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 21st 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
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 21st 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

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

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
Fall 2020

3358 An Unsentimental Look at Architecture and Social Craft
3607 Architecture as an Urban Issue: Challenges & Inventions in the Practice in Tokyo
4344 Modern Architecture and Urbanism in China
4347 Competing Visions of Modesty 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
5383 Developing for Social Impact
5390 Public Space as a Catalyst for Change in Informal Settlements: The Case of Argentina
5486 The Gentrification Debates: Perceptions and Realities of Neighborhood Change
5490 Affordable and Mixed-Income Housing Development, Finance, and Management
5495 Market Analysis and Urban Economics

Spring 2020

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3607 Architecture as an Urban Issue: Challenges & Inventions in the Practice in Tokyo
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5390 Public Space as a Catalyst for Change in Informal Settlements: The Case of Argentina
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

Fall 2019

3358 An Unsentimental Look at Architecture and Social Craft
4347 Competing Visions of Modesty in Japan
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

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
4347 Competing Visions of Modesty 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
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

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
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
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
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<th>Instructor(s)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5213</td>
<td>Policy Making in Urban Settings (at HKS)</td>
<td>James Carras</td>
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<td>5326</td>
<td>Housing and Urbanization in the United States</td>
<td>James Stockard, Jennifer Molinsky</td>
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<td>5486</td>
<td>There Goes the Neighborhood Perceptions and Realities of Neighborhoods...</td>
<td>Toni Griffin</td>
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<td>5601</td>
<td>Tokyo Study Abroad Seminar Tokyo on a Crossroads</td>
<td>Kayako Ota</td>
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<td>6601</td>
<td>Tokyo Study Abroad Seminar on Structure and Material in Japan</td>
<td>Mitsuhiro Kanada</td>
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<td>Real Estate and City Making in China</td>
<td>Bing Wang</td>
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<td>1314</td>
<td>Material that Connects A Campus Center in Chicago</td>
<td>Jeanne Gang</td>
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<td>1322</td>
<td>Building Industries in African Water Cities</td>
<td>Kunle Adeyemi</td>
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<td>1409</td>
<td>Ulsan Remade Manufacturing the Modern Industrial Landscape</td>
<td>Niall Kirkwood</td>
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<td>In the Middle of the Streams Beyond Landscape Architecture Design &amp; Flow</td>
<td>Catherine Mosbach</td>
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<td>1504</td>
<td>Type, City, Ecology Hydro-types and Knowledge Environments for a New Township in India</td>
<td>Christopher Lee</td>
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<tr>
<td>1506</td>
<td>Sao Paulo the Rescaling of Rail Infrastructure and New Models of Domestic Life</td>
<td>Felipe Correa</td>
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<td>1602</td>
<td>Kuala Lumpur / Discovering Traces</td>
<td>Spela Videcnik, Rok Oman, David Rubin</td>
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<td>3357</td>
<td>Experiments in Public Freedom</td>
<td>Sergio Lopez-Pinero</td>
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<td>4479</td>
<td>Power &amp; Place Culture and Conflict in the Built Environment</td>
<td>G. Thomas, S. Snyder</td>
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<td>Urban Politics and Planning (at HKS)</td>
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<td>Cities by Design II</td>
<td>Potvin</td>
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<td>5290</td>
<td>The Space of Conflict</td>
<td>Alexander von Hoffman</td>
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<td>Housing and Urbanization in Global Cities</td>
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<td>5362</td>
<td>Design for the Just City</td>
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<td>5365</td>
<td>Towns and Settlements in Metropolitan Regions</td>
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<td>5366</td>
<td>Global Perspective on Shelter Insecurity and Displacement</td>
<td>Michael Hooper</td>
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<td>Affordable and Mixed-Income Housing Development, Finance, Management</td>
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<td>9138</td>
<td>SURPLUS HOUSING Models of Collective Living in South America</td>
<td>Felipe Correa</td>
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<td>1305</td>
<td>Fukuoka Project Strategies for Urban Extroverts</td>
<td>Toshiko Mori</td>
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<td>The Archipelago in the Archipelago. Medellin A Tropical City</td>
<td>Camilo Restrepo Ochoa</td>
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<td>Hutong Metabolism, Beijing</td>
<td>Zhang Ke</td>
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<td>Tokyo Study Abroad Studio Transforming Omishima into a Beautiful Japanese Garden</td>
<td>Toyo Ito</td>
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<td>1501</td>
<td>Affirmatively Further Fair Housing After Ferguson</td>
<td>Daniel D'Oca</td>
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<td>1601</td>
<td>INTERFACE Constructing the Edge for Malaysia Vision Valley</td>
<td>S. Gray and Z. Hong</td>
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<td>Urbanization in the East Asian Region</td>
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<td>Architecture, Urbanism, and National Identity in Muslim Geographies</td>
<td>Sibel Bozdogan</td>
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<td>5363</td>
<td>Prosperity, Civic Values and Diversity in a Gentrifying City The Case of Central Square</td>
<td>Geeta Pradhan</td>
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**Spring 2016**

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<tr>
<td>1314</td>
<td>Territorio Guarani III</td>
<td>Jorge Silvetti</td>
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<tr>
<td>1321</td>
<td>Redesigning the Actor Network in Rural Areas around Tokyo</td>
<td>Kaijima, Tsukamoto</td>
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<tr>
<td>1406</td>
<td>Seoul Remade Design of the 'Kool' and the Everyday</td>
<td>Niall Kirkwood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1504</td>
<td>Housing in Merida Yucatan the urban and the territorial</td>
<td>Diane Davis, Jose Castillo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1505</td>
<td>&quot;Regular City&quot; in Chongqing Searching for Domesticated Superstructures</td>
<td>Joan Busquets</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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.

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