INTERNATIONAL GRADUATE SUMMER COURSE AT NANJING UNIVERSITY
VIRTUAL DESIGN STUDIO FOR GREEN BUILDING SYSTEMS (VDS-GBS)

MAY 18-29*, 2015
Every day Monday through Friday (MTWThF)
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM and 2:00 PM – 5:00 PM 1st week
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM 2nd week

Contact:
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* Students shall plan to arrive at Nanjing University on May 17 and Depart on May 30, 2015.
On campus accommodation is available at $20/night per person with double occupancy for this period.

The urgent need for more sustainable integrated building approaches and an enhanced performance has impacted various research and design agendas in the building industry. These trends have led designers from various disciplines to the question: How can an environmentally responsive performance not only lead to energy savings and a limitation of CO2 emissions, but also impact contemporary planning methodologies, new interdisciplinary tool developments, and innovative resulting design typologies?

The “Virtual Design Studio (VDS)” is a software platform currently under development at Syracuse University in support of an integrated, coordinated and optimized design of buildings and their energy and environmental systems. VDS is intended to assist collaborating architects, engineers and project management team members throughout from the early phases to the detailed building design development. The platform helps to facilitate the workflow and the processing of information in combination with appropriate, task based performance simulation tools. The VDS-GBS course introduces and explores case study related principles and methodologies for interdisciplinary working modes through faculty and student participation from architecture and engineering.

The course provides an introduction to the VDS methodology and its applications. Multi-disciplinary student teams will analyse given case study projects and propose interventions for performance based improvements. Design strategies will be qualitatively and quantitatively evaluated. The understanding of System Interdependencies and a Holistic Design Thinking will be stressed. This course further introduces students to the methodologies and the use of various advanced digital simulation packages to assist in achieving integrated, coordinated and optimized design. An understanding and appreciation of the multi-dimensional nature of building design including multi-objectives, multi-disciplines, multi-design factors, and multi-stages will be explored in lectures, computer simulation labs, and research and design case study based work. Technical and cultural tours will be organized for the students to visit prominent green buildings in the area.
Through recent years’ development, this century-old university has gained new and vital vigor while meeting unprecedented historical challenges and opportunities. Currently we have three campuses: Gulou in the city center, Pukou on the northern bank of the Yangtze River, and Xianlin International Campus in the east suburb of the city. As a key comprehensive university with an array of outstanding faculty members, it has enjoyed coordinated development in humanities, social sciences, natural sciences, technological sciences, life sciences, modern engineering and management and so on. In the meantime, it has continuously improved quality of teaching, research, social service and all other areas. According to different rankings and in terms of various indexes of academic strength and comprehensive academic performance, Nanjing University is always one of the leading universities in China.

In 1999 and 2006, Nanjing University was chosen in the first group of a limited number of high-level research universities for prioritized support by the Central Government of China under the "985 Project." Our mission is to build this university into a world renowned institution enjoying an international reputation and maintaining our own academic characteristics. We aim to be a cradle for preparing innovative talents for the future, a frontier for activities giving insight to the unknown world, seeking truth, providing scientific grounds for solving important problems encountered by humanity; we aim to be an important source of innovation and technology transfer and a bridge for cooperation and exchange between different cultures and civilizations.

Nanjing University is fully aware of and ready to be entrusted with new missions and responsibilities in the 21st Century, a century of globalization. Committed to embracing this century of change, we sincerely welcome scholars and students from all around the world to join us in this worthwhile work for social and academic development.

Accommodation for international students

$20-40 per day for short term international exchange students
Nanjing is situated in the lower reaches of the Yangtze River. With the "golden waterway" Yangtze River flowing through the city, it is 380km from the Yangtze River’s estuary to the sea, and about 300km to Shanghai, the largest city in China. Nanjing is the capital of Jiangsu Province with the total area of 6598 square kilometers and its total population is 10.127 million (2011). Nanjing, this city so rich in culture and nature that one will find themselves alternating between ancient and modern with every step with a canopy of cooling foliage overhead. Lush greenery cascades over sweeping hills and mountains. Waterways serpentine through the city of steel and glass. Nanjing, this city of dreams and imperial artistry blossoms like a lotus flower floating along a river oblivious to the outside world.

Nanjing is the host city of 2014 Youth Olympic Games
http://www.nanjing2014.org/
For more information about the city of Nanjing
http://en.nju.gov.cn/