Initiative 99 Studio

Course Description

Initiative 99 aims to generate beautiful, dignified affordable housing prototypes that will meet the needs of those who need it most. The vision of a home with construction costs under $99K (USD) has inspired and motivated city planners, developers, officials, and others for decades. All structures must be designed to be printed using ICON technology. ICON is an Austin-based construction technology start-up with a mission to end the global housing crisis. They aim to revolutionize home construction through 3D-printing technology, offering a realistic pathway to affordable housing and exciting architectural possibilities.

Design Constraints

- Print volume for structures adheres to a bed size of 38’ width x 100’ length x 12’ height.
- Walls must be at least 8’ tall and no taller than 12’-0”.
- Roof structures may be above the 12’-0” height.
- 12’ total width for “exterior” walls.
- 8’ total width for “interior” walls.
- Maximum overhang angles are approximately 45 degrees.
- Minimum 1-bed/1-bath within flexible square footage.
- Must consider a target group - i.e., formerly homeless, people in recovery, certain age groups, etc.
- Must meet IBC Residential code requirements.

Due to the complexity of this topic and the varied submission deliverables, students will be working in groups. Competition submission is mandatory as entry is free.

Key Dates: Closing date for submission is December 8th, 2023.

Submission Deliverables: Video 1 minute, Project Description, (6) Slide Presentation, 3D Model.

Student Prizes: 1st Place $50,000, 2nd Place $30,000, 3rd Place $15,000, 5 Honorable Mentions awarded $5,000 each

Software & Fees

This studio will use Rhino, Grasshopper, and InDesign for each group’s studio booklet. Tooling up in Rhino before the course is a good idea if you are a beginner. Mac users, you will need to have a working PC side on your Mac for these programs, as Rhino and Grasshopper for Mac are not compatible with some of the provided tools. While this course will not have additional fees, students should be prepared to pay for materials and machine hours for digital fabrication. We will have a lot of physical models.

See www.initiative99.com for the full competition brief.