

Course Plan | Season 1: Architectural Drawing

Sketch to 2D to Print · 6 episodes · v1.0 · July 25, 2026

How to use this document. Season 1 aligned to your course calendar: episode pacing, the in-class work around each video, and assessment. It assumes you have the full Educator Toolkit: the Season Guide, the six episode guides, the series template, the ADU Project Brief, example files, and the two rubric samples. "Studio life comes first, and the Rhino Studio Series supports us." Every recommendation here follows from that: the videos carry the software so your studio time can carry the design thinking.

1. Season at a Glance

Focus	2D representation, drafting standards, and clean professional output
Framework emphasis	Representational Thinking (drawings as tools for thinking); Spatial Thinking introduced through plan organization
Assignment thread	Convert a hand sketch of the 1000+ sq ft ADU (max 100 sq m) into a fully resolved 2D drawing set
Final deliverable	A clean, professional PDF set: site plan, floor plan, elevations, section, and details; correct lineweight hierarchy, notation standards, titleblock layout
Episodes	6, roughly 10–15 minutes each, each with a 1-page dual-unit episode guide
Prerequisites	None. The two Rhino Orientation videos ("How to Get Started with Rhino" and "Top 10 Setup Tips & Tricks") bring students from zero to a working setup, including the season template

Learning outcomes. By the end of Season 1, students can: establish and maintain a disciplined layer structure with print widths; draft plans, elevations, and sections as coordinated orthographic drawings; control lineweight hierarchy (heavy cut, medium projection, light hatch/note); assemble layout sheets with the series titleblock and preconfigured dimension styles; and export a legible, to-scale PDF set in either unit system.

Why this season exists. It addresses the most common studio pain point: students who can build complex 3D models but cannot produce legible, professional 2D drawings. Season 1 keeps 2D fully separate from 3D to prevent cognitive overload for beginners; the season teaches conventions first and lets the software serve them.

2. The ADU Continuity Project

Season 1 begins the project that evolves across the entire series: a 1000+ sq ft accessory dwelling unit (max 100 sq m), developed this season from an initial hand sketch into a professional 2D drawing set.

The **ADU Project Brief** (in both toolkits) is the standalone statement of program, site assumptions, and constraints; assign it as the season's first reading. Students joining mid-series can onboard from the brief alone.

Dual-unit convention applies throughout the season: Imperial with Metric equivalents, e.g. plan cut at 4'-0" (1.2 m). The series template ships in four unit files (m, mm, ft, in) so imperial and metric studios each work in a native setup.

3. Episode Map & In-Class Prompts

Each prompt is a 15-minute live studio activity paired with the episode: watch the video before class or in the first minutes, then move directly into the room's work.

Episode	Discipline focus	In-class prompt (15 min)
E01 · Drawing Standards & Sketch Import	Why drawing standards exist; the hand-to-digital bridge; scale, proportion, lineweight conventions	Have students bring a 15-minute hand sketch of their ADU to class; use this session to digitize it: import with <code>Picture</code> , scale to real-world units, land it on the layer structure. Sample sketches in the toolkit cover students who arrive without one.
E02 · Site & Context	Context first: orientation, property lines, setbacks, access and movement	Setback sprint: from the brief's site assumptions, students draft property lines and setbacks, then test whether their sketch footprint actually fits. Discuss what moves when it doesn't.
E03 · Floor Plan	The horizontal section cut at 4'-0" (1.2 m); spatial hierarchy, circulation, solid vs. void	Wall integrity check: students verify walls are closed polylines with real thickness (no single lines) and trade files with a partner to hunt gaps. Keep the workflow plugin-free; mention VisualARQ as an advanced professional alternative.
E04 · Elevations	The vertical projection; depth in 2D through lineweight	Depth read: pin up or screen-share one elevation with all lineweights equal beside the layered version; students identify which lines advance and which recede, then apply the depth layers to their own elevation.
E05 · Sections	The vertical cut; sectional reasoning, cut logic vs. projection logic	Introduce the concept of Clipping Drawings as a preview of 3D-to-2D workflows in later seasons, but keep the session on manual 2D derivation: heavy poche for cut elements, light lines for background.
E06 · Layouts & Annotations	Graphic hierarchy on the sheet; titleblock placement; dimensions as a tool for builders	The template carries dimension styles, linetypes, and the titleblock preconfigured, so this session applies annotation rather than configures it. Students assemble one layout sheet and print a check PDF before the final set.

Planned extension. E07 Isometric (axonometric/isometric conventions) is a future season extension, produced after S1 is live. Assessment items for isometric work return with it.

4. Pacing & Calendar Alignment

The season's suggested groupings:

1. **E01–02 · Foundational setup:** sketch import, layer discipline, context and site
2. **E03–04 · Plan & elevation:** core orthographic projections, lineweight hierarchy
3. **E05–06 · Section & documentation:** vertical relationships, sheet layout, simple annotation, final PDF output

Three ways to slot the season into a course calendar:

Model	Duration	Pacing
Studio companion	6 weeks	One episode per week, prompt in the same session; mid-course critique after E04; final set due week 6 or 7
Quarter (10–11 weeks)	~half the term	One grouping every 2–3 weeks; use the added time for a second iteration loop on the floor plan and a full pin-up between groupings 2 and 3
Semester (15–16 weeks)	First third of the term	Season 1 as the drawing-foundations unit before a broader studio project; the ADU set becomes the reference standard for documenting later work

Release calendar note (2026 cohorts). Season 1 premieres with a 3-episode drop (E01–03) on Tue Aug 18, 2026, then releases weekly on Tuesdays, completing Sep 8; episodes land so you can slot each into that week's studio. Dates confirmed July 17, 2026. After the season completes, all six episodes are available for any calendar alignment.

Mid-course critique. Between groupings 2 and 3, pin up one sheet per student: the floor plan with the south elevation projected directly below it (north in the southern hemisphere), printed to scale, to check lineweights, projection alignment, and where direct sun enters before moving on. Each student leaves with a stated sun intent: the remediation element their E05 section must clearly design. The critique guide ([RSSA_S01_Critq_01](#)) structures this session; it is the season's single most valuable correction point.

5. Assessment

The season offers two parallel assessment paths; use either or both.

Critique path (feedback-based). Two critique guides ship in this toolkit: the mid-course pin-up ([RSSA_S01_Critq_01](#) , after E04) and the end-of-season review of the final drawing set ([RSSA_S01_Critq_02](#) , after E06). Instructors can run one or both as the course's actual evaluation: a feedback session rather than a score, closer to how studios run, and just as available to a technical class. Where the institution requires a number, run the critique first and apply the rubric after, as the translation of what the room already said.

Rubric path (point-based). Two rubric samples ship in this toolkit, both 100 points, 5 criteria × 20:

- **Rubric 01 · Studio final** (`RSSA_S01_Rubrc_01`): assesses the ADU final project as a studio deliverable; criteria 1–4 are conventional studio categories (narrative & program, design problem & concept, process & iteration, human experience & access), and **criterion 5 is the season's technical category**: the coordinated 2D drawing set produced with Rhino. Criterion 5 can drop into any existing studio rubric as the documentation component.
- **Rubric 02 · Technical class** (`RSSA_S01_Rubrc_02`): a Rhino-specific rubric for courses assessing the drawing set on technical merit alone.

Adapt both freely; they are samples, not standards.

If your course runs on ungrading. The series' assessment stance is available as a standalone statement: assignments and deadlines flex with class progress, completing work earns full credit, and only the cumulative final is assessed against a rubric. The rubrics above serve point-based courses; they don't replace that stance. See the ungrading statement in this toolkit for the full reflection-based model.

Meeting students at their level. The season supports a three-tier approach: developing students lean on the episode guides and template scaffolding step by step; intermediate students take the in-class prompts as timed challenges; advanced students draft ahead of the videos and reverse-engineer the conventions, or take on the deeper annotation questions (model vs. layout space dimensioning) that return in later seasons.

6. Materials & Setup Checklist

Before week 1:

- ☐ Students watch both Rhino Orientation videos: `Orien_01` "How to Get Started with Rhino" and `Orien_02` "Top 10 Setup Tips & Tricks"
- ☐ Distribute the season template in your studio's unit (m, mm, ft, or in); the layer structure, grid/snap, symbols, linetypes, dimension styles, and titleblock/layouts are pre-built
- ☐ Assign the ADU Project Brief as first reading
- ☐ Print or post the E01 episode guide (all guides are 1-page, dual-unit, printable, and legible in grayscale)
- ☐ Students prepare a 15-minute hand sketch of their ADU for the E01 session
- ☐ Educators: the example files (completed episode files, including on-screen template states) are your answer key

Plugin policy. The season's core workflow is plugin-free. VisualARQ (BIM) and Enscape/V-Ray (rendering) are acknowledged as professional context only; nothing in Season 1 requires them.