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 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-ʿUla, 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
4387 Topology and Imagination  Between Chinese Landscapes and Architecture
Stanislas Fung
4387 Competing Visions of Modernity in Japan
Kuan,Seng
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
1603 Manila  Future Habitations
Rok Oman, David Rubin,
Spela Videcnik
1605 Rapid Urbanism
Reinier de Graaf,
Ricardo Solar Lezama
3346 Urban Form  Transition as Condition
Eve Blau
3369 Spaces of Solidarity
Malkit Shoshan
4344 Modern Architecture and Urbanism in China
Peter Rowe
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
5347 Urbanization and International Development
Sai Balakrishnan
5365 Towns and Settlements in Metropolitan Regions
Peter Rowe
5367 U. S. Housing Markets, Problems, and Policies
Chris Herbert
5374 Community Development  Past, Present, and Future
Lily Song
5432 International Humanitarian Response (at HSPH)
Stephanie Kayden,
Daniel Maxwell
5490 Affordable and Mixed-Income Housing Development, Finance, and Management
Edward Marchant
5495 Market Analysis and Urban Economics
Raymond Torto
6311 Innovative Construction in Japan
Mark Mulligan

Fall 2017
3358 An Unsentimental Look at Architecture and Social Craft
John Peterson
4329 Urbanization in the East Asian Region
Peter Rowe
4377 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
5486 There Goes the Neighborhood  Perceptions and Realities of Neighborhoods...
Toni Griffin
5601 Tokyo Study Abroad Seminar  Tokyo on a Crossroads
Kayako Ota
6601 Tokyo Study Abroad Seminar on Structure and Material in Japan  
9127 Real Estate and City Making in China  

**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  

**Fall 2016**

1305 Fukuoka Project Strategies for Urban Extroverts  
1309 The Archipelago in the Archipelago. Medellín 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  

**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  
1507 Extreme Urbanism IV Looking at Hyper Density - Dongri, Mumbai  
1508 The Factory and the City Rethinking the industrial spaces of the developmental city  
1602 Jakarta Models of Collective Space for the Extended Metropolis  

Mitsuhiro Kanada  
Bing Wang  
Jeanne Gang  
Kunle Adeyemi  
Niall Kirkwood  
Christopher Lee  
Felipe Correa  
Sergio Lopez-Pinero  
G. Thomas, S. Snyder  
Stephen Gray  
Potvin  
Alexander von Hoffman  
Sai Balakrishnan  
Toni Griffin  
Peter Rowe  
Michael Hooper  
Jerold Kayden  
Edward Marchant  
Felipe Correa  
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  
Jorge Silvetti  
Kaijima, Tsukamoto  
Niall Kirkwood  
Diane Davis, Jose Castillo  
Joan Busquets  
Rahul Mehrotra  
Christopher Lee  
Felipe Correa
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)