

Project Three: 3.5 Weeks
Inflatables

Bring together the **performance criteria** that you identified in the first stage of your process and the observations you have through **material experiments and definitions of program**. These form the basis of your final construction, a “pod” as *you* define it, an architecture of viewing that engages two types of airborne technologies in architectural construction: pneumatics and video podcast.

Tasks / Themes:

Aggregation of material experiments
Scalar shift
Final pod construction

Steps:

1. Model and draw how your materials come together into a final proposal for construction.
2. This proposal must show
 - a. what materials are where
 - b. how they are joined
 - c. where the sources are for air and for video
 - d. an occupant, to scale
3. Do not wait for critique. Begin immediately to plan and build this construction. Time is of the essence. There may be time for attempts with exporting a 3D model to 2D pattern in the week after break, but your work should be in heavy production already by then. This means not only defining the final proposal as outlined above, but also preparing all materials rigorously. If you have been inventing a composite material and only have one square foot of it, then you will need to make lots more of it ready to go.
4. Very important! Document your entire process in **photos and in video**. You may check out digital and Mini-DV cameras from the Media Center. This is important as a means to document your process – which will be content for your podcast – but also to study how a material affects viewing. Does it frame it / block it / sharpen it? This will fundamentally set up parts of your final work in the next segment.

Schedule:

Wednesday, March 15:

Assignment distributed

Next Week:

Spring Break

Monday, March 27:

Read excerpts from Herzog and Engel books; (the books themselves are on reserve in the library)
Meet in S19;
Desk crits

All other class dates:

Meet in S19;
Desk crits unless otherwise stated in class

Monday, April 10:

Final Review with guest critics

Final Requirements:

Your final review for this requires a fully explored and working airpod. This includes:

- demonstrate the pod fully inflated and operational. Guest critics should be able to physically occupy it.
- Specify the place and nature of viewing video content. If it is projected, test and make projection in the structure. If it is on an actual ipod, locate the device.
- Plan the presentation as an *event*. Remember that a principal part of what makes these structures unique is their fleeting, ephemeral nature; they are event structures. You may plan the arrival, installation and inflation of your construction as integral to the work and its presentation. This also demonstrates its relation to an individual body in a different way than mere entry would.
- compile any computer models, material experiments and 2D patterns along the process – use these also as a way to present that first program, viewing (in) architecture

Note:

This step in the process is crucial, as it bridges you to a real full scale construction, and also launches you into its videographic presentation afterwards. We will have a tutorial on some video postproduction software after this – be sure to stand on solid ground conceptually and materially so that you are able to launch into that afterwards.