production of food. However the design methodology has been found to useful in almost any other aspect of problem solving, from business organisational and operative practices to building design.

Discuss Permaculture as a Design Methodology for architecture. Can it assist you to create form, space and meaning? Discuss how you can or cannot use the 12 Design principles in your own architectural work. If you have already implemented these in your work, give examples of this with sketches of solutions that resonate with these principles.