



Master of Architecture Midpoint Review Guidelines

The Midpoint Review is an opportunity to demonstrate your knowledge and skills as you formulate your final thesis project. After reviewing your midpoint proposal and your portfolio of academic work, and following your final midpoint presentation and midpoint class (ARH 690), you will be assessed on whether you are able to pass midpoint and begin work on your final thesis project.

The Midpoint Project and portfolio will be presented as well-designed multi-page PDF booklets, accompanied by a verbal presentation.

1. ELIGIBILITY FOR MIDPOINT REVIEW

Enrollment in ARH 690 Thesis Preparation is a pre-requisite for Midpoint Review eligibility. In turn, in order to enroll in the ARH 690 Thesis Preparation course you must have completed all the core requirement classes for your program of study (M.Arch. Track 1 or 2). Core courses may be waived with academic director approval only.

2. SCHEDULING YOUR MIDPOINT REVIEW

A. Review Date

Midpoint Reviews are conducted in the spring, and fall semesters during the ARH 690 Thesis Preparation class. Presentations typically start in the thirteenth week of the fall or spring semester in this class, though they may take place before or after, depending on director availability.

You do not need to sign up for a Midpoint review – students enrolled in ARH 690 Thesis Preparation and Development will automatically be scheduled for a review. The Midpoint



Coordinator will contact you with your presentation date and time during the semester that you are enrolled for ARH 690.

B. Review Orientation

Discuss any questions you may have about the review with your Graduate Student Services Advisor or the Midpoint Coordinator. Your Midpoint Review will be presented online if you are enrolled in ARH 690 online, or on campus if you are enrolled in ARH 690 on campus.

C. Attendance & Cancellations

Midpoint Review is a required component of your Master's level program and must be completed before commencing the directed study or final portfolio portion of your program. Cancellations or postponements must be organized through the Midpoint Review Coordinator at least 5 working days prior to the scheduled review date. Late cancellations or postponements will be considered "No Show" and fail the Midpoint Review and connected ARH 690 Thesis Preparation and Development course.

3. DELIVERABLE DETAILS & DUE DATES

Your Midpoint Review will consist of the following three components: portfolio, thesis book, and oral presentation.

[Link to tutorial on uploading work to LMS](#)

IMPORTANT: If your Thesis Book and Portfolio are not received prior to your scheduled presentation, your Midpoint Review will be cancelled and you will need to retake ARH 690 Thesis Preparation and Development in the following semester.

A. Portfolio

Your portfolio should include images from every design studio and selected supporting classes, as needed, to illustrate an understanding of architectural design and to assess overall skill attainment.

You will not be presenting your portfolio, but it will be reviewed by the Midpoint Review Committee. The overall dimension of your booklet should not exceed 17" in any given direction on a single page. Upload the portfolio in the LMS (Portfolio Icon) as a PDF file at



least one day prior to your scheduled review date.

B. Thesis Proposal

The thesis book should consist of a written proposal accompanied by images that support the requirements listed in the Thesis Deliverables Checklist, which will be provided to you by your ARH 690 instructor.

The proposal must be professionally executed, grammatically correct and free of spelling errors and typos. The overall dimension of your booklet should not exceed 17" in any given direction on a single page. Upload the thesis in the LMS (Thesis Icon) as a PDF file at least one day prior to your scheduled review date.

C. Oral Presentation

Practice your oral presentation in advance of your review to ensure your comfort level during the presentation. Be prepared to answer questions when you are finished. You will only present your thesis proposal (not your portfolio). Ensure that you present your thesis proposal within 10 minutes to the Midpoint Review Committee. You may use notes, flashcards, or prompts as cues to help you remember the information during your oral presentation. Do not read your entire presentation.

4. MIDPOINT REVIEW PROCESS

A. Review Expectations and Structure

Midpoint Reviews are approximately 30 minutes in duration. Your presentation should not exceed 10 minutes. The Midpoint Review Committee members will ask questions for approximately 10-15 minutes following your presentation, asking for clarification and further elaborations on your work. The final midpoint decision will be posted in the LMS.

B. Results

The approval of your Midpoint Review is linked to the grade you receive for ARH 690. You will receive one of the following outcomes following your Midpoint presentation.



Approved: You have passed, are eligible to earn a passing grade in ARH 690 Thesis Preparation and Development, and can now proceed with Directed Study for the following semester.

Not Approved, Resubmit: Following specific Midpoint Review Committee requirements, your project requires changes that can and must be corrected and re-submitted within 3 weeks (exact date of resubmission will be posted with your final review outcome in the LMS.) The resubmission will be reviewed again by the Midpoint Review Committee, and if the resubmission meets the requirements, the Midpoint Proposal is approved and you can proceed with Directed Study the following semester.

Not Approved: You have not passed, and are not allowed to proceed with Directed Study.

C. Program Learning Outcomes Evaluation

The work you submit will be assessed using the Graduate School of Architecture program learning outcomes. At the Midpoint Review the review committee is looking at your progress towards achieving the stated program outcomes.

5. CONTACT INFORMATION

Midpoint Review Coordinator for AAU	midpointreview@academyart.edu (415) 618-6390
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