

# Global Culture and Diversity – Distributional Electives

## Description

Exploring relationships between diverse cultures, geographies, communities, social conditions, and the built environment provides a rich source of inspiration for architects and designers. As such, explorations in global culture and diversity are essential for developing relevant design skills and sensibilities. To ensure that students in the M.Arch-1 program gain exposure to conditions of the built environment in diverse communities, the M.Arch-1 degree requires students to earn a minimum of four (4) credit units in courses designated as *Global Culture & Diversity* distributional electives. This category of offerings is broad, encompassing appropriate design studios, lecture courses, and seminars. Course matter may include non-Western contexts, indigenous, or under-represented communities, challenged socio-economic frameworks, marginalized populations, divergent histories of architecture, special cultural conditions of a variety of vernacular, local, and regional settings. Correspondingly, student coursework may take a variety of forms for example, research papers on historic or contemporary architecture in Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Oceania or other settings; or studio projects that engage in indigenous cultures, socially and economically challenged regions, historical settlement and contemporary urbanization patterns, political, social, ecological, technological and spatial patterns in architecture, forms and typologies, vernacular construction methods, and so on, within specific non-Western geographic contexts (commonly understood as areas other than Europe, North and South America, Australia; however, inclusive of under-represented regions of those continents. For example, the tropics, pre-Colombian areas of Peru, etc. are included in this distributional area). Common among these elective offerings is the expectation that students will not only absorb new knowledge about the needs, values, and social patterns of other cultures, but also apply their own analytical argumentation and design skills to resolving problems of architecture and urbanism in these contexts.

## 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.*

### Spring 2023

3398 Urban Design & Planning for Climate Transformation, Intense Migration, & Rapid Urban Growth	Luis Felipe Vera Benitez
4344 Chinese Modern Architecture and Urbanism	Peter Rowe
4377 Competing Visions of Modernity in Japan	Seng Kuan
4458 Architecture: Histories of the Present	Mohsen Mostafavi
4506: Yeah, they were all Yellow: Asian Feminist Architectural Possibilities	Ruo Jia
5213 Equitable Development and Housing Policy in Urban Settings	James Carras
5381 Urban Design and the Color-Line	Stephen Gray
5427 Native Americans in the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century: Nation Building II (at HKS)	Eric Henson
5439 Land Loss, Reclamation, and Stewardship in Contemporary Native America	Daniel D'Oca, Eric Henson, Philip Deloria
5442 New Towns and Affordable Housing Development in Africa	Richard Peiser
5490 Affordable and Mixed-Income Housing Development, Finance, and Management	Edward Marchant

### Fall 2022

4387 Topology and Imagination: Between Chinese Landscapes and Architecture	Stanislas Fung
4454 The Project and the Territory: Japan Story	Mohsen Mostafavi
4455 Cotton Kingdom, Now	Sara Zewde
4486: Displaced Becomings --The Many Faces of Modern Architecture in Sinophone Asia	David C. Tseng
4487: Plants of Ritual: Creating a Spiritual Connection to the Designed Landscape	Francesca Benedetto
4495: Highways, Deforestation, and State-driven Colonization in Amazonia	Ana Duran Calisto
5326 Housing and Urbanization in the US	James Stockard, Jennifer Molinsky
5347 Urbanization and Development	Diane Davis
5386 Urban Ethnographies	Michael Herzfeld
5495 Urban Economics for Planners and Policymakers	Rachel Meltzer

9127 Real Estate and City Making in China

Bing Wang

### Spring 2022

4344 Chinese Modern Architecture and Urbanism  
4458 Architecture: Histories of the Present  
4479 Power & Place: Culture and Conflict in the Built Environment  
4483 Late-modern Japan and the Wild Samurai Generation  
4484 Otherness and Canon: Episodes of a Dialogic Reading of the History of Architecture  
5337 Housing and Urbanization in Global Cities  
5381 Urban Design and the Color-Line  
5383 Developing for Social Impact  
5397 Cities and the Urban Informal Economy  
  
5424 Architectures of the New Silk Road- Spaces of Transnational  
Infrastructure-led Urbanization  
5427 Native Americans in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Nation Building II (at HKS)  
5439 Land Loss, Reclamation, and Stewardship in Contemporary Native America  
  
5442 New Towns and Affordable Housing Development in Africa  
5444 Typologies of Liberation  
5486 The Gentrification Debates: Perceptions and Realities of Neighborhood Change  
5490 Affordable and Mixed-Income Housing Development, Finance,  
and Management

Peter Rowe  
Mohsen Mostafavi  
George Thomas, Susan Snyder  
Seng Kuan  
Jorge Liernur, Yazmin Crespo  
Alexander von Hoffman  
Stephen Gray  
Matthew Kiefer  
Rahul Mehrotra, Martha Chen,  
Bish Sanyal  
Marc Angelil  
  
Eric Henson  
Daniel D'Oca, Eric Henson, Philip  
Deloria  
Richard Peiser  
Oana Stancescu, Bryan Lee  
Toni Griffin  
Edward Marchant

### Fall 2021

3346 Urban Form Transition as Condition  
3358 An Unsentimental Look at Architecture and Social Craft  
3398 Migration in Latin-American: Imagining Flux, Rapid Response and Reversibility  
3486 Original Misunderstandings: Latin American Architecture and Some Genealogies  
4377 Competing Visions of Modernity in Japan  
4387 Topology and Imagination: Between Chinese Landscapes and Architecture  
4454 The Project and the Territory: Japan Story  
4464 Slavery, the slave trade and the built environment  
5213 Equitable Development and Housing Policy in Urban Settings  
5326 Housing and Urbanization in the US  
5386 Urban Ethnographies  
5429 Reimagining social infrastructure and collective futures  
5495 Urban Economics for Planners and Policymakers  
9127 Real Estate and City Making in China

Eve Blau  
John Peterson  
Luis Felipe Vera Benitez  
Flores Rodriguez  
Seng Kuan  
Stanislas Fung  
Mohsen Mostafavi  
Raffaella Fabiani Giannetto  
James Carras  
James Stockard, Jennifer Molinsky  
Michael Herzfeld  
Malkit Shoshan  
Rachel Meltzer  
Bing Wang

### Spring 2021

4344 Modern Architecture and Urbanism in China  
4458 Architecture: Histories of the Present  
4478 Other(ed) Architecture: Coloniality, Subject, and Space  
4479 Power & Place Culture and Conflict in the Built Environment  
5337 Housing and Urbanization in Global Cities  
5347 Urbanization and Development  
5367 U.S. Housing Markets, Problems, and Policies  
5374 Community Development: History, Theory, and Imaginative Practice  
5381 Urban Design and the Color-Line  
5383 Developing for Social Impact  
5397 Cities and the Urban Informal Economy  
  
5419 Hidden Figures: The City, Architecture and the Construction of Race and Gender  
5424 Architectures of the New Silk Road

Peter Rowe  
Mohsen Mostafavi  
Somayeh Chitchian  
George Thomas, Susan Snyder  
Alexander von Hoffman  
Diane Davis  
Chris Herbert  
Lily Song  
Stephen Gray  
Matthew Kiefer  
Rahul Mehrotra, Martha Chen,  
Bish Sanyal  
Hansy Better  
Marc Angelil

5427 Native Americans in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Nation Building II (at HKS)  
 5486 The Gentrification Debates: Perceptions and Realities of Neighborhood Change  
 5490 Affordable and Mixed-Income Housing Development, Finance,  
 and Management

Eric Henson  
 Toni Griffin  
 Edward Marchant

## Fall 2020

3358 An Unsentimental Look at Architecture and Social Craft  
 4387 Topology and Imagination: Between Chinese Landscapes and Architecture  
 4454 The Project and the Territory: Japan Story  
 4455 Cotton Kingdom, Now  
 5326 Housing and Urbanization in the US  
 5386 Urban Ethnographies  
 5389 New Spaces of Justice  
 5495 Market Analysis and Urban Economics

John Peterson  
 Stanislas Fung  
 Mohsen Mostafavi  
 Sara Zewde  
 James Stockard, Jennifer Molinsky  
 Michael Herzfeld  
 Oana Stanescu  
 Jaclene Begley

## Spring 2020

3346 Urban Form Transition as Condition  
 3607 Architecture as an Urban Issue: Challenges & Inventions in the Practice in Tokyo  
 4344 Modern Architecture and Urbanism in China  
 4377 Competing Visions of Modernity in Japan  
 4393 Cultural Fever: Postmodern Effects in Sino-American Architecture  
 4479 Power & Place Culture and Conflict in the Built Environment  
 5211 Cities by Design II: Projects, Processes, and Outcomes  
 5337 Housing and Urbanization in Global Cities  
 5366 Global Perspectives on Shelter Insecurity and Displacement  
 5374 Community Development: History, Theory, and Imaginative Practice  
 5381 Urban Design and the Color-Line  
 5383 Developing for Social Impact  
 5390 Public Space as a Catalyst for Change in Informal Settlements: The Case of Argentina  
 5392 Queer Spaces  
 5486 The Gentrification Debates: Perceptions and Realities of Neighborhood Change  
 5490 Affordable and Mixed-Income Housing Development, Finance,  
 and Management  
 6601 Tectonic Tradition in Japan

Eve Blau  
 Kayoko Ota  
 Peter Rowe  
 Seng Kuan  
 Michael Hays, Ruojia Jia  
 George Thomas, Susan Snyder  
 Stephen Gray  
 Alexander von Hoffman  
 Michael Hooper  
 Lily Song  
 Stephen Gray  
 Matthew Kiefer  
 Belinda Tato  
 Ann Forsyth  
 Toni Griffin  
 Edward Marchant  
 Mitsuhiro Kanada

## Fall 2019

3358 An Unsentimental Look at Architecture and Social Craft  
 4387 Topology and Imagination: Between Chinese Landscapes and Architecture  
 5213 Policy Making in Urban Settings  
 5326 Housing and Urbanization in the US  
 5495 Market Analysis and Urban Economics  
 9127 Real Estate and City Making in China

John Peterson  
 Stanislas Fung  
 James Carras  
 James Stockard, Jennifer Molinsky  
 Renee Tapp  
 Bing Wang

## Spring 2019

1323 Tokyo Study Abroad Studio New Topologies of Our Living Environment  
 3346 Urban Form Transition as Condition  
 3607 Tokyo Study Abroad Seminar Thinning Metropolis Strategies and Tools  
 for the New Urban Condition  
 4344 Modern Architecture and Urbanism in China  
 4377 Competing Visions of Modernity in Japan  
 4476 Architecture's Bodies Agency and Biopolitics  
 4479 Power & Place Culture and Conflict in the Built Environment  
 5201 Urban Politics and Planning (at HKS)  
 5211 Cities by Design II Projects, Processes, and Outcomes

Sosuke Fujimoto  
 Eve Blau  
 Kayoko Ota  
 Peter Rowe  
 Seng Kuan  
 Lisa Haber-Thomson  
 George Thomas, Susan Snyder  
 Quinton Mayne  
 Stephen Gray

5337 Housing and Urbanization in Global Cities  
 5367 U.S. Housing Markets, Problems, and Policies  
 5374 Community Development History, Theory, and Imaginative Practice  
 5381 Urban Design and the Color-Line  
 5432 International Humanitarian Response (at HSPH)  
 5490 Affordable and Mixed-Income Housing Development, Finance,  
 and Management  
 5495 Market Analysis and Urban Economics

Alexander von Hoffman  
 Chris Herbert  
 Lily Song  
 Stephen Gray  
 Stephanie Kayden  
 Edward Marchant

Raymond Torto, Jing Ren

## Fall 2018

1302 Dwelling / Garden / Being, Suzhou  
 1308 Architecture as a Tool to Improve Lives Development of a Day Care Centre for  
 Rohingya Children  
 1403 Alternative Futures for Al-'Ula, Saudi Arabia  
 1501 The New Selma  
 1503 Gendering Urban Development Making room for women in urban  
 planning and design in Argentina  
 1602 The Agency of Mezcal in the Oaxaca Valley of Mexico  
 3358 An Unsentimental Look at Architecture and Social Craft  
 3369 Spaces of Solidarity  
 4387 Topology and Imagination Between Chinese Landscapes and Architecture  
 4387 Competing Visions of Modernity in Japan  
 5210 Cities by Design I  
 5213 Policy Making in Urban Settings (at HKS)  
 5326 Housing and Urbanization in the United States  
 9127 Real Estate and City Making in China

Zhang Ke  
 Anna Heringer

Stephen Ervin, Craig Douglas  
 Daniel D'Oca  
 Chelina Odbert, Ignacio Cardona

Elisa Silva  
 John Peterson  
 Malkit Shoshan  
 Stanislas Fung  
 Seng Kuan  
 Rahul Mehrotra et al  
 James Carras  
 James Stockard, Jennifer Molinsky  
 Bing Wang

## Spring 2018

1315 After the Storm Restructuring an Island Ecosystem  
 1316 ROOT Rediscovery of Jingdezhen Contemporary  
 1603 Manila Future Habitations  
  
 1605 Rapid Urbanism  
  
 3346 Urban Form Transition as Condition  
 3369 Spaces of Solidarity  
 4344 Modern Architecture and Urbanism in China  
 4479 Power & Place Culture and Conflict in the Built Environment  
 5201 Urban Politics and Planning (at HKS)  
 5211 Cities by Design II Projects, Processes, and Outcomes  
 5337 Housing and Urbanization in Global Cities  
 5347 Urbanization and International Development  
 5365 Towns and Settlements in Metropolitan Regions  
 5367 U. S. Housing Markets, Problems, and Policies  
 5374 Community Development Past, Present, and Future  
 5432 International Humanitarian Response (at HSPH)  
 5490 Affordable and Mixed-Income Housing Development, Finance, and Management  
 5495 Market Analysis and Urban Economics  
 6311 Innovative Construction in Japan

Jeanne Gang, Claire Cahan  
 Pei Zhu  
 Rok Oman, David Rubin, Spela  
 Videcnik  
 Reinier de Graaf, Ricardo Solar  
 Lezama  
 Eve Blau  
 Malkit Shoshan  
 Peter Rowe  
 George Thomas, Susan Snyder  
 Quinton Mayne  
 Stephen Gray  
 Alexander von Hoffman  
 Sai Balakrishnan  
 Peter Rowe  
 Chris Herbert  
 Lily Song  
 Stephanie Kayden, Daniel Maxwell  
 Edward Marchant  
 Raymond Torto  
 Mark Mulligan

## Fall 2017

3358 An Unsentimental Look at Architecture and Social Craft  
 4329 Urbanization in the East Asian Region  
 4377 Competing Visions of Modernity in Japan  
 5210 Cities by Design I

John Peterson  
 Peter Rowe  
 Seng Kuan  
 Rahul Mehrotra et al

5213 Policy Making in Urban Settings (at HKS)  
 5326 Housing and Urbanization in the United States  
 5486 There Goes the Neighborhood Perceptions and Realities of Neighborhoods...  
 5601 Tokyo Study Abroad Seminar Tokyo on a Crossroads  
 6601 Tokyo Study Abroad Seminar on Structure and Material in Japan  
 9127 Real Estate and City Making in China

James Carras  
 James Stockard, Jennifer Molinsky  
 Toni Griffin  
 Kayako Ota  
 Mitsuhiro Kanada  
 Bing Wang

### Spring 2017

1314 Material that Connects A Campus Center in Chicago  
 1322 Building Industries in African Water Cities  
 1409 Ulsan Remade Manufacturing the Modern Industrial Landscape  
 1410 In the Middle of the Streams Beyond Landscape Architecture Design & Flow  
 1504 Type, City, Ecology Hydro-types and Knowledge Environments for a New Township in India  
 1506 Sao Paulo the Rescaling of Rail Infrastructure and New Models of Domestic Life  
 1602 Kuala Lumpur / Discovering Traces  
  
 3357 Experiments in Public Freedom  
 4479 Power & Place Culture and Conflict in the Built Environment  
 5201 Urban Politics and Planning (at HKS)  
 5211 Cities by Design II  
 5290 The Space of Conflict  
 5337 Housing and Urbanization in Global Cities  
 5347 International Urbanization and Development  
 5362 Design for the Just City  
 5365 Towns and Settlements in Metropolitan Regions  
 5366 Global Perspective on Shelter Insecurity and Displacement  
 5432 International Humanitarian Response (at HSPH)  
 5490 Affordable and Mixed-Income Housing Development, Finance, Management  
 9138 SURPLUS HOUSING Models of Collective Living in South America

Jeanne Gang  
 Kunle Adeyemi  
 Niall Kirkwood  
 Catherine Mosbach  
 Christopher Lee  
  
 Felipe Correa  
 Spela Videcnik, Rok Oman, David Rubin  
 Sergio Lopez-Pinero  
 G. Thomas, S. Snyder  
 Mayne  
 Stephen Gray  
 Potvin  
 Alexander von Hoffman  
 Sai Balakrishnan  
 Toni Griffin  
 Peter Rowe  
 Michael Hooper  
 Jerold Kayden  
 Edward Marchant  
 Felipe Correa

### Fall 2016

1305 Fukuoka Project Strategies for Urban Extroverts  
 1309 The Archipelago in the Archipelago. Medellin A Tropical City  
 1310 Hutong Metabolism, Beijing  
 1312 Tokyo Study Abroad Studio Transforming Omishima into a Beautiful Japanese Garden  
 1501 Affirmatively Further Fair Housing After Ferguson  
 1601 INTERFACE Constructing the Edge for Malaysia Vision Valley  
 4329 Urbanization in the East Asian Region  
 4329 Architecture, Urbanism, and National Identity in Muslim Geographies  
 5210 Cities by Design I  
 5601 Tokyo Study Abroad Seminar Tokyo on a Crossroads  
 5363 Prosperity, Civic Values and Diversity in a Gentrifying City The Case of Central Square  
 6601 Tokyo Study Abroad Seminar on Structure and Material in Japan  
 9127 Real Estate and City Making in China

Toshiko Mori  
 Camilo Restrepo Ochoa  
 Zhang Ke  
 Toyo Ito  
  
 Daniel D'Oca  
 S. Gray and Z. Hong  
 Peter Rowe  
 Sibel Bozdogan  
 Peter Rowe  
 Kayoko Ota  
 Geeta Pradhan  
  
 Mitsuhiro Kanada  
 Bing Wang

### Spring 2016

1314 Territorio Guarani III  
 1321 Redesigning the Actor Network in Rural Areas around Tokyo  
 1406 Seoul Remade Design of the 'Kool' and the Everyday  
 1504 Housing in Merida Yucatan the urban and the territorial  
 1505 "Regular City" in Chongqing Searching for Domesticated Superstructures

Jorge Silvetti  
 Kaijima, Tsukamoto  
 Niall Kirkwood  
 Diane Davis, Jose Castillo  
 Joan Busquets

1507 Extreme Urbanism IV Looking at Hyper Density - Dongri, Mumbai	Rahul Mehrotra
1508 The Factory and the City Rethinking the industrial spaces of the developmental city	Christopher Lee
1602 Jakarta Models of Collective Space for the Extended Metropolis	Felipe Correa
3351 Landscape as Urbanism in Latin America	Luis Rodrigo Callejas Mujica
3602 Political Landscapes (Rotterdam Study Abroad Seminar)	Niklas Maak
4344 Modern Architecture and Urbanism in China	Peter Rowe
4367 Selected Topics in Chinese Architecture and Urbanism	Xiangning Li
4479 Power & Place Culture and Conflict in the Built Environment	G. Thomas, S. Snyder
5211 Cities by Design II	Stephen Gray
5337 Housing and Urbanization in Global Cities	Alexander von Hoffman
5347 International Urbanization and Development	Sai Balakrishnan
5362 Design for the Just City	Toni Griffin
5507 Urban Inequality after Civil Rights (at FAS)	Elizabeth Hinton
6311 Innovative Construction in Japan	Mark Mulligan
5362 Design for the Just City	Toni Griffin
9129 Living in the Kinetic City Mapping Housing in a Landscape of Flux, Mumbai	Rahul Mehrotra
9138 SURPLUS HOUSING Models of Collective Living in South America	Felipe Correa

***(Prior to 2016, this Distributional Elective was known as “Non-Western.” The description of that elective type is included below)***

Exploring relationships between geography, culture, and the built environment provides a seemingly inexhaustible source of inspiration for architects and designers – certainly this is true for the GSD’s diverse international population of students, faculty, and visitors. Today, as architects increasingly find work in geographic regions and cultural contexts very different from those in which they grew up, such explorations are essential for developing relevant design skills and sensibilities. To ensure that students in the M.Arch-1 program gain some depth of exposure to conditions of the built environment outside of what we conventionally call the West (principally Europe, North and South America, Australia), the M.Arch-1 degree requires students to earn a minimum of four (4) credit units in courses designated as Non-Western Architecture distributional electives. This category of offerings is diverse, encompassing appropriate design studios (i.e., options studios focused on non-Western contexts and issues), lecture courses, and research seminars. Correspondingly, student coursework may take a variety of forms – research papers on historic or contemporary architecture in Asia, Africa, Oceania or other settings, for example; or studio projects that engage historical settlement and contemporary urbanization patterns, political, social and spatial patterns in architecture, forms and typologies, indigenous construction methods, and so on within specific non-Western geographic contexts. Common among these elective offerings is the expectation that students will not only absorb new knowledge about the needs, values, and social patterns of other cultures but also apply their own analytical argumentation and design skills to resolving problems in architecture and urbanism in these contexts.

## **Fall 2015**

1307 Imprecise Tropics	Camilo Restrepo Ochoa
1501 When the Future Looked Bright We Didn't Wear Shades	Bernard Khoury
1502 The MLK Way Building on Black America's Main Street	Daniel D'Oca
4329 Urbanization in the East Asia Region	Peter Rowe
4405 Staging the City Urban Form and Public Life in Istanbul	Sibel Bozdogan
5210 Cities by Design I	Mehrotra, et al
5433 Modern Housing and Urban Districts Concepts, Cases and Comparisons	Peter Rowe
5502 Urban Governance and the Politics of Planning in the Developing World <i>Tokyo Abroad Program Only</i>	Enrique Silva
1313 Making Omishima the Best Island to Live On In Japan Toyko Study Abroad Studio Option	Toyo Ito
5601 Tokyo Study Abroad Seminar The Japan Syndrome	Kayoko Ota
6601 Tokyo Study Abroad Seminar on Structure and Material in Japan	Mits Kanada