

Discourse and Techniques – Distributional Electives

Description

The M.Arch II program's primary vehicle for developing students' interest and abilities in architectural discourse are its course offerings in the curricular area of Discourse and Techniques. To fulfill requirements for this distributional elective, students select from a menu of courses which include coursework on design pedagogy and formal analysis, all designed around current themes and positions in architecture. The content and material for these courses include close readings of both historical and recent architecture examples which allow students to engage questions on contemporary discourse. Outcomes of a Discourse and Techniques course might consist of written papers, participatory group discussions, design of a curriculum, written studio project briefs, and techniques for novel design exercises.

Archive of Past Approved Courses

Note: For a course to count towards a requirement, it must be taken in the year that it was listed as valid.

Fall 2024

2469 Public Space, Memory, and Social Dialogue	Krzysztof Wodiczko
2470 Atmospheric Encounters: Visualizing the Invisible	Craig Douglas
2471 Architecture of Time	Clara Kraft
2472 Curatorial Practices in the Public Realm: Working Outside the Box	Pedro Alonzo
2484 Interdisciplinary Art and Design Practices	Malkit Shoshan
3241 Theories of Landscape as Urbanism	Gareth Doherty
3348 The Idea of Environment	Abby Spinak
3352 Type and the Idea of the City: Architecture's Search for what is Common	Christopher Lee
3389 The Fifth Plan	Ron Witte
3459 Proximities / or Readings and Methods with Reflexive Formalism	Jonathan Lott
4105 Studies of the Built North American Environment: since 1580	John Stilgoe
4141 Histories of Landscape Architecture I: Textuality and the Practice of Landscape Architecture	Edward Eigen
4304 North American Seacoasts and Landscapes: Discovery Period to the Present	John Stilgoe
4358 Authority and Invention: Medieval Art and Architecture	Christine Smith
4362 Structuring Urban Experience: From the Athenian Acropolis to the Boston Common	Christine Smith
4384 Building and Urban Conservation and Renewal – Assessment, Analysis, Design	David Fixler
4399 Architecture and Construction: From the Vitruvian Tradition to the Digital	Antione Picon
4454 The Project and the Territory: Japan Story	Mohsen Mostafavi
4488 Making the American City: Form and Society	Alexander von Hoffman
4518 Expanding the Canon: Architecture and Urbanism	Rahul Mehrotra
4519 Contested Spaces: Architecture and Power	Ana Leon Crespo
4520 Tactile Architecture	Divya Subramanian
4521 Translations and Negotiations: The Roman Landscape in the Modern World	Kaja Tally-Schumacher
4522 Essaying Architecture	James Graham
4523 Symptomatic Reading of Architecture	K. Michael Hays

Spring 2024

2466 Place-Based Scenario Planning	Kira Clingen
2467 Images of the Environment: Terror and Beauty	Min Yeo
2468 Territorial Commons: Mapping Narratives in the Shifting Extractive Landscapes of the Antipodes	Rosalea Monacella
3347 Wild Ways: The Nature of Wilderness, Wild-ness and Wild Being(s) in the Anthropocene	Nina-Marie Lister
3365 Material Practice and its Agency	Toshiko Mori

3485 Appearance	Ron Witte
3514 African Landscape Architecture: Alternative Futures for the Field	Gareth Doherty
3516 Contextual Capacities	Dan Stubbengaard
3517 Redefining Urban Design	Joan Busquets
4377 Competing Visions of Modernity in Japan	Seng Kuan
4468 On Architecture and Property	Lisa Haber-Thomson
4486 Displaced Becomings --The Many Faces of Modern Architecture in Sinophone Asia	Chuntei Tseng
4510 Transition as Condition: Ukraine Research- Urbanism, Environment, Infrastructure	Eve Blau
4511 Case Studies in Urban Conservation: Principles & Narratives of an Emerging Discipline	David Fixler
4512 Fight or Flight: Space Colonization and the Future of Landscape Architecture	Ignacio Bunster-Ossa
4513 Architecture and Poststructuralism	K. Michael Hays
4514 Critical Boston: Challenge and Opportunity in a City Undergoing Rapid Change	Mark Lamster
4515 The Picturesque: Nature // Artifice	Divya Subramanian
4517 Writing and Urban Life (at FAS)	Bruno Carvalho
5440 Public Finance for Planners: Creating Equitable & Sustainable Communities	Lourdes German
5461 Urban Adaptation	Hannah Teicher
5462 Untangling Climax Change	Pedro Clara do Carmo Gadanho
5463 Planning for Pedestrians and Cyclists	Carole Voulgaris
5509 Spatial Design Strategies for Climate Migration	Malkit Shoshan
6483 Procedural Fields: Functional Design of Discrete Hyperdimensional Spaces	Jose Luis Garcia del Castillo Lopez
6489 Climate Positive Design Lab	Pamela Conrad
6502 EMBODIED CARBON- Material Cycles, Circularity, and Advances in Reverse Engineering	Hanif Kara
9158 From Inception to Realization: Three Museum Case Studies	Moshe Safdie
9203 Thesis project / Project Thesis	John May, Eric Howeler

Fall 2023

3389 The Fifth Plan	Ron Witte
3512 Rational Form Making	Angela Pang
5441 Policy Analysis: A Tool for Evidence-Based Decision Making	Rachel Meltzer
5443 The (New) Image of the City	Alex Yuen
6485 Introduction to Generative Artificial Intelligence	Sabrina Osmany

Spring 2023

2348 Representation First (!!!), Then Architecture	Jennifer Bonner
3357 Experiments in Public Freedom	Sergio Lopez-Pineiro
3485 Appearance	Ron Witte
3499 The Aperture Analyzed: The Form and Space of Openings	Grace La
4377 Competing Visions of Modernity in Japan	Seng Kuan
4395 Environmentalism II: How to Have a Politics?	John May
5394 Travel Behavior and Forecasting	Carole Voulgaris
5439 Land Loss, Reclamation, and Stewardship in Contemporary Native America	Daniel D'Oca, Eric Henson, Philip Deloria
5440 Public Finance for Planners: Creating Equitable & Sustainable Communities	Lourdes German
5442 New Towns and Housing Development in Africa	Richard Peiser
5443 The (New) Image of the City	Alex Yuen
6384 Towards a New Science of Design?	Juan Ugarte
6483 Procedural Fields: Functional Design of Discrete Hyperdimensional Spaces	Jose Garcia del Castillo Lopez
6485 Unsupervised Machine Learning for Designers	Sabrina Osmany
7451 Design Teaching Lab (DTL)	Megan Panzano, Ian Miley

9203 Thesis Project/ Project Thesis

Eric Howeler, Lisa Haber-Thomson

Fall 2022

3389 The Fifth Plan

3399 Extracanonial Buildings

4387 Topology and Imagination: Between Chinese Landscapes and Architecture

4468 On Architecture and Property

Ron Witte

Ajay Manthripragada

Stanislaus Fung

Lisa Haber-Thomson

Spring 2022

2361 Discourse and Advocacy in Spaces of Curation

3347 Wild Ways: Thinking, Relating and Being with/in Wilderness, Wild-ness
and Nature in the Anthropocene

3357 Experiments in Public Freedom

3399 Extracanonial Buildings

3451 Investigating Normal: Assistive and Adaptive Design for
Interdependent Futures

3485 Appearance

3488 Institutions & Impact: Mental Health: Do institutions need to
hybridize to have more impact tomorrow?

3505 Machine Learning and the Image of the City

3506 Homes on Fields

4395 Environmentalism II: How to Have a Politics?

4468 On Architecture and Property

4480 Eco Folly - History and Technology

4484 Otherness and the Canon: Episodes of a Dialogic
Reading of the History of Architecture

5394 Travel Behavior and Forecasting

5438 Designer Developer

5439 Land Loss, Reclamation, and Stewardship in Contemporary Native America

Mark Pasnik

Nina-Marie Lister

Sergio Lopez-Pineiro

Ajay Manthripragada

Sara Hendren

Ron Witte

David van der Leer

Charles Waldheim

Charlotte Malterre-Barthes

John May

Lisa Haber-Thomson

Erika Naginski, Grace La

Jorge Liernur, Yazmin Crespo

Carole Voulgaris

Weijia Song

Daniel D'Oca, Eric Henson, Philip
Deloria

5440 Public Finance for Planners: Creating Equitable & Sustainable Communities

5441 Policy Analysis: A Tool for Evidence-Based Decision Making

5442 New Towns and Housing Development in Africa

5443 The (New) Image of the City

5444 Typologies of Liberation

6384 Towards a New Science of Design?

6385 Automation in Practice

6483 Artifacts as Media: Signals, Data, Information and Technology

6484 Data Science for Building Performance Simulation and Architectural
Design Optimization

6485 Introduction to Machine Learning for Designers

9203 Thesis Project/ Project Thesis

Lourdes German

Rachel Meltzer

Richard Peiser

Alex Yuen

Oana Stanescu, Bryan Lee

Martin Bechthold, Juan Ugarte

Nathan King

Jose Garcia del Castillo Lopez

Ellie Han

Sabrina Osmany

Andrew Holder, Eric Howeler, Jon Lott

Fall 2021

2348 Representation First (!!!), Then Architecture

3365 Material Practice and its Agency

3389 The Fifth Plan

3487 Interpreting an Archive

Jennifer Bonner

Toshiko Mori

Ron Witte

Jorge Silvetti, Mark Lee, Ines
Zalduendo

4377 Competing Visions of Modernity in Japan

4387 Topology and Imagination: Between Chinese Landscapes and Architecture

Seng Kuan

Stanislaus Fung

Spring 2021

2348 Representation First (!!!), Then Architecture

3357 Experiments in Public Freedom

3365 Material Practice and its Agency

Jennifer Bonner

Sergio Lopez-Pineiro

Toshiko Mori

3381 Artificial Intelligence in Contemporary Design Practice
3389 The Fifth Plan
3393 Regarding an Archive
9203 Thesis project / Project thesis

Paola Sturla
Ron Witte
Jorge Silvetti, Mark Lee
Andrew Holder, Eric Howeler, Jon Lott

Fall 2020

4356 Screens- Projecting Media and The Visual Arts
4387 Topology and Imagination: Between Chinese Landscapes and Architecture
4395 Environmentalisms II: How to Have a Politics?

Giuliana Bruno
Stanislaus Fung
John May

Spring 2020

2355 Book Project Number Zero
3357 Experiments in Public Freedom
3365 Material, Atmosphere, and Ambiance
3377 Style Worry or #FOMO
3380 Factory of the Sensible and the Political
3389 The Fifth Plan
4377 Competing Visions of Modernity in Japan
4381 Bramante is better than Alberti...
4391 Palladio and Raphael: An Innovative Learning Experience
4475 Conservation, Destruction, and Curating Impermanence
9203 Thesis project / Project thesis

Pier Paolo Tamburelli, Thomas Kelley
Sergio Lopez-Pineiro
Toshiko Mori
Max Kuo
Catherine Ingraham
Ron Witte
Seng Kuan
Jorge Silvetti
Guido Beltramini, Howard Burns
Natalia Escobar Castrillon
Andrew Holder, John McMorrough, Jon Lott

Fall 2019

3382 Domestic Architecture: (Groups of Residences)
4387 Topology and Imagination: Between Chinese Landscapes and Architecture
4394 One Century of Modernization in Latin America: 1880-1980
4395 Environmentalisms
4428 Visionary Architecture
4453 Manfredo Tafuri and The Historiography And Criticism of Architecture 1960-1990

Dave Hickey, Max Kuo
Stanislaus Fung
Jorge Liernur
John May
Erika Naginski
Jorge Liernur

Spring 2019

3365 Material, Atmosphere, and Ambiance
3380 Factory of the Sensible and the Political
4377 Competing Visions of Modernity in Japan
4389 (A Secret History of Italian Design)
4391 Palladio and Raphael: An Innovative Learning Experience
4476 Architecture's Bodies: Agency and Biopolitics
9203 Thesis project / Project thesis

Malkit Shoshan
Catherine Ingraham
Seng Kuan
Jeffrey Schnapp
Guido Beltramini, Howard Burns
Lisa Haber-Thomson
Andrew Holder, John McMorrough, Jon Lott

Fall 2018

2348 Representation First (!!!), Then Architecture
3374 Werewolf: Architectures of Change
3376 Selected Current (and Recurrent) Topics in Architecture Theory and Design Practice
3376 Style Worry or #FOMO
4376 Signal, Image, Architecture III: The Automatic Present

Jennifer Bonner
Caroline O'Donnell
Jorge Silvetti

Max Kuo
John May

Spring 2018

4373 Bavarian Rococo: Heterotopias
4381 Bramante is better than Alberti...

Andrew Holder
Jorge Silvetti

4475 Conservation, Destruction, and Curating Impermanence

Natalia Escobar Castrillon

Fall 2017

3290 Teaching Techniques

Scott Cohen

4379 Practical Wisdom 2

Peter Carl