MISSION
Old Dominion University, located in the City of Norfolk in the metropolitan Hampton Roads region of coastal Virginia, is a dynamic public research institution that serves its students and enriches the Commonwealth of Virginia, the nation, and the world through rigorous academic programs, strategic partnerships, and active civic engagement.

VISION
Old Dominion University will be recognized nationally and internationally as a forward-focused metropolitan university with a collaborative and innovative approach to education and research that spurs economic growth, focuses on student success, engages civic and community partners, and uses its connections with the military and maritime industries and its exceptional strengths and leadership in related areas to provide practical solutions to complex, real world problems.

WE ARE MONARCHS
We have history together. Our region. Our city. Our university. All of us. At Old Dominion University, we are first-generation students, fourth-generation veterans and the next generation of risk-taking entrepreneurs who will invent our own tables instead of waiting for a seat at another’s.

ODU is Virginia’s entrepreneurial-minded public doctoral research university with more than 24,000 students, rigorous academics, an energetic residential community and initiatives that contribute $2.6 billion annually to Virginia’s economy.
The *Old Dominion University Design Standards* are meant as a communication tool between the university and its architects, landscape architects, engineers, general contractors and specialty consultants involved in execution of projects on campus in a cooperative, partnering manner. The Standards provide aesthetic, procedural and technical requirements applicable to all design and construction. The *Design Standards* are also a reference for University project managers, project inspectors, facilities managers and other personnel whose responsibilities relate to construction, maintenance and renovations. The *Design Standards* are overseen by Facilities Management and Construction under the supervision of the University Architect.

It should be noted that requirements found within the *Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code* and/or its referenced standards are not repeated within these standards. The *Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code* and its referenced standards are applicable to all Old Dominion University buildings without exception. If any part of these standards unintentionally conflict with current or future state regulations, the most restrictive requirements shall apply.

The *Design Standards* were developed to work in conjunction with the requirements of the *Construction and Professional Services Manual* (CPSM) of the State of Virginia. If any part of these standards unintentionally conflict with current or future CPSM requirements, the most restrictive requirements shall apply.

The standards do not relieve the Architectural and Engineering Professional (A/E) or General Contractor and/or the Construction Manager (CMaR) from their responsibility to provide professional services that meet or exceed requirements of any existing or future codes, acts or laws. It is the duty of all parties involved with projects on campus to identify any conflict between the Design Standards and the *Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code*, the *Construction and Professional Services Manual* and/or any other applicable code, act or law to the University Architect, using *Appendix D – Design Standards Revision Request Form*.

**Note:** Project specific variance requests should use *Appendix B - Building Standards Variance Request Form*.

The intent is for these Standards to be a responsive document with revisions incorporated through project lessons-learned and industry updates. Recommendations are encouraged from users for simplifications, additions and modifications to the Design Standards. *Appendix D - Design Standards Revision Request Form* should be used to request a revision to the standard and submitted to the University Architect.

The *Old Dominion University Design Standards*, here in referred to as the *Design Standards*, is broken down into five sections:

**CHAPTER ONE – General Requirements**

General Requirements describe Old Dominion University’s project delivery process from inception to post occupancy review and applies to all projects on all campuses and can be modified by the ODU project manager to suite the specific needs of individual projects.

**CHAPTER TWO – Campus Design**

Campus Design describes the exterior aesthetic direction of the campus, both building and grounds, to assist A/E’s in achieving design approvals from the University.

**CHAPTER THREE – Space Requirements**

The Space Requirements outline standards associated with specific spaces that are common to most buildings on campus.

**CHAPTER FOUR – Division Technical Requirements**
Following the Master Spec Divisions, this chapter identifies technical standards.

**APPENDIX**

The appendix contains all forms and documents referenced throughout the standards. Refer to the Table of Contents for a complete list of appendices.

**RESOURCES**

Tools referenced in the standards and available to be downloaded from the University Design Standards Website. These are listed in the Table of Contents.

**Terms**

A/E – Architectural and Engineering Design Team who is contracted for the project.
Contractor – refers to the CM or General Contractor depending on the method of procurement
CMaR – Construction Manager at Risk
BCOM – Bureau of Capital Outlay Management, who “provides the professional and administrative staff support for the Director of the Division of Engineering and Buildings in his legislatively-mandated role as the Building Official for State Buildings.”
CPSM - Construction and Professional Services Manual
FM – Facilities Management

**References**

The Old Dominion University Design Standards were developed using a number of different resources including a review of recently completed projects and interviews with Facilities Management and Design & Construction staff. Additionally we would like to thank the following institutions whose design guidelines were used as a reference:

- James Madison University
- Virginia Commonwealth University
- George Mason University
- Virginia Institute of Technology
- University of Virginia
- Ohio University
- Kent State University