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 2024
4377 Competing Visions of Modernity in Japan
4458 Architecture: Histories of the Present
4486 Displaced Becomings --The Many Faces of Modern Architecture in Sinophone Asia
5213 Equitable Development and Housing Policy in Urban Settings (at HKS)
5381 Urban Design and the Color-Line
5409 Climate Justice
5427 Native Americans in the 21st Century: Nation Building II (at HKS)

Fall 2023
3513 Community Engagement Workshop: Making Artifacts that Educate and Empower
4454 The Project and the Territory: Japan Story
4487 Plants of Ritual: Creating a Spiritual Connection to the Designed Landscape
4509 Histories of Architecture Against
5326 Housing and Urbanization in the United States
5347 Urbanization and Development
5386 Urban Ethnographies
5451 Race and Real Estate [Module 2]
5495 Urban Economics and Market Analysis
7453 Origins and Contemporary Practices of Asian Landscape Architecture: Korean Perspectives and More
9127 Real Estate and City Making in China

Spring 2023
3398 Urban Design & Planning for Climate Transformation, Intense Migration, & Rapid Urban Growth
4344 Chinese Modern Architecture and Urbanism
4377 Competing Visions of Modernity in Japan
4458 Architecture: Histories of the Present
4506: Yeah, they were all Yellow: Asian Feminist Architectural Possibilities
5213 Equitable Development and Housing Policy in Urban Settings
5381 Urban Design and the Color-Line
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
5490 Affordable and Mixed-Income Housing Development, Finance, and Management

Fall 2022
4387 Topology and Imagination: Between Chinese Landscapes and Architecture
4454 The Project and the Territory: Japan Story
4486: Displaced Becomings – The Many Faces of Modern Architecture in Sinophone Asia
4487: Plants of Ritual: Creating a Spiritual Connection to the Designed Landscape
4495: Highways, Deforestation, and State-driven Colonization in Amazonia
5326 Housing and Urbanization in the US
5347 Urbanization and Development
5386 Urban Ethnographies
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

Spring 2022
4344 Chinese Modern Architecture and Urbanism
4377 Competing Visions of Modernity in Japan
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
The Project and the Territory: Japan Story  
Mohsen Mostafavi

Slavery, the slave trade and the built environment  
Raffaella Fabiani Giannetto

Equitable Development and Housing Policy in Urban Settings  
James Carras

Housing and Urbanization in the US  
James Stockard, Jennifer Molinsky

Urban Ethnographies  
Michael Herzfeld

Reimagining social infrastructure and collective futures  
Malkit Shoshan

Urban Economics for Planners and Policymakers  
Rachel Meltzer

Real Estate and City Making in China  
Bing Wang

Spring 2021

Modern Architecture and Urbanism in China  
Peter Rowe

Architecture: Histories of the Present  
Mohsen Mostafavi

Other(ed) Architecture: Coloniality, Subject, and Space  
Somayeh Chitchian

Power & Place Culture and Conflict in the Built Environment  
George Thomas, Susan Snyder

Housing and Urbanization in Global Cities  
Alexander von Hoffman

Urbanization and Development  
Diane Davis

U.S. Housing Markets, Problems, and Policies  
Chris Herbert

Community Development: History, Theory, and Imaginative Practice  
Lily Song

Urban Design and the Color-Line  
Stephen Gray

Developing for Social Impact  
Matthew Kiefer

Cities and the Urban Informal Economy  
Rahul Mehrotra, Martha Chen, Bish Sanyal

Hidden Figures: The City, Architecture and the Construction of Race and Gender  
Hansy Better

Architectures of the New Silk Road  
Marc Angellil

Native Americans in the 21st Century: Nation Building II (at HKS)  
Eric Henson

The Gentrification Debates: Perceptions and Realities of Neighborhood Change  
Toni Griffin

Affordable and Mixed-Income Housing Development, Finance, and Management  
Edward Marchant

Fall 2020

An Unsentimental Look at Architecture and Social Craft  
John Peterson

Topology and Imagination: Between Chinese Landscapes and Architecture  
Stanislas Fung

The Project and the Territory: Japan Story  
Mohsen Mostafavi

Cotton Kingdom, Now  
Sara Zewde

Housing and Urbanization in the US  
James Stockard, Jennifer Molinsky

Urban Ethnographies  
Michael Herzfeld

New Spaces of Justice  
Oana Stanescu

Market Analysis and Urban Economics  
Jaclene Begley

Spring 2020

Urban Form Transition as Condition  
Eve Blau

Architecture as an Urban Issue: Challenges & Inventions in the Practice in Tokyo  
Kayoko Ota

Modern Architecture and Urbanism in China  
Peter Rowe

Competing Visions of Modernity in Japan  
Seng Kuan

Cultural Fever: Postmodern Effects in Sino-American Architecture  
Michael Hays, Ruo Jia

Power & Place Culture and Conflict in the Built Environment  
George Thomas, Susan Snyder

Cities by Design II: Projects, Processes, and Outcomes  
Stephen Gray

Housing and Urbanization in Global Cities  
Alexander von Hoffman

Global Perspectives on Shelter Insecurity and Displacement  
Michael Hooper

Community Development: History, Theory, and Imaginative Practice  
Lily Song

Urban Design and the Color-Line  
Stephen Gray

Developing for Social Impact  
Matthew Kiefer

Public Space as a Catalyst for Change in Informal Settlements: The Case of Argentina  
Belinda Tato

Queer Spaces  
Ann Forsyth

The Gentrification Debates: Perceptions and Realities of Neighborhood Change  
Toni Griffin
5490 Affordable and Mixed-Income Housing Development, Finance, and Management  
Edward Marchant

6601 Tectonic Tradition in Japan  
Mitsuhiro Kanada

**Fall 2019**

3358 An Unsentimental Look at Architecture and Social Craft  
John Peterson

4387 Topology and Imagination: Between Chinese Landscapes and Architecture  
Stanislas Fung

5213 Policy Making in Urban Settings  
James Carras

5326 Housing and Urbanization in the US  
James Stockard, Jennifer Molinsky

5495 Market Analysis and Urban Economics  
Renee Tapp

9127 Real Estate and City Making in China  
Bing Wang

**Spring 2019**

1323 Tokyo Study Abroad Studio New Topologies of Our Living Environment  
Sosuke Fujimoto

3346 Urban Form Transition as Condition  
Eve Blau

3607 Tokyo Study Abroad Seminar Thinning Metropolis Strategies and Tools for the New Urban Condition  
Kayoko Ota

4344 Modern Architecture and Urbanism in China  
Peter Rowe

4377 Competing Visions of Modernity in Japan  
Seng Kuan

4476 Architecture’s Bodies Agency and Biopolitics  
Lisa Haber-Thomson

4479 Power & Place Culture and Conflict in the Built Environment  
George Thomas, Susan Snyder

5201 Urban Politics and Planning (at HKS)  
Quinton Mayne

5211 Cities by Design II Projects, Processes, and Outcomes  
Stephen Gray

5337 Housing and Urbanization in Global Cities  
Alexander von Hoffman

5367 U.S. Housing Markets, Problems, and Policies  
Chris Herbert

5374 Community Development History, Theory, and Imaginative Practice  
Lily Song

5381 Urban Design and the Color-Line  
Stephen Gray

5432 International Humanitarian Response (at HSPH)  
Stephanie Kayden

5490 Affordable and Mixed-Income Housing Development, Finance, and Management  
Edward Marchant

5495 Market Analysis and Urban Economics  
Raymond Torto, Jing Ren

**Fall 2018**

1302 Dwelling / Garden / Being, Suzhou  
Zhang Ke

1308 Architecture as a Tool to Improve Lives Development of a Day Care Centre for Rohingya Children  
Anna Heringer

1403 Alternative Futures for Al-‘Ula, Saudi Arabia  
Stephen Ervin, Craig Douglas

1501 The New Selma  
Daniel D’Oca

1503 Gendering Urban Development Making room for women in urban planning and design in Argentina  
Chelina Odbert, Ignacio Cardona

1602 The Agency of Mezcal in the Oaxaca Valley of Mexico  
Elisa Silva

3358 An Unsentimental Look at Architecture and Social Craft  
John Peterson

3607 Spaces of Solidarity  
Malkit Shoshan

4387 Topology and Imagination Between Chinese Landscapes and Architecture  
Stanislas Fung

4387 Competing Visions of Modernity in Japan  
Seng Kuan

5210 Cities by Design I  
Rahul Mehrotra et al

5213 Policy Making in Urban Settings (at HKS)  
James Carras

5326 Housing and Urbanization in the United States  
James Stockard, Jennifer Molinsky

9127 Real Estate and City Making in China  
Bing Wang

**Spring 2018**

1315 After the Storm Restructuring an Island Ecosystem  
Jeanne Gang, Claire Cahan

1316 ROOT Rediscovery of Jingdezhen Contemporary  
Pei Zhu
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Faculty Members</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1603</td>
<td>Manila Future Habitations</td>
<td>Rok Oman, David Rubin, Spela Videcnik</td>
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<tr>
<td>1605</td>
<td>Rapid Urbanism</td>
<td>Reinier de Graaf, Ricardo Solar Lezama</td>
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<td>3346</td>
<td>Urban Form Transition as Condition</td>
<td>Eve Blau</td>
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<td>Spaces of Solidarity</td>
<td>Malkit Shoshan</td>
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<td>Modern Architecture and Urbanism in China</td>
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<td>George Thomas, Susan Snyder</td>
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<td>Urbanization in the East Asian Region</td>
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<td>Seng Kuan</td>
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<td>5210</td>
<td>Cities by Design I: Projects, Processes, and Outcomes</td>
<td>Rahul Mehotra et al</td>
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<td>Policy Making in Urban Settings (at HKS)</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>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>
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<td>Mitsuhiro Kanada</td>
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<td>Real Estate and City Making in China</td>
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**Spring 2017**

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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>1410</td>
<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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<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: Projects, Processes, and Outcomes</td>
<td>Stephen Gray</td>
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<td>5290</td>
<td>The Space of Conflict</td>
<td>Potvin</td>
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<td>Alexander von Hoffman</td>
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<td>International Urbanization and Development</td>
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<td>5362</td>
<td>Design for the Just City</td>
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<td>Towns and Settlements in Metropolitan Regions</td>
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<td>Global Perspective on Shelter Insecurity and Displacement</td>
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<td>Edward Marchant</td>
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<tr>
<td>9138</td>
<td>SURPLUS HOUSING: Models of Collective Living in South America</td>
<td>Felipe Correa</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Fall 2016
1305  Fukuoka Project  Strategies for Urban Extroverts Toshiko Mori
1309  The Archipelago in the Archipelago. Medellin  A Tropical City Camilo Restrepo Ochoa
1310  Hutong Metabolism, Beijing Zhang Ke
1312  Tokyo Study Abroad Studio  Transforming Omishima into a Beautiful Japanese Garden Toyo Ito
1501  Affirmatively Further  Fair Housing After Ferguson Daniel D’Oca
1601  INTERFACE Constructing the Edge for Malaysia Vision Valley S. Gray and Z. Hong
4329  Urbanization in the East Asian Region Peter Rowe
4329  Architecture, Urbanism, and National Identity in Muslim Geographies Sibel Bozdogan
5210  Cities by Design I Peter Rowe
5601  Tokyo Study Abroad Seminar  Tokyo on a Crossroads Kayoko Ota
5363  Prosperity, Civic Values and Diversity in a Gentrifying City The Case of Central Square Geeta Pradhan
6601  Tokyo Study Abroad Seminar on Structure and Material in Japan Mitsuhiro Kanada
9127  Real Estate and City Making in China Bing Wang

Spring 2016
1314  Territorio Guarani III Jorge Silvetti
1321  Redesigning the Actor Network in Rural Areas around Tokyo Kaijima, Tsukamoto
1406  Seoul Remade Design of the 'Kool' and the Everyday Niall Kirkwood
1504  Housing in Merida Yucatan  the urban and the territorial Diane Davis, Jose Castillo
1505  "Regular City" in Chongqing  Searching for Domesticated Superstructures 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
5362  Design for the Just City Toni Griffin
6311  Innovative Construction in Japan Mark Mulligan
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  
Mehrtra, 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  
Enrique Silva

**Tokyo Abroad Program Only**

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