48-531/48-771: Fabricating Customization: Prototype
Units: 9
Instructor: Jeremy Ficca

This course foregrounds the topic of architectural component customization to understand its manifestations within contemporary practice while introducing students to a host of prototyping and design for manufacturing methodologies. The course provides an overview of topics and techniques of digital manufacturing and fabrication to offer students an overview of existing and emerging modes of collaboration between designer and manufacturer in service to production of a customized building component.

The course places great emphasis upon the reciprocity of design and prototyping, challenging students to leverage physical artifacts as tools for thinking and testing. Throughout the semester, students will utilize additive and subtractive fabrication techniques to iterate the design of architectural components. Through this process, students will build proficiency in prototyping to design, evaluate, and communicate components of limited scope and scale.