ARCHITECTURE

Contact Us

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The Department of Architecture

Mission

The Architecture major establishes an intellectual context for students to interpret the relation of form, space, program, materials and media to human life and thought. Through the Architecture curriculum, students participate in the ongoing shaping of knowledge about the built environment and learn to see architecture as one among many forms of cultural production. At the same time, the major stresses the necessity of learning disciplinary-specific tools, methods, terms and critiques. Thus, work in the studio, lecture or seminar asks that students treat architecture as a form of research and speculation which complement the liberal arts mission of expansive thinking.

Undergraduate Study in Architecture

Studying Architecture at Barnard College, Columbia College, and General Studies leads to a liberal arts degree – a Bachelor of Arts with a major in Architecture, and Barnard College is the administrative location for all undergraduate architecture studies at Columbia University and its partner institutions. A liberal arts education in architecture holds a unique position in academia and in relation to the discipline. If the goal of a professional education in architecture is to enable students to participate directly in the world as an architect – a liberal arts education asks that students consider the broader and myriad conditions in which architecture is conceived and practiced and, in turn, to understand how architecture inevitably alters those conditions. Students are asked to confront and interpret the complex social, cultural, political, and environmental processes that weave through architectural design and urbanism. The purpose of an undergraduate liberal arts degree in architecture is to educate students to think about the world through architecture.

The Architecture curriculum introduces design at a variety of scales, acknowledging that integrated design thinking is effective for problem solving at any scale and in any discipline. Students will experiment with full-scale installations and devices and make small-scale models of urban conditions from which they extract, interpret and invent new possibilities of inhabitation and use. The curriculum intentionally balances the traditions of handcrafted representation with evolving digital technologies of architectural design and communication.

The Architecture major complements, and makes great use of its University setting. With access to superb libraries, research centers, graduate programs, and abundant intellectual resources, our students have the opportunity to follow their creative instincts to great depth and breadth – and they do. The major depends on New York City as more than a convenient site for many design and research projects and frames the City as one of the key social and architectural, and thus didactic, markers of Modernity. Architecture students study with peers from countries around the world in one of the most diverse cities in the world. A large majority of the Architecture students expand their education by interning in Architecture or a related field during their undergraduate studies. Alumni of the Department are leaders in architecture and design fields around the world. The faculty teaching in the undergraduate program are dedicated teachers who are also at the forefront of practice and research and are similarly drawn to New York City as a nexus of global design thinking.

Students interested in obtaining a professional degree in Architecture continue on to graduate programs after their undergraduate degree, and students from the Barnard Columbia program have enjoyed enormous success in their admissions to the most competitive graduate programs in the country. Students who study Architecture as undergraduates have also pursued graduate degrees in a variety of disciplines including Urban Planning, Law, and Media and Communications.

Student Learning Outcomes

Students in the Architecture Majors who fully engage with the curriculum should be able to complete the following outcomes:

- Apply integrated design thinking to specific problems in and beyond the discipline;
- Visually communicate architectural concepts and research using discipline-specific techniques in multiple media;
- Verbally present independent, group or assigned research, in multiple media formats;
- Organize and concisely write in a variety of formats including reports, case studies, synthetic overviews, etc.;
- Understand and critically interpret major buildings and themes of Architectural history and theory;
- Be intellectually prepared for graduate studies in architecture and related disciplines.

Departmental Honors

Senior requirements (a portfolio and research paper from a previous architecture course) are used to award departmental honors. Students must have a grade point average of at least 3.6 in classes for the major. Normally no more than 10% of the graduating majors in the department each year receive departmental honors.

Advising Appointments

Current students as well as prospective students with questions about our courses and programs of study are encouraged to meet with our full-time faculty members. Faculty advising appointments (https://architecture.barnard.edu/meet-faculty-member/) are open to anyone who is interested in learning more about our department. During the summer break, all current and prospective students are instead invited to submit their questions by email to architecture@barnard.edu.

Full-Time Faculty

Professors of Professional Practice:
Karen Fairbanks (Chair) (https://architecture.barnard.edu/profiles/karen-fairbanks/)
Kadambari Baxi (https://architecture.barnard.edu/profiles/kadambari-baxi/)

**Assistant Professors:**
Anooradha Iyer Siddiqi (https://architecture.barnard.edu/profiles/anooradha-iyer-siddiqi/)
Ignacio G. Gal (https://architecture.barnard.edu/profiles/ignacio-g-galan/)
Ralph Ghoche (https://architecture.barnard.edu/profiles/ralph-ghoche/)
Nick Smith (https://architecture.barnard.edu/profiles/nick-r-smith/)

**Adjunct Faculty**

**Adjunct Professors:**
Joeb Moore
Madeline Schwartzman
Suzanne Stephens

**Adjunct Assistant Professors:**
Diana Cristobal
Lindsay Harkema
Jason Kim
Todd Rouhe
Fred Tang
Irina Verona

**Our Programs of Study**

**THE MAJOR IN ARCHITECTURE** (p.  )
**THE MAJOR IN THE HISTORY AND THEORY OF ARCHITECTURE**
**THE MINOR IN ARCHITECTURE**

### The Major in Architecture

The major in architecture is open to Barnard College students, Columbia College students, and General Studies students. The required classes are broken down into four categories: studio, lectures seminars and workshops, senior courses, and the specialization:

#### Studio Courses

Four studio courses, to be taken one per semester (studio courses have limited enrollment and priority is given to Architecture majors):

- **ARCH UN2101** ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN: SYSTEMS AND MATERIALS
- **ARCH UN2103** ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN: ENVIRONMENTS AND MEDIATIONS
- **ARCH UN3201** ADVANCED ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN I
- **ARCH UN3202** ADVANCED ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN II

#### Lecture, Seminar, and Workshop Courses

Five courses following the distribution requirement below:

- **ARCH UN3117** Modern Architecture in the World

  Architectural Elective: History
  Architectural Elective: Society, Environment, and the Global
  Architectural Elective: Design, Media, and Technology
  Architectural Elective

  **Senior Courses**

  - **ARCH UN3901** Senior Seminar

#### Specialization Courses

All majors are asked to complement their work with a thematic unit (three courses) called the 'specialization.' Each student develops a specific specialization that broadens their architectural studies in one of the following areas or combination of areas: History, Society, Environment, Global, Design, Media, and Technology. Courses may be taken from across various departments. All majors, in consultation with their advisers, will develop a short (100 word) description of their specialization and advisers will approve their course selections. Students can request and develop other areas of specialization with adviser approval.

**Graduation Requirements**

The major also requires that students submit a portfolio and a writing sample before graduation. The design portfolio includes representative work from all design studios and the writing sample is a paper or essay from a senior level architecture or architecture-related course. Final submissions are archived in the department, the portfolios are displayed at the end of the year show, and both are used to award graduation honors.

* These are courses offered by the architecture department or other applicable departments offered within the University. Students should consult the program office for a list of applicable courses each semester.

### Academic Year 2020-2021 Courses

For the 2020-2021 academic year, in addition to semester-long (14-week) course offerings, the Architecture Department will also offer 7-week “immersive courses.” These courses will cover a semester’s worth of material in a shorter period of time and will meet for twice as many hours per week, allowing more contact between faculty and students and more sustained focus on the class content. They will be offered in either the first half of a semester (e.g., Fall A, Spring A, Summer A) or in the second half of a semester (e.g., Fall B, Spring B, Summer B). Please contact us with any questions you may have: architecture@barnard.edu.

#### FALL A COURSES (p. )

#### FALL B COURSES (p. )

#### FALL FULL-TERM COURSES (p. )

#### SPRING A COURSES (p. )

#### SPRING B COURSES (p. )

#### SPRING FULL-TERM COURSES (p. )

#### SUMMER A COURSES (p. )

#### SUMMER B COURSES (p. )

### Fall 2020 Courses

The course schedule listed below may be subject to change. You are welcome contact us with any questions you may have: architecture@barnard.edu.

### Fall A Immersive Courses

*Fall A immersive courses will run during the first half of the semester: Tues., Sept. 8, 2020 – Fri., Oct. 23, 2020.*
ARCH UN1010 Design Futures: New York City. 3 points.
How does design operate in our lives? What is our design culture? In this course, we explore the many scales of design in contemporary culture -- from graphic design to architecture to urban design to global, interactive, and digital design. The format of this course moves between lectures, discussions, collaborative design work and field trips in order to engage in the topic through texts and experiences.

Introducing design methodologies that allow us to see and to shape explorations will be used as catalysts for architectural analysis and design experimentation.

Both designed objects and the very act of making are always embedded within a culture, as they reflect changing material preferences, diverse approaches to durability and obsolescence, varied understandings of comfort, different concerns with economy and ecology. They depend on multiple resources and mobilize varied technological innovations. Consequently, we will consider that making always involves making a society, for it constitutes a response to its values and a position regarding its technical and material resources. Within this understanding, this studio will consider different cultures of making through a number of exercises rehearse design operations at different scales—from objects to infrastructures.

ARCH UN2101 ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN: SYSTEMS AND MATERIALS. 4 points.
This architectural design studio explores material assemblies, techniques of fabrication, and systems of organization. These explorations will be understood as catalysts for architectural analysis and design experimentation.

This architectural design studio course explores modes of visualization, technologies of mediation and environmental transformations. These explorations will be used as catalysts for architectural analysis and design experimentation.

Introducing design methodologies that allow us to see and to shape environmental interactions in new ways, the studio will focus on how architecture may operate as a mediator – an intermediary that negotiates, alters or redirects multiple forces in our world: physical, cultural, social, technological, political etc. The semester will progress through three projects that examine unique atmospheric, spatial and urban conditions with the aid of multimedia visual techniques; and that employ design to develop creative interventions at the scales of an interface, space and city.

Fall 2020: ARCH UN2100
Course Number Section/Call Times/Location Instructor Points Enrollment
ARCH 2100 001/00661 W F 11:00pm - 3:35pm Hua Tang 3 41/100

ARCH UN2103 ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN: ENVIRONMENTS AND MEDIATIONS. 4 points.
This architectural design studio course explores modes of visualization, technologies of mediation and environmental transformations. These explorations will be used as catalysts for architectural analysis and design experimentation.

Introduction to Architectural Design and Visual Culture. 3 points.

Introductory design studio to introduce students to architectural design through readings and studio design projects. Intended to develop analytic skills to critique existing media and spaces. Process of analysis used as a generative tool for the students’ own design work. Must apply for placement in course. Priority to upperclass students. Class capped at 16.

Prerequisites: ARCH V3101 and ARCH V3103. Open to architecture majors or with permission of instructor. Prerequisites: ARCH UN2101 and ARCH UN2103. Advanced Architectural Design I explores the role of architecture and design in relationship to climate, community, and the environment through a series of design projects requiring drawings and models. Field trips, lectures, and discussions are organized in relation to studio exercises. A portfolio of design work from the prerequisite courses ARCH UN2101 and ARCH UN2103 will be reviewed the first week of classes.

Fall 2020: ARCH UN3201
Course Number Section/Call Times/Location Instructor Points Enrollment
ARCH 3201 001/00662 M W 9:00am - 11:50am Joeb Moore, Richard Rouhe 38/100
ARCH 3201 001/00662 F 9:00am - 12:50pm Joeb Moore, Irina Verona, Ignacio Gonzalez Galan 38/100
ARCH UN3502 URBANIZING CHINA. 4 points.
This course investigates the dramatic urban transformation that has taken place in mainland China over the last four decades. The speed and scale of this transformation have produced emergent new lifeways, settlement patterns, and land uses that increasingly blur the distinction between urban and rural areas. At the same time, Chinese society is still characterized by rigid, administrative divisions between the nation’s urban and rural sectors, with profound consequences for people’s lives and livelihoods. The course therefore examines the intersection between the rapid transformation of China’s built environment and the glacial transformation of its administrative categories. We will take an interdisciplinary approach to this investigation, using perspectives from architecture, history, geography, political science, anthropology, urban planning, and cultural studies, among other disciplines.

The course is divided into two parts: Over the first five weeks, we will consider the historical context of China’s urbanization and its urban-rural relations, including the imperial, colonial, and socialist periods, as well as the current period of reform. In the remainder of the semester, we will turn our focus to contemporary processes of urbanization, with a particular emphasis on the complex interrelationship between urban and rural China. This portion of the semester is organized into three two-week units on land and planning, housing and demolition, and citizenship and personhood.

Fall 2020: ARCH UN3502
Course  Section/Call Number  Times/Location  Instructor  Points  Enrollment
ARCH 3502  001/00684  M T W Th 1:10pm - 2:25pm  Room TBA  Nicholas Smith  4  28/60

ARCH UN3290 Curating Architecture. 3 points.
This class will examine curating practices in relation to architectural exhibitions and publications. We will look at exhibitions, pavilions, installations, magazines, journals, boogazines, websites, and blogs (among other platforms) not only as mechanisms for presenting and distributing information but also as sites that serve as an integral part of architectural theory and practice.

Fall 2020: ARCH UN3290
Course  Section/Call Number  Times/Location  Instructor  Points  Enrollment
ARCH 3290  001/00664  M W 2:40pm - 3:55pm  Room TBA  Ignacio Galan Gonzalez  3  23/100
ARCH 3290  001/00664  F 2:40pm - 5:25pm  Room TBA  Ignacio Galan Gonzalez  3  23/100

Fall Full-term Courses

ARCH UN3901 Senior Seminar. 4 points.
Readings, individual class presentations, and written reports.

Fall 2020: ARCH UN3901
Course  Section/Call Number  Times/Location  Instructor  Points  Enrollment
ARCH 3901  001/00667  Th 12:00pm - 1:50pm  Room TBA  Suzanne Stephens  4  16/100

ARCH UN3997 Independent Study. 2-4 points.
Prerequisites: Permission of the program director in term prior to that of independent study. Independent study form available at departmental office.

Fall 2020: ARCH UN3997
Course  Section/Call Number  Times/Location  Instructor  Points  Enrollment
ARCH 3997  001/00652  W 2:25pm  Room TBA  Kadambhari Bhatia  2-4  1/10
ARCH 3997  002/00653  M W Th 1:10pm - 2:25pm  Room TBA  Karen Fairbanks  2-4  0/10
ARCH 3997  003/00668  M T W Th 1:10pm - 2:25pm  Room TBA  Anooradha Siddiqi  2-4  3/10
ARCH 3997  004/00654  M T W Th 1:10pm - 2:25pm  Room TBA  Ignacio Galan Gonzalez  2-4  1/10

ARCH GU4250 COLONIAL PRACTICES. 4 points.
In this seminar, we will consider colonial practices through architectures, institutions, infrastructures, and territories. Material architectures of extraction, settlement, occupation, and development have been used to occupy territories—and thus take on a special character in deserts, oceans, and jungles, which resist colonial mapping—just as conceptual architectures have produced forms of “coloniality,” following Maldonado-Torres, occupying the mind and spirit as well as the physical world. The seminar asks students to explore colonial practices in institutional structures, cultural production, built architecture, settlement, and ecologies—as sites with which to feel and think.

Students will lead discussion of shared readings, making presentations on concrete studies of the construction, destruction, maintenance, and use of architecture, infrastructure, and territories: for example, examining the figuration of Chiapas by the Zapatista movement, the colonization of space via launch sites in the Algerian desert, or the settlement of Indian coasts by abolitionist missionaries. Students are invited to bring their own historical objects of interest into the course, and should expect to follow deep inquiry into an independent research question. The thematic arrangement of empirical studies is intended to frame open questions, structuring a debate on colonial practices as a theoretical framework that takes seriously the im/possibility of decolonizing architectural history. Our discussions will be propelled by the work of artists and architects, scholarly histories of architecture, space, and territory, and critical as well as radical indigenous, black and brown consciousness, feminist, and anticolonial and decolonial theory. Using actual places as intellectual ecologies—as sites with which to feel and think.

Fall 2020: ARCH GU4250
Course  Section/Call Number  Times/Location  Instructor  Points  Enrollment
ARCH 4250  001/00766  W 4:10pm - 6:00pm  Room TBA  Anooradha Siddiqi  4  22/100

Spring 2021 Courses
The course schedule listed below may be subject to change. Please revisit this page and the online Directory of Classes in November 2020 to confirm our spring 2021 course information. You are also welcome to contact us with any questions you may have: architecture@barnard.edu.
Spring A Immersive Courses


ARCH UN1010 Design Futures: New York City. 3 points.
How does design operate in our lives? What is our design culture? In this course, we explore the many scales of design in contemporary culture—from graphic design to architecture to urban design to global, interactive, and digital design. The format of this course moves between lectures, discussions, collaborative design work and field trips in order to engage in the topic through texts and experiences.

Fall 2020: ARCH UN1010
Course Number Section/Call Number Times/Location Instructor Points Enrollment
ARCH 1010 001/00651 W F 1:10pm - 3:55pm Hua Tang 3 41/100
Room TBA

ARCH UN2101 ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN: SYSTEMS AND MATERIALS. 4 points.
This architectural design studio explores material assemblies, techniques of fabrication, and systems of organization. These explorations will be understood as catalysts for architectural analysis and design experimentation.

Both designed objects and the very act of making are always embedded within a culture, as they reflect changing material preferences, diverse approaches to durability and obsolescence, varied understandings of comfort, different concerns with economy and ecology. They depend on multiple resources and mobilize varied technological innovations. Consequently, we will consider that making always involves making a society, for it constitutes a response to its values and a position regarding its technical and material resources. Within this understanding, this studio will consider different cultures of making through a number of exercises rehearse design operations at different scales—from objects to infrastructures.

Fall 2020: ARCH UN2101
Course Number Section/Call Number Times/Location Instructor Points Enrollment
ARCH 2101 001/00668 M W 9:00am - 11:50am Room TBA Diana Cristobal 4 22/100

ARCH UN2103 ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN: ENVIRONMENTS AND MEDIATIONS. 4 points.
This architectural design studio course explores modes of visualization, technologies of mediation and environmental transformations. These explorations will be used as catalysts for architectural analysis and design experimentation.

Introducing design methodologies that allow us to see and to shape environmental interactions in new ways, the studio will focus on how architecture may operate as a mediator—an intermediary that negotiates, alters or redirects multiple forces in our world: physical, cultural, social, technological, political etc. The semester will progress through three projects that examine unique atmospheric, spatial and urban conditions with the aid of multimedia visual techniques; and that employ design to develop creative interventions at the scales of an interface, space and city.

Spring B Immersive Courses


ARCH UN3312 Special Topics In Architecture. 3 points.
Social ideas such as collectivity, interconnectedness, cohesion, and so on may seem far removed from technological protocols and inventions—yet, architecture practices seem curiously overdescribed as constructing the necessary technological protocols needed to understand, control, and even fix “society.” This hybrid course asks how architecture practices build associations between technological protocols and social ideas, exploring the notion of the “techno-social” both from the point of view of theory and practice. Drawing from essays and case studies that range from 1945 until nowadays, students will examine architecture’s changing modes of expertise and legitimation, tracing its shifting engagement with computer tools and social science techniques.

At the same time, students will explore such questions through the making of composite digital models—that is, 4D urban models that embed maps, images, text, and videos gathered from online sources and social networks, in order to reconstruct an urban event/question. Modern architecture, sociology, psychology, anthropology, linguistics, and computation, worked—and continue working—in tandem to propose biopolitical schemes for social change. This course will explore these interdisciplinary exchanges by focusing on technologies, therefore relocating architecture on a level where the differences between object and performance and human and non-human are not fixed, but in a process of becoming. The engagement between architecture and these “techno-social” practices will not be considered innocent. Instead, we will work to undermine the rhetoric of political and aesthetic neutrality that can be found in the writings of some of the architects that we will examine, as well as in the reception of their work.
ARCH UN1020 Introduction To Architectural Design and Visual Culture. 3 points.
Introductory design studio to introduce students to architectural design through readings and studio design projects. Intended to develop analytic skills to critique existing media and spaces. Process of analysis used as a generative tool for the students' own design work. Must apply for placement in course. Priority to upperclass students. Class capped at 16.

Fall 2020: ARCH UN1020
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ARCH UN3202 ADVANCED ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN II. 4 points.
Prerequisites: ARCH V3201. Open to architecture majors or with permission of instructor.
Prerequisite: ARCH UN3201. Advanced Architectural Design II culminates the required studio sequence in the major. Students are encouraged to consider it as a synthetic studio where they advance concepts, research methodologies and representational skills learned in all previous studios towards a semester-long design project. Field trips, lectures, and discussions are organized in relation to studio exercises.

ARCH UN3312 Special Topics In Architecture. 3 points.
Social ideas such as collectivity, interconnectivity, cohesion, and so on may seem far removed from technological protocols and inventions—yet, architecture practices seem curiously overdescribed as constructing the necessary technological protocols needed to understand, control, and even fix "society." This hybrid course asks how architecture practices build associations between technological protocols and social ideas, exploring the notion of the "techno-social" both from the point of view of theory and practice. Drawing from essays and case studies that range from 1945 until nowadays, students will examine architecture's changing modes of expertise and legitimation, tracing its shifting engagement with computer tools and social science techniques.

At the same time, students will explore such questions through the making of composite digital models—that is, 4D urban models that embed maps, images, text, and videos gathered from online sources and social networks, in order to reconstruct an urban event/question. Modern architecture, sociology, psychology, anthropology, linguistics, and computation, worked—and continue working—in tandem to propose biopolitical schemes for social change. This course will explore these interdisciplinary exchanges by focusing on technologies, therefore relocating architecture on a level where the differences between object and performance and human and non-human are not fixed, but in a process of becoming. The engagement between architecture and these "techno-social" practices will not be considered innocent. Instead, we will work to undermine the rhetoric of political and aesthetic neutrality that can be found in the writings of some of the architects that we will examine, as well as in the reception of their work.

ARCH UN3117 Modern Architecture in the World. 3 points.
Prerequisites: Designed for but not limited to sophomores; enrollment beyond 60 at the discretion of the instructor.
How has architecture been "modern"? This course will introduce students to things, practices, figures, and ideas behind this contentious and contradictory concept, emerging in multiple locations around the world. Students in this course will learn about architecture as it was practiced, taught, thought, and experienced across landscapes of social and cultural difference during the past two centuries. Learning about the past through historical consciousness around architecture and investigating the history of architecture as a discursive field are fundamental to liberal arts thinking generally, and important for students in architecture, the history and theory of architecture, art history, and urban studies. Students in this course will be introduced to:

Architecture as enmeshed with other forms of cultural production
Culturally-specific intellectual and public debates around the architectural and urban
Makers, thinkers, and organizers of the designed or built environment
Geographies, territories, and mobilities associated with architecture as an end or means for material extraction, refinement, trade, labor, and construction
Sites, institutions, media, events, and practices which have come to hold meaning

Modernity, modernism, and modernization in relation to each other, as social, cultural, and technological drivers holding stakes for past events as well their histories.

In this course, we will ask questions about ideas and practices within disparate socially-and culturally-constructed worlds, and across other asymmetries. For example, can we draw a coherent historical thread through Lisbon in 1755, Bombay in 1854, Moscow in 1917, the moon in 1969, and al-Za’atari refugee camp in 2016? Are such narratives of coherence themselves the trace of the modernist impulse in architectural history? In this course, we will study modern architecture’s references to an art of building as well the metaphors it gives rise to. Embedded in this examination are social and cultural questions of who made and thought modern architecture, and aesthetic and historical questions around the figure of the architect.

ARCH UN3901 Senior Seminar. 4 points.
Readings, individual class presentations, and written reports.

Spring Full-term Courses
ARCH UN3997 Independent Study. 2-4 points.
Prerequisites: Permission of the program director in term prior to that of independent study. Independent study form available at departmental office.

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Summer 2021 Courses
The course schedule listed below may be subject to change. Please revisit this page and the online Directory of Classes in March 2021 to confirm our summer 2021 course information. You are also welcome contact us with any questions you may have: architecture@barnard.edu.

Summer A Immersive Courses
*Summer A immersive courses will run during the first half of the semester: Mon., May 3, 2021 – Fri., June 18, 2021.*

ARCH UN1010 Design Futures: New York City. 3 points.
How does design operate in our lives? What is our design culture? In this course, we explore the many scales of design in contemporary culture -- from graphic design to architecture to urban design to global, interactive, and digital design. The format of this course moves between lectures, discussions, collaborative design work and field trips in order to engage in the topic through texts and experiences.

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ARCH UN2101 ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN: SYSTEMS AND MATERIALS. 4 points.
This architectural design studio explores material assemblies, techniques of fabrication, and systems of organization. These explorations will be understood as catalysts for architectural analysis and design experimentation.

Both designed objects and the very act of making are always embedded within a culture, as they reflect changing material preferences, diverse approaches to durability and obsolescence, varied understandings of comfort, different concerns with economy and ecology. They depend on multiple resources and mobilize varied technological innovations. Consequently, we will consider that making always involves making a society, for it constitutes a response to its values and a position regarding its technical and material resources. Within this understanding, this studio will consider different cultures of making through a number of exercises rehearse design operations at different scales—from objects to infrastructures.

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ARCH UN2103 ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN: ENVIRONMENTS AND MEDIATIONS. 4 points.
This architectural design studio course explores modes of visualization, technologies of mediation and environmental transformations. These explorations will be used as catalysts for architectural analysis and design experimentation.

Introducing design methodologies that allow us to see and to shape environmental interactions in new ways, the studio will focus on how architecture may operate as a mediator — an intermediary that negotiates, alters or redirects multiple forces in our world: physical, cultural, social, technological, political etc. The semester will progress through three projects that examine unique atmospheric, spatial and urban conditions with the aid of multimedia visual techniques; and that employ design to develop creative interventions at the scales of an interface, space and city.

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ARCH UN3312 Special Topics In Architecture. 3 points.
Social ideas such as collectivity, interconnectivity, cohesion, and so on may seem far removed from technological protocols and inventions—yet, architecture practices seem curiously overdescribed as constructing the necessary technological protocols needed to understand, control, and even fix “society.” This hybrid course asks how architecture practices build associations between technological protocols and social ideas, exploring the notion of the “techno-social” both from the point of view of theory and practice. Drawing from essays and case studies that range from 1945 until nowadays, students will examine architecture’s changing modes of expertise and legitimation, tracing its shifting engagement with computer tools and social science techniques. At the same time, students will explore such questions through the making of composite digital models—that is, 4D urban models that embed maps, images, text, and videos gathered from online sources and social networks, in order to reconstruct an urban event/question. Modern architecture, sociology, psychology, anthropology, linguistics, and computation, worked—and continue working—in tandem to propose biopolitical schemes for social change. This course will explore these interdisciplinary exchanges by focusing on technologies, therefore relocating architecture on a level where the differences between object and performance and human and non-human are not fixed, but in a process of becoming. The engagement between architecture and these “techno-social” practices will not be considered innocent. Instead, we will work to undermine the rhetoric of political and aesthetic neutrality that can be found in the writings of some of the architects that we will examine, as well as in the reception of their work.

Summer B Immersive Courses

Summer B immersive courses will run during the second half of the semester: June 28, 2021 – Mon., Aug. 16, 2021.

ARCH UN3312 Special Topics In Architecture. 3 points.
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