

AEP2026

20.07-01.08

Seeing
Making
Experiencing
Architecture
Explorer
Programme



AEP 2025 Exhibition: Architecture Explorer Programme, School of Architecture CUHK

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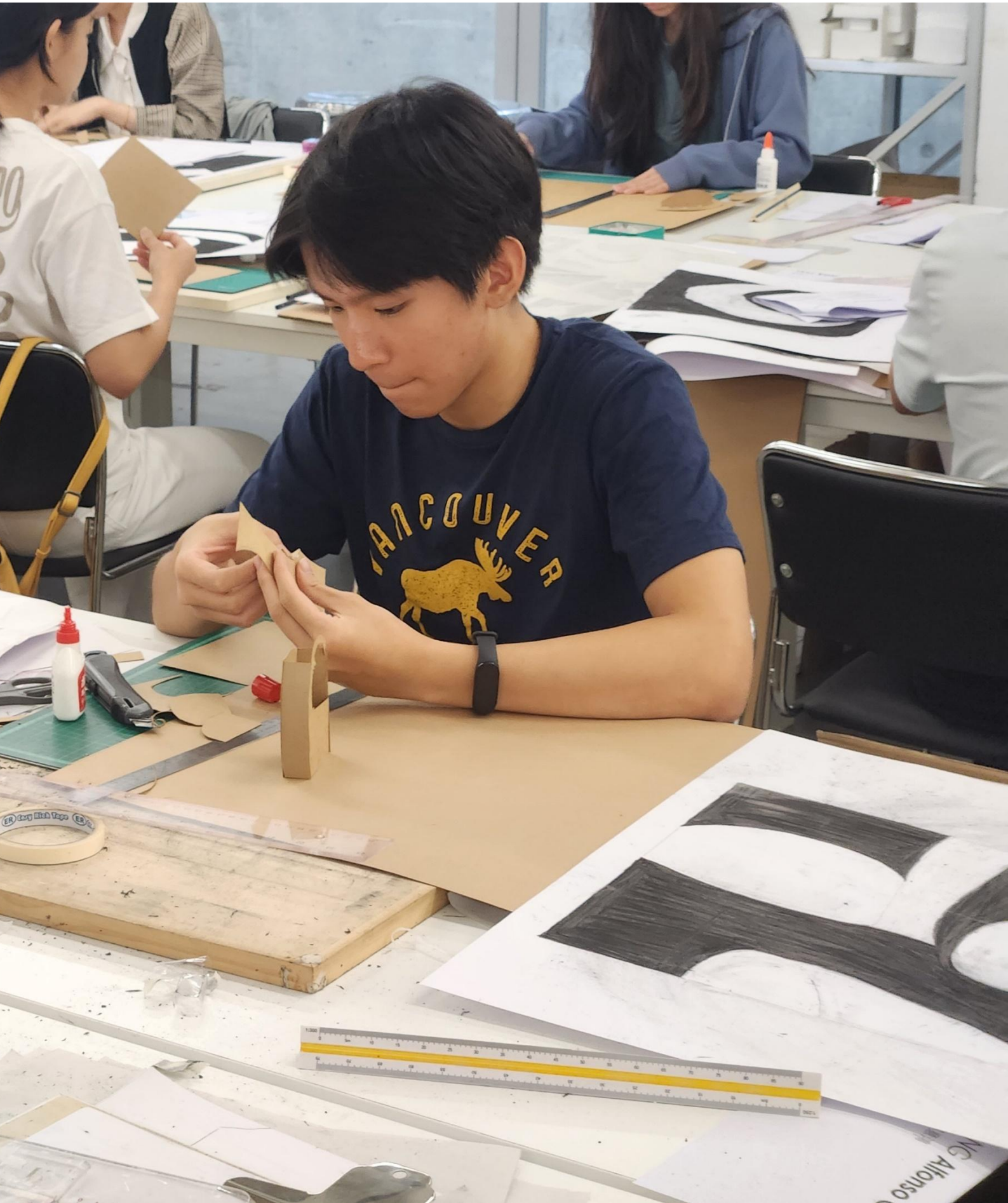
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ABOUT

The Chinese University of Hong Kong

School of Architecture

Contact



01 Programme Overview

This summer programme aims to enable secondary school students from Hong Kong, China and abroad to explore both the challenge and pleasure of studying architecture. The programme provides an opportunity for enrolled learners to unleash their creative potential through art, design and architecture.

Explore how to See, Make and Experience Architecture

During the two-week summer programme, students will learn to see the significance of architecture by participating in various activities offered by professors from the School of Architecture. Students will explore the fun of design by transforming a concept into three-dimensional spaces.

Architecture will be experienced through guided field trips to significant local buildings and professional architectural offices. Students will be tutored by studio professors and teaching assistants to develop their individual design projects.

Periodic "design reviews" are scheduled where students present their work in front of others. These events provide an opportunity for feedback and advice from the studio professor and design professionals. The combination of studio, workshops, lectures and field trips presents an introduction to different aspects of architecture and how it is practiced today.

AEP by the numbers

9:1

Student to Faculty ratio

Students enrolled

Over 301 students since 2016

International Students

Canada
China
Indonesia
Japan
Kazakhstan
Korea
Macau
Nigeria
Philippines
Taiwan
UK
USA

AEP students admitted to CUHK School of Architecture

25 since 2016

Office visited

Collective
10 Design
Billy & Ida Architecture
Foster & Partners
Herzog & de Meuron
KPF
LAAB
Nelson Chen Architects
QUAD
One-Bite Studio
Oval Partnership

02 Learning Activities & The Studio

Expect to learn the foundations of architectural design through the following:

- One-on-one design guidance from instructors
- Intensive design projects similar to first-year architecture school work
- Group discussions and reviews with guest practicing architects and other design professionals
- Lectures on significant works of architecture
- Training sessions in representation and related skills
- Portfolio design
- Learning manual and digital drawing and model-making
- Direct access to Design Studios, Digital Design Lab and Workshop
- Personal career counselling in architecture

In a school of architecture, “The Studio” is where individual students work on their projects. It is the place where concepts are developed, where ideas are discussed and exchanged among students and faculty members. The studio is also the place where “desk crits” (or discussions) happen between the student and the professor. It is an informal dialogue which occurs on a daily basis, where the majority of the instruction takes place.

Students enrolled in the Architecture Explorer Programme will each be provided with a work space which includes a desk and shared cabinet space in our state-of-the-art facility at the LSK Architecture Building. The School of Architecture at CUHK is the only architecture programme in Hong Kong with its own dedicated building purpose-designed for the learning of architecture.

* Students of AEP will have access to the following facilities at the School of Architecture:

Design studio from 8:00 to 21:00

Access card is provided to access G/F Main entrance and 1/F Studio of LSK Architecture Building from 8am to 9pm. Please keep the access card properly and return the card to the administrative staff at School Office on the last day of the programme. HK\$100 administration cost will be charged if the card is lost or damaged. For security purpose, it is not allowed to lend your access card to any third party.



AEP Guided Tour to Tai Kwun by Rina Ko (above); Guided Tour to Urban Living Lab by Prof. Su Chang

03 Calendar (TBC)

Week One	Monday 20/07	Tuesday 21/07	Wednesday 22/07	Thursday 23/07	Friday 24/07	Saturday 25/07
10:00 -11:00 (Lessons)	Registration/ Orientation (Project 1 given)	Tutorial 3 Life drawing (10:00-12:30)	Tutorial 4 (Axonometric drawing)	Studio	Studio	Guided Tours to Tai Kwun and Urban Living Lab (9:30-15:00)
11:00-12:30 (Studio)	Tutorial 1 (Figure drawing)		Studio	Studio	Studio	
12:30-13:30	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	
13:30-15:00 (Lessons)	Tutorial 2 (Orthographic drawing)	Lecture 1 International Practice	Lecture 2 Social Architecture	Lecture 3 Green Governance	Project Review	
15:00-17:30 (Studio)	Studio/ Pin up	Studio/ Pin up	Studio/ Desk Crit	Tutorial 5 Model Making	Documentation	

Week Two	Monday 27/07	Tuesday 28/07	Wednesday 29/07	Thursday 30/07	Friday 31/07	Saturday 01/08
10:00 -11:00 (Lessons)	Lecture 4 Structure Lecture 5 Photography	Studio	Tutorial 5 (Portfolio)	Studio	Studio	Exhibition/ Certificate (13:30-14:30)
11:00-12:30 (Studio)	Project 2 given	Studio	Studio	Studio	Studio	
12:30-13:30	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	
13:30-15:00 (Lessons)	Studio	Lecture 6 Office visit	Lecture 7 Architecture in Hong Kong	Studio	Project Review	
15:00-17:30 (Studio)	Studio/ Desk Crit	Studio/ Pin up	Studio/ Pin up	Studio/ Desk Crit	Documentation	

04 Faculty, Instructors, & Guest Lecturers (TBC)



Jimmy Ho

AEP Programme
Director,
AEP Studio Instructor,
Lecturer (CUHK)
PhD (CUHK)
MArch (CUHK)
BSSc (CUHK)



Kam-sing
Wong GBS, JP

AEP Guest Lecturer,
Former Secretary for the
Environment (2012-2022),
Adjunct Professor (CUHK)
MASA (UBC)
BArch & BA (A.S.) (HKU)
AP HKIA ARB



Rina Ko

AEP Studio Instructor,
Lecturer (CUHK)
MArch (CUHK)
BSSc (A.S.) (CUHK)
HKIA ARB
CPA FCCA



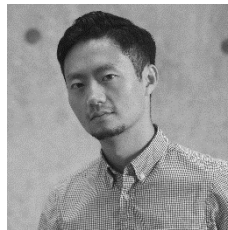
Sarah Mui

AEP Guest Lecturer
Grad Dip (UCL)
BSSc (A.S.) Hons (CUHK)
HKIA ARB



Sam Chan

AEP Studio Instructor
MArch (CUHK)
BSSc (A.S.) (CUHK)
HKIA ARB
YDTA Winner 2025



Leon Xu

AEP Guest Lecturer,
Lecturer (CUHK)
PhD (CUHK)
MEng (SZU)
BEng (ECJTU)



Simon Hsu

AEP Guest Lecturer,
Adjunct Associate Professor
(CUHK)
MArch (Harvard)
BSc (Brown)
Reg Arch (NY)



AEP Student Presentation and Project Review

Teaching Assistants (TBC)



Yan Chung Yin
Eason

Teaching Assistant
BSSc (CUHK)



Fong Oi Cheng
Milly

Teaching Assistant
BSSc (CUHK)





AEP Structural Challenge

05 Campus Housing & Amenities

Morningside College Hostel

On-campus housing is available for those students aged 16 years or older at CUHK's student hostel. Access to the School of Architecture and various dining and recreational facilities is within easy walking distance.

During the Architecture Explorer Programme at CUHK, most daily services can be found in the campus area, such as restaurants, cafés, ATMs, stationaries, etc. Listed below are some of the services conveniently in the vicinity of the School of Architecture.

You can find an extensive list of on-campus services (including all canteens) here:
<http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/english/campus/accommodation.html>

Cafeterias

- Morningside College Dining Hall
- Morningside College Café
- S.H. Ho College Canteen
- Orchid Lodge
- Chung Chi College Student Canteen
- Pommerenke Student Centre Café (Paper&Coffee)
- Maxim's MX
- YIA Café

Groceries and Snacks

- Park'n Shop Supermarket
- 7-Eleven and similar outlets
- University MTR station

ATM

Several ATMs are available at the University MTR station.

Bank of East Asia, Pommerenke Student Centre

Hang Seng Bank, John Fulton Centre

Bookstore

The Commercial Press



06 Application Requirements

Eligibility

Senior secondary school students AND aged 16 or above with no prior art and design experience required.

Deadline

Application deadline is 31 May 2026 (local students) / 30 April 2026 (non-local students who need a study visa)

Fee

Course fee for AEP 2026 is HK\$16,000 (early bird application: HK\$14,500 by 15 April 2026). The fee includes design tool set, access to studio and its ancillary facilities.

For cancellation policy, please refer to guideline below.

Housing

Optional on-campus housing is available to both local and international students with an additional fee.

Refund Policy

1. Accommodation fee and visa application fee is not refundable.
2. Programme withdrawal requests should be sent to aep@arch.cuhk.edu.hk as early as possible so that your place can be given to applicants on the waiting list. 50% of the programme fee will be refunded if we receive a written withdrawal request with a valid reason by 15 June 2026. No refund will be made for requests received after this date.
3. No refund or reduction of programme fee, accommodation fee, or visa application fee will be made to late arrival to the programme, dropout, or dismissal from the programme due to violation of programme regulations.

4. If the Hong Kong Observatory issues Typhoon Signal No. 8 or above, or a Black Rainstorm Warning that remains in effect before classes begin, all classes for that day will be cancelled and rescheduled. No refunds or reductions will be offered for the programme fee, accommodation fee, or visa application fee.

Prof. Sebastian Law Scholarship*

A scholarship is available for college-bound secondary school students with an expressed interest in pursuing higher education in architecture or related fields. Applicant must be of excellent academic and ethical standing; a permanent Hong Kong resident; and currently receiving full grant/half grant of School Textbook Assistance Scheme. Higher priority will be given to those with an excellent portfolio or a record of community service.

**Professor Sebastian Law Scholarship recipient is required to pay a non-refundable administrative fee of HK\$ 1,000 for the processing of the application.*

AEP Scholarship#

The AEP Scholarship is designed for non-local students who have a strong interest in pursuing further studies in architecture. This scholarship covers the full tuition fee of the programme. To be eligible, applicants must have an excellent academic record; and meet the requirements for entry to study in Hong Kong (check [here](#)). Priority will be given to applicants with an outstanding portfolio.

#AEP Scholarship recipient is required to pay a non-refundable administrative fee of HK\$ 1,000 for the processing of the application.



AEP Office Visits: Ronald Lu & Partners (Above), Foster & Partners (Below)

07 Frequently Asked Questions

Is AEP 2026 taking place online or in-person?

Majority of the learning experiences for AEP 2026 will be in person. A portion of the course may involve engaging with professionals outside of Hong Kong which will take place online.

I do not have any art or design experience. Can I still enroll?

You do not need any prior experience in or have studied art or design to participate in the Architecture Explorer Programme.

I am an overseas student. May I apply to the Architecture Explorer Programme?

Yes, however, the application deadline for non-Hong Kong residents is 30 April 2026. Mainland and international students are required to obtain a visa/entry permit to study in Hong Kong.

Please note that if the applicant is under the age of 18, one of the applicant's parents should authorize his/her relative/friend in Hong Kong to be the guardian of the applicant. A consent letter duly signed by both the guardian and one of the applicant's parents should be produced. The authorized guardian is required to provide a Hong Kong ID card copy.

CUHK School of Architecture **WILL NOT** be responsible for serving as the student's guardian.

What equipment and/or materials will I need to bring?

All enrolled students in the Architecture Explorer Programme will be provided with a basic tool set and supplies. Any additional materials may be purchased at the University supply store across from the School of Architecture.

Students will be provided with their own studio workspace.

Are there any specific math or engineering skills required? Do I need to know design or architectural computer software skills?

Students who would like to enroll in the Architecture Explorer Programme are not required to have specific skills beyond basic math and computer literacy.

What should I expect at the end of the programme?

The Architecture Explorer Programme culminates in a portfolio that can potentially be used to apply for a university level architecture programme.



AEP Guided Building Tour at Tai Kwun

ABOUT

The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Founded in 1963, The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) is a forward-looking comprehensive research university with a global vision and a mission to combine tradition with modernity, and to bring together China and the West. CUHK teachers and students hail from all corners of the world. CUHK graduates are connected worldwide through an expansive alumni network.

Teaching Excellence

As a top university in Hong Kong and Asia, CUHK aims to nurture students with both specialized knowledge and wisdom for life. The education experience is distinguished by a flexible credit unit system, a college system, bilingualism and multiculturalism. There are general education courses to broaden students' perspectives and develop in them the ability to face the challenges of our contemporary society. Our eight Faculties offer a wide array of excellent undergraduate and postgraduate programmes.

Research Achievements

CUHK undertakes a wide range of research programmes in many subject areas and strives to provide scope for all academic staff to undertake consultancy and collaborative projects with industry.

The University's insistence on the highest standards of research has won it an enviable research reputation. Hong Kong's University Grants Committee (UGC) provides preferential grant funding to the local tertiary institutions to conduct research into 35 selected Areas of Excellence (AoEs). Thirteen of these AoEs are being led by researchers from CUHK. The University houses four state key laboratories which are entrusted by the Ministry of Science and Technology of China to produce research of international quality and carry out important national research tasks. The University also has an excellent record of published research, both in discipline-specific journals and in more high-profile publications such as *Science*, *Nature*, and *The Lancet*.

Campus Environment

Our beautiful 138.4-hectare campus overlooking Tolo Harbour is the largest and greenest in Hong Kong. It houses a range of facilities essential for an all-round campus experience, such as world-class libraries, art museums, music halls, swimming pool, sports fields, tennis courts, squash courts, water sports centre and gymnasiums.



School of Architecture

Established in 1991, the School of Architecture at The Chinese University of Hong Kong has developed a research and teaching ethos that values excellence, innovation, and contribution to the community. The mission of the School is to advance knowledge and prepare students for contemporary challenges. Research is at the core of the School's activities, with an advocacy for achieving a sustainable environment in the region.

The School is also a strong base for the study of Chinese architectural design, history, and theory. Above all, the School of Architecture prides itself as the hub of knowledge and professional expertise in built environment design in its complex and multi-dimensional scope, where architectural computation; digital fabrication; material and structural research; and social and cultural studies all serve to augment the fundamental notion of design being at the centre of all activities related to the School.

Our teaching pedagogy is consistently reviewed and enhanced. Students explore design solutions through rigorous research on international practices and pertinent issues facing the built environment in the region involving studio collaborations with leading schools of architecture around the world. We have a long track record in serving and involving the community. Public engagement, participation and community design exercises are frequently held for the betterment of

urban and design environment in Hong Kong. Construction projects in remote villages and earthquake affected areas in China help to improve living environment for local inhabitants.

The School of Architecture at The Chinese University of Hong Kong stands at the confluence of innovation and practice in built environment design of the present and the future, in China and the world. The School strives to broaden its research and teaching concerns to build a conducive environment in Hong Kong.

Contact

General Inquiry

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Email: aep@arch.cuhk.edu.hk

<https://www.arch.cuhk.edu.hk/projects/explorer>

School of Architecture

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