Framing the literature: introducing Interior Architecture students to the professional literature using the ACRL framework

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Rhode Island School of Design
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ASSIGNMENT OBJECTIVES

• To form an understanding of a case study through research, writing, and drawing.

• To produce an evaluative set of drawings that effectively communicate that understanding.

• To explore the relational powers of drawings through effective compositions (ensembles).

• To develop critical methods of inquiry that can strengthen your own design work.

• To gain further understanding of vertical relationships between spaces, and the varied and possible languages of connecting stairs.
PROJECT 5: Analysis of a Stair

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ASSIGNMENT SPECIFICS

WEEK 1 - Background research, preliminary documentation, and interpretation.

After collecting as much available information as you can on your subject, write a brief interpretive statement (no more than two pages) and a bibliography of sources.

Your research should include descriptive information about the building or spaces in which your stair is placed, and a brief background of its architect(s). Include a description of the stair itself and its relationship with and role in the building.

Collect the best existing documentation (photographs, drawings) on the stair and relevant portions of the building.

Draft the stair in plan, section, and axonometric on trace (or printouts of digital work). Suggested scale is —”=1’-0”, although some projects may be better captured at a smaller scale. You are encouraged to build a study model or model diagram of the stair.
LIBRARY INSTRUCTION FOCUS

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PROJECT 5: Analysis of a Stair
Library Instruction Objectives

Gain an appreciation for the value of current periodical subscriptions available in the library and their relationship to retrospective holdings indexed and searchable in the Avery Index.

ACRL Frame: Information has value

ACRL Frame: Scholarship as conversation

Understand through librarian demonstration, class discussion, and individual practice the way an online index works and its relationship to printed and collected holdings in the Fleet Library; learn how to complete interlibrary loan requests

ACRL Frame: Information has value
Gain an appreciation for the value of current periodical subscriptions available in the library by examining 10-12 current periodicals passed around the table. Subscription prices, bi-lingual publications, types of periodicals, peer review, instructor recommendations are discussed. An example of finding bound back issues will be demonstrated and discussed.

ACRL Frame: Information has value
ACRL Frame: Scholarship as conversation

Q: What are the architectural periodicals you are familiar with and/or read?

*The librarian suggests each student set a goal to become familiar with and able to name 5 architectural journals by the end of his/her sophomore year.*

ACRL Frame: Authority is constructed and contextual
Library Instruction Objectives, continued

Learn to effectively use the Avery Index to Architectural Periodicals to find articles, case studies, and specific types of architectural imagery (i.e. sections, plans, axonometric drawings) of stairways within larger architectural projects.

*ACRL Frames: Searching as strategic exploration, Research as Inquiry*

Become aware of and able to access the Avery / GSAPP Architectural Plans & Sections Collection within Artstor.

*ACRL Frames: Searching as strategic exploration, Research as Inquiry, Creation as a Process*

Learning how to use online searching systems is an ongoing process throughout the students’ academic career. Librarians are available (6 days a week by email, phone, and in person) for research support and one-on-one research assistance.

*ACRL Frames: Searching as strategic exploration, Research as Inquiry, Creation as a Process*
Information has value; Information creation as a process

Searching the Avery for architectural illustrations

START WITH THE AVERY INDEX

The Avery Index to Architectural Periodicals is the only comprehensive American guide to the current literature of architecture and design. This database surveys more than 2,500 US and foreign journals.

Dates of Coverage: 1934 - current, with selective coverage back to 1741.

LOCATE ELEVATIONS, MODELS, SECTIONS, SITE PLANS & MORE

The citations in the Avery Index consistently include detailed information about the type of images contained within each article.

Use the Illustrations feature to locate the specific types of images needed for your projects.

Search/Limit Illustrations by Type:

- All
- Aerial Image
- Bibliography
- Chart
- Computer Generated Image
- Details
- Diagrams
- Drawings
- Elevations
- Engravings
- Graphs
- Illustrations
- Maps
- Models
- Photographs
- Plans
- Plots
- Portraits
- References
- Sections
- Site Plans
- Sketches
- Tables
- Views (axonometric)

risd.libguides.com/avery
Information has value; Information creation as a process
Searching the Avery for architectural illustrations & articles

Ewha Womans University, Seoul, South Korea 2004-2008

- **Source:** A & U: architecture & urbanism, 2009 Sept., n.9(468), p.20-41, photographs, sketches, sections, details, plans, site plans, axonometric drawings
- **Language:** Japanese; English. Language note: In English and Japanese.
- **Place of Publication:** Japan
- **Subject(s):** Universities and colleges -- Buildings -- Underground -- Korea (South) -- Seoul -- Ewha Womans University -- Campus Center
- **People:** Perrault, Dominique, 1953-
Q: How do you figure out what and how much has been written about your topic?

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Targeted Searching – Artstor’s Avery/GSAPP collection
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Student Feedback
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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