

August 29, 2013

To Whom It May Concern:

Fall 2008 – Summer 2009

Architectural Design II
Advanced Design
Freelance work for ACU

In my almost 20 years of education, Brandon Young has been one of the most influential, passionate and talented educators I have had the fortune of knowing. I met Brandon at the beginning of my senior year at Abilene Christian University, which was his first year as an ACU professor. Experiencing the love for architecture that he possessed – something I had not seen before – cultivated my passion and desire to further my education, which was encouraged by Brandon; I am currently in the process of earning my Masters degree in Architecture from the University of Tennessee in Knoxville. I would not be anywhere near where I am today without him.

Contact Information:

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During my short time learning from him, I witnessed true passion and devotion towards his students and their education that has been since unrivaled. Not only did he challenge me every day, but he also gave much needed support. This combination provided an environment that produced astounding results from the class as a whole – better than any of us had achieved before. There was more effort put forth and a higher sense of achievement due to his intensity and encouragement.

The courses that I experienced were very comprehensive and based in real-to-life examples that rival some of the graduate-level courses that are being taught by my Harvard-educated professors here at the University of Tennessee. The projects were varied and complex and he introduced us to collaboration with other disciplines (such as Graphic Design) which is an essential part of the Architecture profession. Brandon also gave us the opportunity to experience some very high-profile design projects up close and give us an immense educational benefit when he took us to see the cultural district in Fort Worth. This trip is something that has resonated with me ever since. The benefit of actually having tactile contact with a project and seeing all of the details up close really influenced the way I observe and critique projects myself.

Despite only knowing him for one year at ACU, Brandon has been an asset to me in my time since graduating. Not only did he give me some opportunities to work directly with him on a design project, he provided contact information with professional architects after I moved to Austin and has been a constant resource for employment recommendations. Beyond that, he has even been a wonderful friend, keeping contact and genuinely caring about how my life has been ever since I left ACU. He is approachable, honest, kind, passionate, thoughtful, positive, inspiring, supportive, intelligent, creative, energetic, and encouraging. All of these qualities combine to create one of the best professors that you will ever have the honor of employing. Of all of the educators I have known, none deserve the honor of tenure more than Brandon Young. The ACU Art and Design department is lucky to have someone like him.

With regards,



Eric (Bud) Archer
Abilene Christian University Alumni, 2009
M.Arch candidate, University of Tennessee