



TEACHING AND LEARNING CULTURE

A Creative Canvas for Innovation: Creating the Conditions for a Creative Atmosphere

Our teaching and learning culture is grounded in an unrestricted environment of knowledge and in an ethic that guides relationships throughout the School. Within it, fields of knowledge and practical needs converge to close the gap between concepts and solutions, while the curriculum guides the academic community toward transdisciplinary exchange, cross-pollination, and innovation. Respect for the person and ethical exchange create the conditions for meaningful interaction and relationships built on trust. The values stated below should therefore be present in every interaction among faculty, students, and staff. A new leader, a new architect, a strategic architect must emerge from this culture.

Respect

We value diversity as defined by territory and culture. We respect public property and the environment, as well as our urban, architectural, and landscape heritage. Each member of our community treats the people, property, and resources of the School and its environment with respect.

Dignity toward Work

We value people, their work, and the professional, academic, and research resources that contribute to the accumulation of knowledge and the improvement of our spaces and environments. We recognize the dignity of the work performed by every member of our community. Through this work, we develop personal discipline and collectively pursue excellence in forming a body of knowledge that contributes to our city and region as a healthy ecosystem for human and civic exchange, grounded in engagement with and responsibility toward Puerto Rican society.

Prudence

We value the measured analysis of actions, investments, interventions, time, and resource management. Such analysis is essential to obtain the greatest possible benefit from the energy invested by each member of our community. Guided by a vision of sustainability and a responsibility for the fair management of economic and physical resources, each member acts wisely without limiting the capacities or responsibilities of others, the community, or themselves.

Solidarity

We value and consider the needs and aspirations of every member of our community and seek to improve their quality of life through education. Solidarity takes form through cooperative approaches to teaching, learning, research, and the development of knowledge.

Leadership and Social Commitment

We value leadership and social commitment to the cultural construction and contribution of architecture. Through the strengthening of the spirit and the cultivation of imagination, we promote innovation and make it possible for our architectural and urban culture to exert influence at a global level.

Reuse, Reduce, Recycle

We value a sustainable educational environment that encourages an approach that avoids waste through the reuse of materials, the reduction of energy consumption, and the recycling of discarded objects. These practices form part of the daily life and mindset of the School community and the new strategic professional.

Equality

We value equality in the exercise of critical judgment when evaluating the performance of our peers. Equality supports the deliberate and profound discussion of ideas in the search for new knowledge concerning urbanism, architecture, and landscape architecture.

Tolerance toward Differences and Participatory Governance

We value and respect our peers, cultures, and the processes of exchange that enrich the social and intellectual capital of our community. Valuing locality is not at odds with openness to experiences, tendencies, and efforts from other academic institutions and professionals in Puerto Rico and throughout the world. We value participation in the democratic process of developing the School through strengthened student leadership, faculty development, and administrative capacity.

Promotion and Dissemination

We value the dissemination and promotion of the School's findings and research contributions. Individual, collective, and multisectoral work is communicated through traditional and nontraditional media to educate others about the city and the social and cultural attributes of architecture and urbanism.

Valuing the Creative Process and Cultivating the Imagination

We value education and the creative process as open, interdisciplinary, and multisectoral. We respect the intellectual and creative property of our peers in the search for knowledge, the cultivation of imagination, and the application of ideas for the benefit of the city.

Cooperation and Collaboration

We value disciplinary contributions as a social exercise in cooperation and collaboration. Objectives are achieved by coordinating individual strengths and improving individual capacities in the execution of projects and research.