SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE · CUHK · 2O25 — 2O26

中大建築

hands on collective making

Architecture With People

For a long time, I believed the practice of architecture needed to be rethought. My initial focus was on how architects could design better environments for people, with the hope that this would improve living conditions. Yet, I now see that this approach contained a basic flaw: I thought of architecture as something created "for" people, instead of "with" people. According to Ivan Illich (1926–2002), this distinction is foundational: true change arises when people are directly involved in shaping their own environments, not as passive recipients of expertise, but as active participants.

Over the past year, our school has revised its curriculum to reflect these values, drawing inspiration from the philosophy of relational architecture. Kengo Kuma's concept of "Anti-object," which rejects the isolated monumentality of buildings in favour of relational systems, echoes Illich's critique of institutions that serve their own ends rather than people's needs. Just as Kuma's work moves away from independent 'objects' toward contextual relationships, Illich teaches us to move away from expert-driven solutions toward empowerment and participation.

With this perspective, our school has reviewed both undergraduate and graduate curricula, inspired by the idea that education should empower people, not produce standardised professionals. We see our role not as shaping future architects according to fixed standards, but as supporting them in navigating a changing field where adaptability, participation, and questioning of norms are crucial.

Our undergraduate program, "Architecture as Verb," reflects this ethos with design studios organised around actions: Measure, Prototype, Adapt, Materialise, Inhabit, and Perform—inviting students to engage in active processes rather than passively learning established forms. As students grow, our graduate program shifts towards "Architecture as Agency," where Master's students collectively interrogate what it means to practice today, challenging the status quo and exploring new forms of agency together.

In keeping with Illich's call for convivial institutions, our school is committed to asking difficult questions and developing the autonomy of students and the communities they serve. We believe that architecture should be a tool for empowerment, enabling individuals and communities to shape their own environments, rather than imposing standardized, top-down solutions. Architecture, in this sense, is created with people—through collective imagination, responsibility, and action.

Peter W. Ferretto
School Director

final touch on the pin-ups

Contents

Programme Overview

BSSc (AS)
Architectural Studies

The Bachelor of Social Science (Architectural Studies)—BSSc (AS)—is the first part of a two-degree sequence in professional architectural education. This sequence is designed to provide a basis for education in general and preparation for professional work as an architect in particular. Students are encouraged to enrich their core studies in architecture by exploring lateral relationships with other subjects and disciplines as well as through independent studies and experiences of other cultures. The core studies consist of design studios in addition to humanities, technology and professional courses.

MArch
Architecture

The Master of Architecture programme—MArch—is the second part of a two-degree sequence in professional architectural education. It is a taught postgraduate programme for students who intend to become architects upon their graduation. The programme offers a series of research-based advanced studios and independent design explorations which both articulate an intellectual position and demonstrate the impact of that position in design. Applicants should have a pre-professional architecture degree (equivalent to HKIA or CAA accreditation), such as the BSSc (AS) from CUHK.

BSSc (US)
Urban Studies

The Bachelor of Social Science (Urban Studies)—BSSc (US)—is designed for students to explore the complexities and challenges of the rapidly evolving urban world, global urbanisation processes and various strands of urbanism. It is jointly organised by the Department of Geography and Resource Management and the School of Architecture, with input from various departments in the Faculties of Social Science and Arts. Besides the learning of theories of urban development, the rigorous application of skills and techniques for urban analysis, and the contextual understanding of sustainable practices, students are required to develop expertise in concentration areas such as urban planning and design, urban environment, urban policy and governance.

MSc (UD)
Urban Design

Over the past decades, Hong Kong and the Pearl River Delta have been a laboratory for urbanism. Rapid urban growth, mass migration and new policies have led to new urban forms, but environmental deterioration and social imbalance have also increased. Urban design can play an important role to create more liveable and sustainable cities if it is able to integrate knowledge about ecological, economic and social issues and is based on a clear set of values. The MSc programme in Urban Design is based on a fundamental understanding of environmental and urban economics as well as urban history. Combining design studios and focused course modules, it aims to integrate specific knowledge about urban processes, complex ecosystems and transport networks. The modules act as catalysts for the studio projects, and are organised as think tanks in which students discuss with experts from academia and practice. After an additional period of professional experience, graduates can apply for professional registration from the Hong Kong Institute of Urban Design (HKIUD).

MPhil and PhD
Architecture

The MPhil and PhD in Architecture are research degrees tailored for those aiming for careers in teaching, research, and specialised professional practice in architecture and its related disciplines. As the world grapples with escalating environmental and social challenges in the 21st century, generating new knowledge and translating it into action requires a solid understanding of theories, refined research skills, and critical perspectives. Pursuing a degree in MPhil and PhD offers these transformative opportunities.

Curriculum

	Studio	Humanities	Technology	Computation	Practice	Urban & Sustainable	Electives and Faculty Package
BSSc(AS) 1	arch 1001 Condition Introduction to Architecture	arch 1003 Visual Studies					Students elect two non-architecture courses from the Social Science Faculty Package (except advanced standing students who elect one).
BSSc(AS) 2	arch 2111 Measure Introduction to Architectural Design I arch 2112 Prototype Introduction to Architectural Design II	arch 2322 Cultural Contexts I arch 2323 Cultural Contexts II	arch 2413 Building Technology I Materials and Construction arch 2422 Building Technology II Materials and Construction	arch 2222 Digital Media			
BSSc(AS) 3	arch 3113 Adapt Architectural Design Studios I arch 3114 Materialise Architectural Design Studios II	arch 3321 Architecture and Global Culture	arch 3424 Building Technology III Environmental Technology			arch 3721 Land and City	
BSSc(AS) 4	arch 4115 Inhabit Architectural Design Studios III arch 4116 Perform Architectural Design Studios IV		arch 4425 Building Systems Integration		arch 4426 Future Practice and Sustainable Response		arch 4131 Design Theory arch 4231 Computational Design arch 4331 History, Theory and Criticism arch 4431 Building Technology arch 4731 Cities
total units 78	33	12	12	3	3	3	12
MArch 1	arch 5110 Advanced Architectural Design Studios I	arch 5321 Architectural Theory and Criticism	arch 5421 Advanced Building Systems I arch 5422 Advanced Building Systems II	arch 5221 Advanced Computational Design			arch 5131 Design Theory arch 5231 Computational Design arch 5331 History, Theory and Criticism arch 5431 Building Technology arch 5631 Sustainable Design arch 5731 Urbanism arch 5843 HK Architectural History
MArch 2	arch 6210 Advanced Architectural Design Studios II	urbd 5703 Urban History and Theory (equivalent to arch 5721)			arch 6521 Professional Practice and Management		
total units 52	25	6	6	3	3		9

Calendar

2025-26 Term 1

week	event	date
1	First teaching day	01.09 M
2		08.09 M
3		15.09 M
4	BSSc Review 01	22.09 M
5		29.09 M
	National Day	01.10 W
6		06.10 M
	Day following Mid-Autumn Festival	07.10 Tu
7	MArch Collective Feedback	13.10 M
8	BSSc Review 02	20.10 M
9		27.10 M
	Chung Yeung Festival	29.10 W
10	MSUD1 Mid-term Review	03.11 M
11		10.11 M
12		17.11 M
13	BSSc Final Review	24.11 M
14	MArch Collective Exhibition	01.12 M
	MSUD 1 Final Review	04.12 Th
15		08.12 M
	MSUD 2 Final Thesis Review	09.12 Tu

2025-26 Term 2

week	event	date
1	First teaching day	05.01 M
2		12.01 M
3		19.01 M
4		26.01 M
	BSSc Review 01	29.01 Th
5		02.02 M
6		09.02 M
7	Lunar New Year holiday begins	16.02 M
	Lunar New Year holiday ends	22.02 Su
8		23.02 M
	MArch Project Technical Review	26.02 Th
9	BSSc Reading week begins	02.03 M
	MSUD Mid-term Review	06.03 F
	BSSc Reading week ends	07.03 Sa
10	BSSc Review 02	09.03 M
11		16.03 M
12		23.03 M
13		30.03 M
	Easter holiday begins	03.04 F
14		06.04 M
	Easter holiday ends	07.04 Tu
15	BSSc Final Review	13.04 M
16		20.04 M
17		27.04 M
	MSUD Final Review	30.04 Th
	Labour Day	01.05 F
18	MArch Final Review	04.05 M

ARCHITECTURE AS VERB

*we make it as a team*

The conventional understanding of architecture as a fixed entity—monument, object, static form—no longer responds to today's complex spatial, social, and environmental conditions in constant flux. By reconceptualizing architecture as a verb, the BSSc design studio positions it as an active, dynamic process that engages with change, adaptation, and emergence. This linguistic reframing challenges established architectural norms, demanding questions of what architecture does rather than simply what architecture is.

A series of six sequential undergraduate design studios operates with distinguished verbs, progressing through measure, prototype, adapt, materialize, inhabit, and perform. Each studio builds on the previous investigation, reformulating architectural practice toward responsive, adaptive design. Rather than creating static objects, these studios cultivate architecture as performative praxis, embracing continuous engagement and openness. Architecture becomes process rather than product, where spatial intelligence emerges through iterative acts within ever-shifting reality.

Hiroyuki Shinohara / BSSc Programme Director
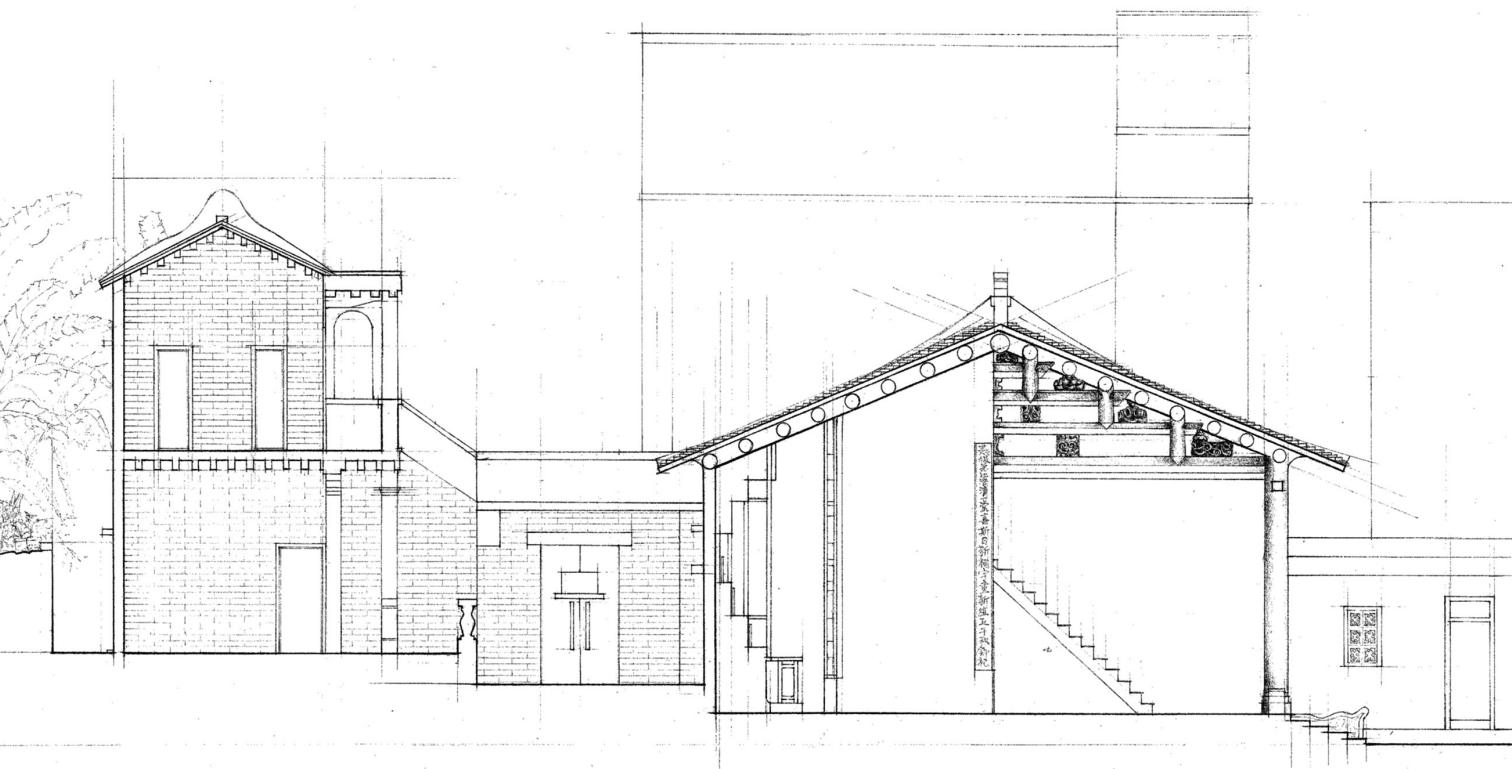
Studio 0 _ Condition

Introduction to Architecture
arch 1001 t2

This foundational studio course introduces students with minimal design experience to the creative processes and practices central to architectural conception, with a specific focus on the generation and interpretation of FORM. Students will develop fundamental skills in viewing, experiencing, and reading spatial conditions as precursors to design inquiry. The studio operates under the thematic framework of "Threshold," informed by Mircea Eliade's conceptualization of the threshold as both a boundary distinguishing separate realms and a paradoxical site enabling transformative passage between them—such as transitions from sacred to profane, private to public, or interior to exterior.

Students will engage a diverse spectrum of tools, instruments, techniques, and processes—including analogue sketching, physical modelling, basic digital exploration, and sensory documentation—to interrogate how form is conceived, articulated, and transformed. These methodologies serve as precise armatures guiding iterative experimentation, where deliberate material transformations evolve into spatial propositions. Emphasis is placed on understanding design as a craft that synthesises technical skill with critical intention, revealing architecture as an operative language.

Through structured exercises progressing from analytical studies to speculative interventions, the course examines how architectural form activates human experience, mediates relationships (e.g., between light/mass, individual/collective, or ground/enclosure), and inherently politicises the built environment by shaping movement, interaction, and perception. Students will establish a foundational vocabulary in design thinking and making, preparing them to navigate advanced architectural discourse and studio culture through the lens of architecture's capacity to structure meaning within cultural contexts.

Kelly Chow / Raffaella Endrizzi / Jimmy Ho / Rina Ko

coastline symphony, tan chun ying

REQUIRED COURSES

Visual Studies
arch 1003 Kelly Chow t1

This course introduces visual media, examining how its history and ideas can help develop our critical understanding of spatial design. The course offers an overview of the subject for those with little or no visual art + design background and is intended to provide a sense of visual literacy. The course is designed to develop skills of observation, interpretation and creativity, as well as giving a strong intellectual grounding in visual thinking, and the form, meaning and content of visual media.

Design Thinking in Social Innovation
sosc 1001 Rina Ko t1

The course emphasises the realities of life. It encompasses individuals, societies, and the broader world, starting with an awareness and care for the people and things around us. Students analyse everyday items, or "found objects", to uncover deeper meanings, challenging traditional functions and mindsets. By developing imaginative strategies to present these objects in new contexts, they foster curiosity and a critical approach to design ideation across diverse social topics. This cultivates transformative experiences while prompting self-reflection and professional growth, preparing students to navigate life's complexities and drive meaningful change.

GENERAL EDUCATION

Experiencing Architecture
arch 1320 Han Man t2

This introductory course aims to enhance students' awareness of architecture by introducing fundamental concepts and methods for experiencing architecture. Studying architecture helps students become more attuned to the built world around them, unlocking a deeper connection to the cultural and historical layers embedded in places. It also increases awareness of the impact buildings have on the environment and society. With this knowledge, students can better appreciate the richness of their surroundings and make more informed, responsible choices related to the spaces they inhabit and support.

Introduction to Art Tech Design and Interactivity
*sosc 1003 Adam Fingrut t1*

This course investigates computer coding and variable-based methods within visual arts. Participants will adopt a design thinking approach toward translating ideas into prototypes using micro-processors and sensors for creative outcomes. Students will consider interactivity as the processing of data and gain greater understanding of how this translates into an expression of art and technology. They will be presented with both technical and theoretical frameworks for exploring artistic expression, compositional strategies, design culture, and artistic experience.

SSF PACKAGE

Understanding Cities
arch 1002 Pedram Ghelichi t2

This course provides foundational concepts on cities and offers insights into how to comprehend them. Initiated from an architecture-urbanism framework, it covers materials across different disciplines to analyse interconnected social, spatial, and economic issues. By reviewing critical literature and also developing imaginary maps throughout the semester, the course aims to equip students with the necessary tools and knowledge to engage in public discussions and urban living as proactive citizens.
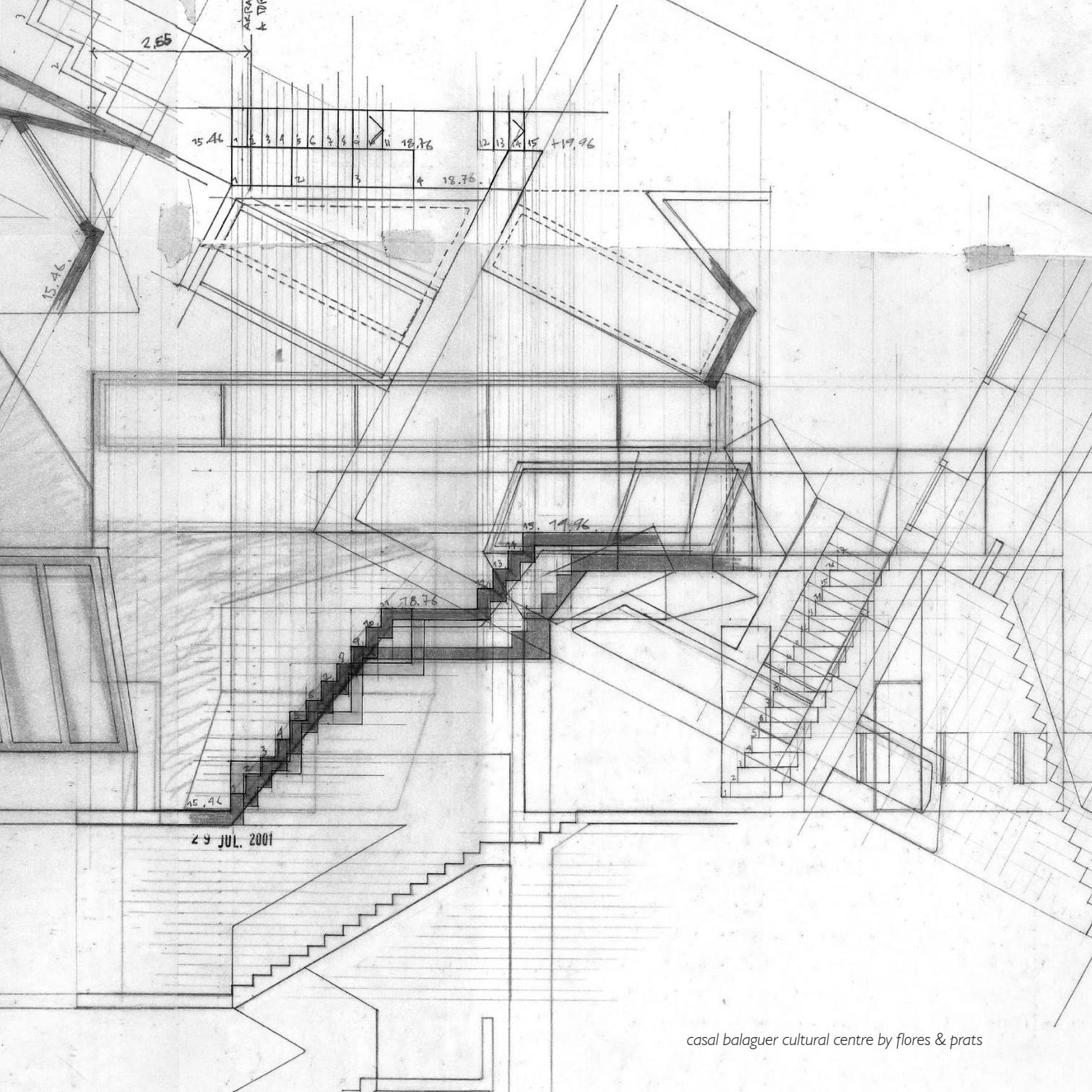
Studio 1 _ Measure

Introduction to Architectural Design I
arch 2111 t1

Architecture is a collective effort, not merely the work of an individual. It is a collaborative process that involves various stakeholders, including architects, engineers, clients, contractors, and the community. This introductory design studio aims to challenge the conventional, individual-based learning approach by encouraging students to collaborate on a single project, reflecting real-world architectural practice. This collective approach enables students to address complex design challenges more effectively by sharing unique skills and perspectives, assuming different roles, and supporting one another throughout the process.

The first studio centres on the concept of "measure." In architectural practice, measurements are equally essential, whether concerning the dimensions of a brick or the layout of elements on a construction site. Studio Measure focuses on cultivating a sophisticated understanding of architecture and its broader contextual built environment, beginning with the simple act of measuring. Measuring in this studio is considered the fundamental tool in establishing a direct relationship between our body and the surrounding physical environment. Through measuring, students will be introduced to a series of architectural concepts.

In Studio Measure, students will explore the fundamentals of architectural design through the lens of measuring the city of Hong Kong, specifically the Central area, which reflects the region's urban development since the mid-18th century. This hands-on engagement with the urban environment will provide students with first-person experiences, enabling them to interact with and examine the built environment. Such exploration will deepen their understanding of the richness and complexity of the city's spatial dynamics and foster insight into the significance of each dimension and its relationship to human activities.

Peter W. Ferretto / Xu Liang / Pedram Ghelichi / Wataru Shinji / Caroline Wuethrich

casal balaguer cultural centre by flores & prats

bamboo theatre construction in progress, photo by cardin chan

Studio 2 _ Prototype

Introduction to Architectural Design II
arch 2112 t2

The architectural discipline has long perpetuated the misconception that creative agency exists only during the design phase and is mostly an individual effort. This view simplifies construction to technical execution of 'architectural concepts' and reduces building use to a static, predetermined activity where occupants are expected just to fit into finished spaces. Such thinking separates design, construction, and performance into distinct phases, 'design first, build second, then plan occupancy', which underestimates architecture's creative and performative potential.

This studio challenges these assumptions by treating the whole process—designing, building, and performing—as a collective, continuous practice. Prototyping is positioned as an active agent in all three stages. Here, prototyping is understood not as simple materialisation, but as what anthropologist Tim Ingold calls 'correspondence': a critical and collective activity that negotiates with material limitations and social conditions, weaving together both design and performance.

Two features define this studio: collective praxis and thinking through making. First, we establish a culture of collaborative design and construction. Throughout the semester, students work together with their tutors to design, build, and perform a small public or cultural building on the CUHK campus. Second, the studio puts prototyping and making at the heart of design thinking. Students will not design first and then make; instead, they will design while making, or think with their hands, not just their abstract minds.

Peter W. Ferretto / Pedram Ghelichi / Wataru Shinji / Caroline Wuethrich / Xu Liang
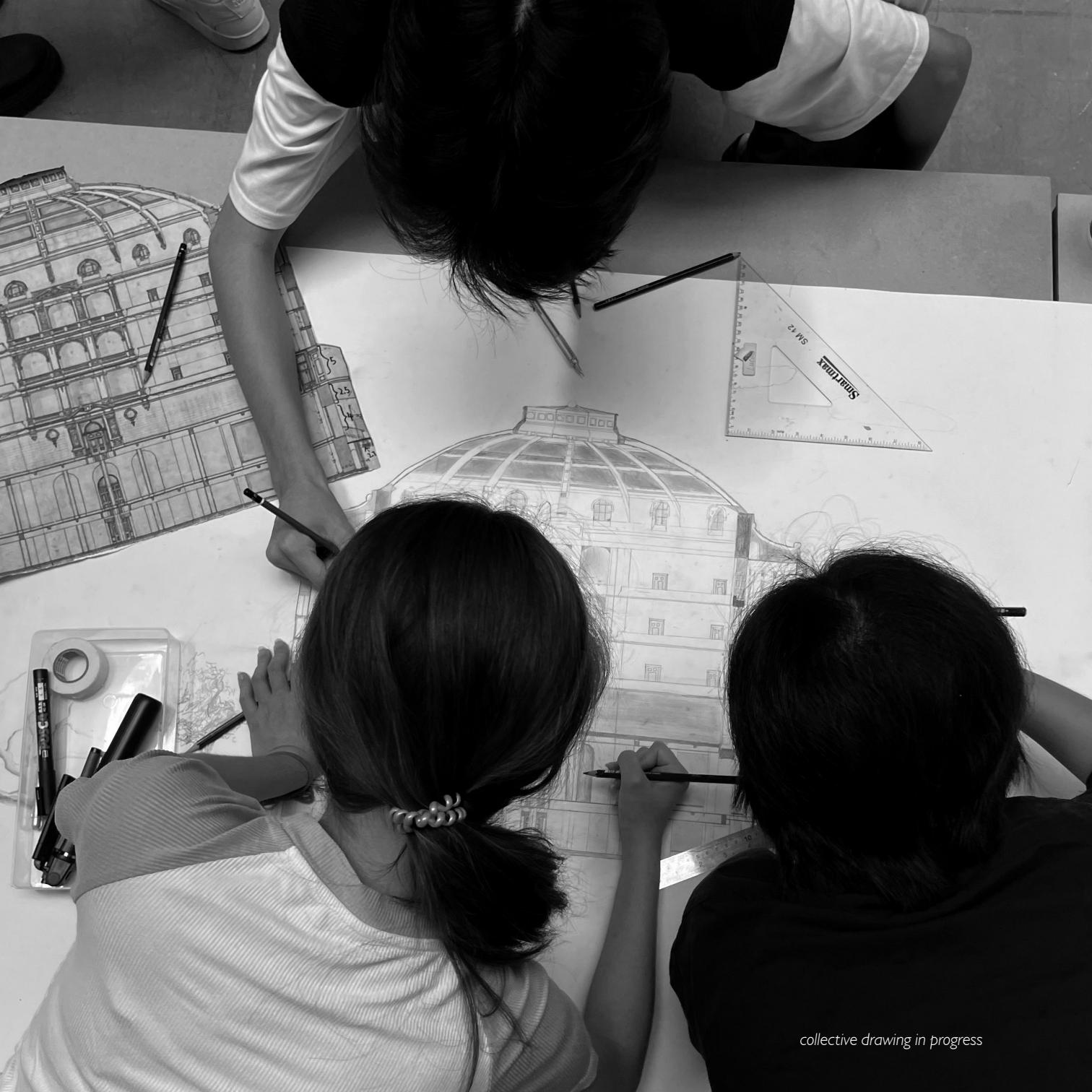
collective drawing in progress

REQUIRED COURSES

Digital Media
arch 2222 Adam Fingrut t2

This course equips students with computational methods to enable innovative, data-driven, and materially informed architecture. Through the themes of digitisation, design, and synthesis, students will develop a deep understanding of how computation informs architectural thinking and production. The course bridges architectural design, theory, and practice with emerging technologies, including computational design, artificial intelligence, CNC fabrication, and robotics. By engaging with design thinking principles, they will connect abstraction to material translation, iterating through observation, analysis, ideation, prototyping, testing, and reflection.

Cultural Contexts I
arch 2322 Adam Jasper t1

Architecture needs its history. They build upon the spatial solutions of the past, the experiential memories of individuals, and the cultural memories of collectives. But in order to sustain architectural cultures, architects need to be able to describe what they do, to record it, and to transmit it. This necessitates diverse methods of measurement and transmission. Additionally, we must consider the issue of extinction. The course offers twelve positions taken from lively debates about architecture and its histories. These positions will enrich students' architectural vocabulary, and will assist in finding their own way in broader historical discussions and in future controversies.

Cultural Contexts II
arch 2323 Pedram Ghelichi t2

This course provides the theoretical foundation for the parallel design studio and examines architectural history and theory through the lens of prototyping, experimentation, and problematisation. It explores how studying iterative design-to-building processes, specifically prototyping, can reveal hidden assumptions about architectural production and open new possibilities for contemporary practice. The course positions prototyping as a 'thing that is not the thing yet,' existing in the liminal space between imagination and actualisation, and beyond common types. This challenges students to understand architecture through ongoing processes and its temporal dimensions.

Building Technology I:
Materials and Construction
arch 2413 Xu Liang t1

Rooted in tradition yet adaptable to modern advancements, technical knowledge of materials, construction, and structures is essential for any building endeavor. This course inspires students to embrace the art of construction as a driving force in design and understand that the essence of a building lies in the poetry of its assembly. By expressing materials strategically, choreographing joints and connections, and celebrating structural logic, we can craft spaces that enrich the human experience. Integrating technical knowledge with creative vision allows us to design architecture that not only functions effectively but also transforms our environment through innovative, economic, and sustainable approaches.

Building Technology II:
Materials and Construction
arch 2422 Wang Shuaizhong t2

This course focuses on the fundamental knowledge and design methods of architectural structures. By revealing and analysing the internal forces within architectural structures through graphic statics, the course introduces the basic principles, systems, and materials of architectural structures in both qualitative and quantitative ways. The aim is to connect structural forms and forces through graphical methods, making structural design an essential element that enhances spatial form, rather than an obstacle to design.

wild concrete #14, romain jacquet lagrèze, 2013

Studio 3 _ Adapt

Architectural Design I
arch 3113 t1

Architecture is no longer a discipline of static forms and fixed functions but a dynamic practice that must respond to rapid environmental, social, and technological shifts. The studio Adapt challenges you to interrogate the term's multiple dimensions—material, ecological, procedural, and existential—as a critical lens for contemporary architectural practice.

In Hong Kong, where spatial constraints and heritage preservation collide, *adaptive reuse* redefines the life cycle of buildings, demanding inventive retrofitting strategies: how do we reimagine existing buildings for new uses while preserving their cultural and structural value? Adaptive reuse is not just about sustainability—it's about rethinking the life cycle of architecture itself. Beyond preservation, *adaptation* to the climate crisis demands a shift in how we design, pushing us toward resilient materials, passive systems, and structures that can withstand extreme weather. Adaptation is not only a reaction to external pressures— the term also speaks to the *iterative* nature of design itself—an open-ended process of testing, failure, and refinement. What if we embraced this fluidity, treating architecture as something that can learn, adjust, and even repair itself over time? Most urgently, *to adapt is to survive*—a biological imperative that architecture must embrace in an era of instability. Cities, buildings, and communities must continuously transform to remain relevant.

This studio invites you to position your work within these discourses. Will you engage with Hong Kong's layered urban fabric, proposing radical reuse? Will you prototype climate-adaptive architectures? Or will you treat design as a live, evolving system? The brief is deliberately open: adaptation is not a single strategy but a mindset. Your task is to define its agency in your practice—because the future belongs to those who adapt.

Kelly Chow / Raffaella Endrizzi / Adam Fingrut / Ioana Alexandra Pricop

concrete chair, chi ho man, cheung lit fung, lo tsun, tam wing chung, 2023.

Studio 4 _ Materialise

**Architectural Design II**
arch 3114 t2

To materialise is to give form. It is to ask what form means, how it emerges, and whom it serves. Material form is never neutral: it is shaped by the conditions of tools, labor, systems of value, social and economic pressures. To make architecture is a creative, political, and cultural act. The materials we choose, the mechanisms we engage, and the bodies that build all encode ideologies. Ideas must be worked through in the real—where resistance, cost, entropy, and context challenge assumptions and generate unexpected outcomes. In this way, materialisation is not the final stage of design, but the terrain where meaning is tested.

This studio explores "Materialise" as a fundamental design process, emphasising making as a tool for discovery and refinement. Students will engage in iterative prototyping, recognising system and tool failures as critical moments in architectural learning. The course moves beyond conventional design approaches by embedding physical experimentation, documentation, drawing, and reflection into every phase of development.

Structured across three key phases—Observe, Prototype, and Draft—students will study craftsmanship, and traditional methods for 'making' found in rural communities, translating material and spatial insights into architectural exploration. Through hands-on prototyping, students will explore material connections, spatial qualities, and tectonic systems, developing a personal, refined architectural language.

A field trip to Japan will ground student design work in the deep relationship between place, craft, and community. They'll observe artisans and experience master crafting across disciplines, materials, and traditions. Students will trace the logic of vernacular architecture and absorb how material details, assemblies, and spatial qualities emerge from local climate, resources, and traditions. By spending time in rural conditions, we will experience an ethos that will resonate into our own material explorations, informing prototypes, assembly strategies, and cultural narratives woven into final design projects.

Adam Fingrut / Kelly Chow / Sarah Lee / Edward Ng

pavillion of sports, lam hiu wing

Window Openings for cross ventilation.
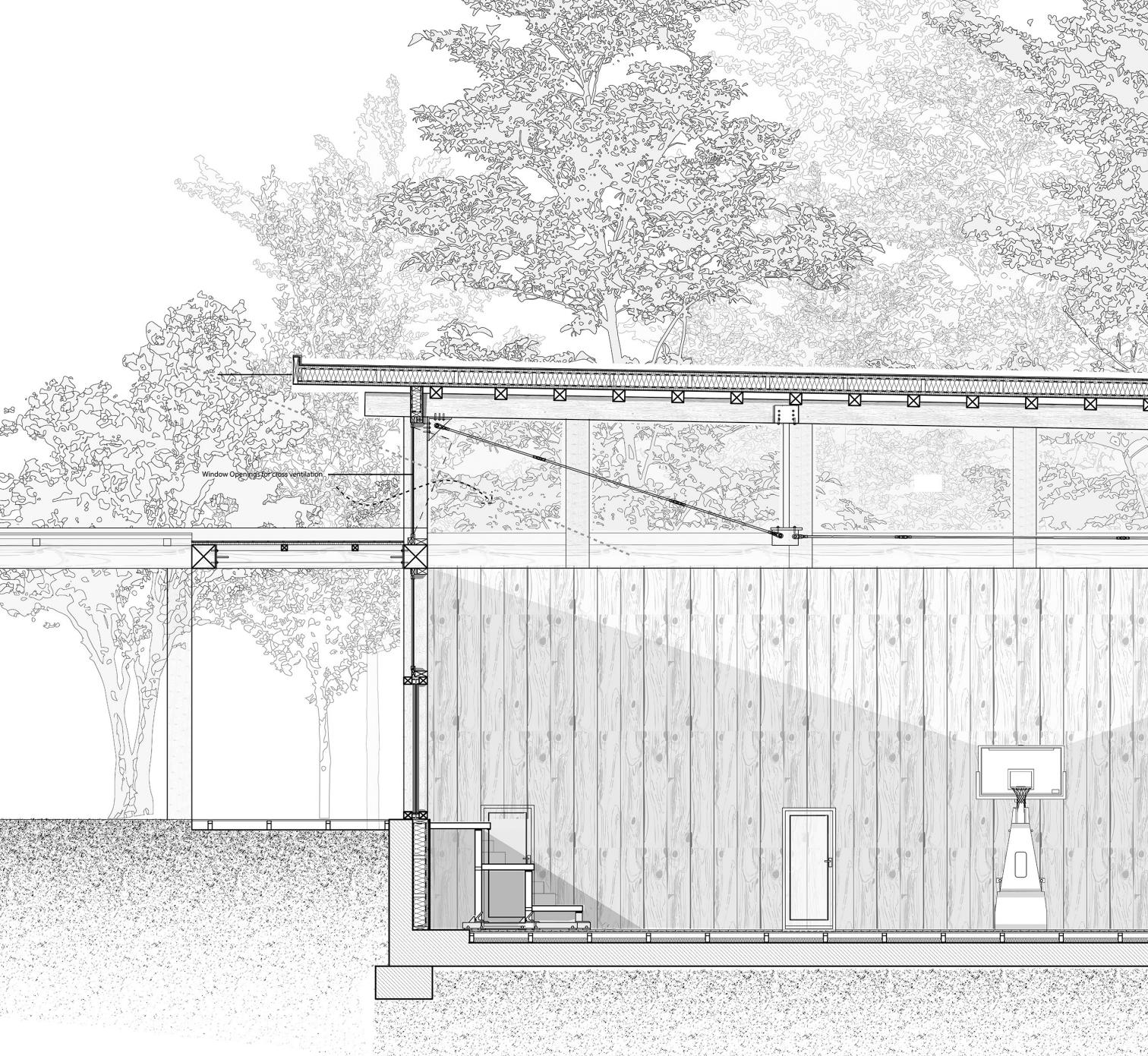
REQUIRED COURSES

Architecture and Global Culture
arch 3321 Adam Jasper t1

To make the abstract goals of Agenda 2030 tangible, we must revisit the origins of the environmental movement, exploring the scientific discoveries, political struggles, and social debates that shaped it. As architects, this course will argue, we need to do more than just present a material compliance with sustainability goals; we need to create buildings that communicate our understanding of the environment. The course prepares advanced undergraduates to engage in global debates, serving as an introduction to the environmental movement and transforming perspectives on sustainability by highlighting its complexity and significance.

Land and City
arch 3721 Cecilia L. Chu t2

This course offers a comprehensive introduction to the fields of urban planning and design, examining how these disciplines have co-evolved with social, cultural, and economic processes. Throughout the semester, emphasis is placed on connecting theory and practice through close examination of international and local case studies. The objective is to provide students with a critical understanding of the complex dynamics that shape built landscapes and to encourage reflection on the multifaceted challenges that design professionals face in the present and future.

Building Technology III: Environmental Technology
arch 3424 Edward Ng t2

This course introduces the fundamental concepts of passive environmental design, and examines how environmental conditions such as light, temperature, air movement, and sound impact both buildings and their inhabitants. Through the analysis of case studies, students will explore traditional and current approaches of representative building types in depth.

the end of summer, yasujiro ozu

Studio 5 _ Inhabit

Architectural Design III
arch 4115 t1

Studio Inhabit explores how humans engage with space, environment, and necessity. To inhabit means to reside, adapt, endure, and find meaning through minimal means. It reflects a symbiotic relationship between dweller and surroundings, where architecture is making with what is available—materials, climate, context—while enabling dignity and agency. This approach challenges us to move beyond aesthetics and luxury, emphasising fundamental needs: shelter, warmth, and safety, and on the other hand, the poetic value of living: cultural rituals, spatial memory, and the rhythms of daily life.

This studio prompts students to reimagine "subsistence dwelling" as a sustainable, equitable urban living model. Here, "subsistence" is a goal, not a result of deprivation (UIA, 2024). It posits that everyone deserves enough for a dignified life and questions what constitutes "fundamental needs" in today's society, exploring how design can address them. "Dwelling" signifies a way of being-in-the-world, highlighting meaningful engagement with place, time, and community (Heidegger, 1971). Thus, dwelling transcends shelter, focusing on how humans inhabit space with intention, care, and identity.

By focusing on subsistence dwellings as a testing ground for novelty, the studio design will serve as a prototype and call for design excellence across further housing types—from affordable to public, and beyond. The goal is to create an affordable, contextually grounded residential prototype that inspires new housing designs in Hong Kong, exploring the intersection of private and public, formal and informal, temporary and permanent. The studio examines how architecture reflects and shapes evolving habitation modes, asserting that home encompasses more than physical housing; it embodies a complex balance of needs while considering social, environmental, and economic sustainability.

Maggie Ma / Jimmy Ho / Mo Kar Him / Rina Ko / Wang Zhenfei

macao: parallel worlds, iwan baan

Studio 6 _ Perform

Architectural Design IV
arch 4116 t2

The Design Thesis Studio represents the culmination of undergraduate architectural education, emphasising a rigorous, research-driven approach to impactful proposals. Framed by the concept of "Architecture to Perform," the studio reimagines architecture not as a static object or passive backdrop but as a proactive agent that transforms its environment. This performative approach encourages designs that actively engage with urgent urban realities, addressing community needs, ecological vulnerabilities, and the evolving social and cultural context of Macao.

Macao's transformation presents significant challenges, including extreme population density, reliance on the gaming industry, spatial fragmentation, and environmental vulnerabilities. The city's distinct urban realities—historic "Old Town," capital-driven "Casino City," and modern "New City" on Hengqin Island—coexist yet contrast sharply, generating social friction and inequality. Furthermore, integration into the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (GBA) introduces both opportunities and risks, raising crucial questions: How can Macao celebrate its cultural roots amidst rapid globalisation and urban expansion? How can the contrasts between these urban realms inspire creative architectural responses without eroding their distinct identities?

In this self-defined project, students explore their architectural ideas by developing a building design based on their chosen brief, site, and program, supported by well-considered methodologies and clearly articulated deliverables. This independent yet guided process fosters the synthesis of creativity and academic rigor, preparing students for future architectural practice. The studio challenges students to address these multifaceted issues through architecture as a performative practice, empowering them to create designs that respond to immediate needs while shaping a resilient, inclusive, and culturally vibrant future.

Hiroyuki Shinohara / Jimmy Ho / Maggie Ma / Ioana Alexandra Pricop / Victor Ioan Pricop
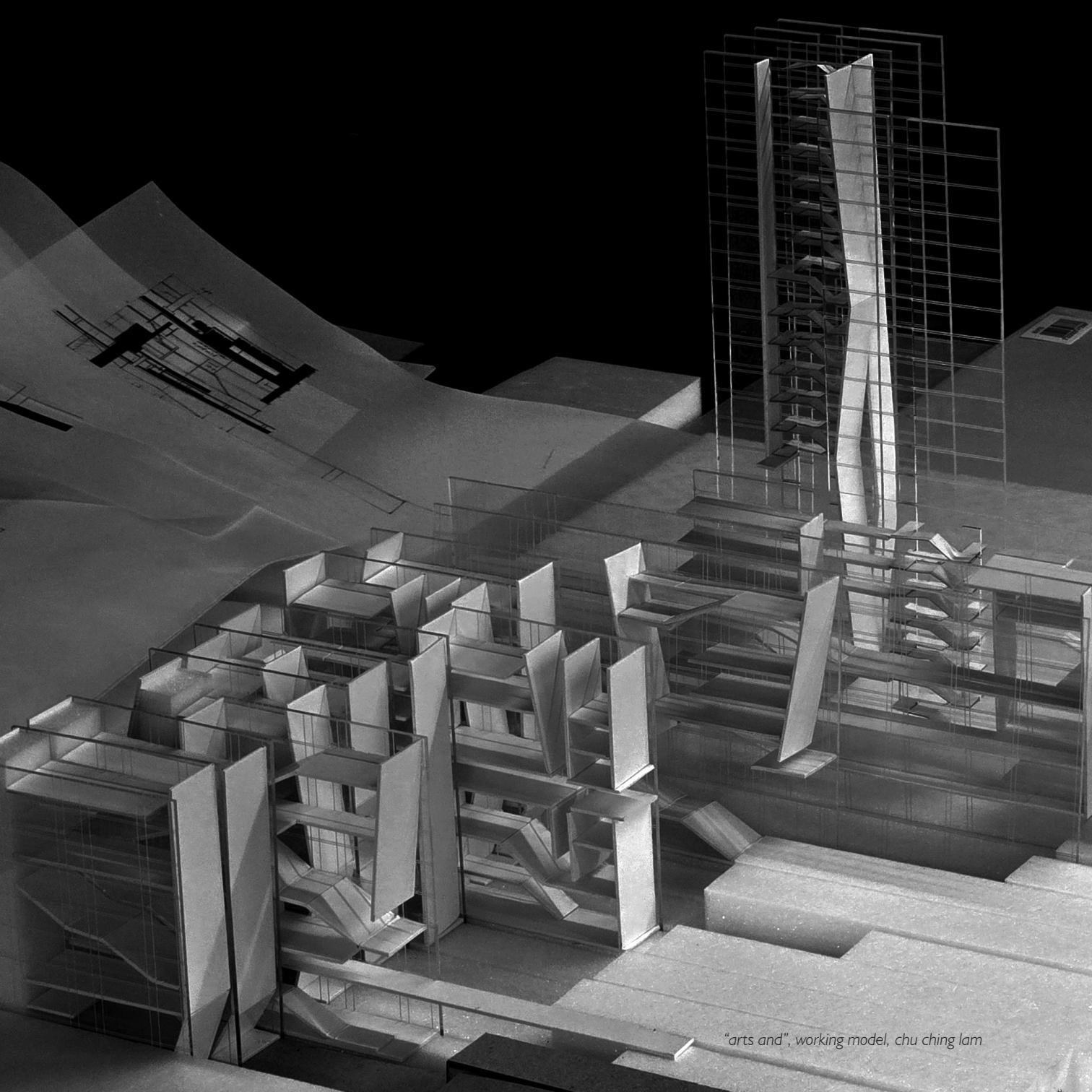
"arts and", working model, chu ching lam

REQUIRED COURSES

Building Systems Integration
arch 4425 Jimmy Ho t1

What are the organs that keep the human body functioning? How are the organs being organised with our skin, our skeleton, and our mind? Likewise, what are the "organs" of architecture that keep the building performing, and how are they integrated with envelopes, structures and design concepts? Are there tools to reveal the implicit and explicit relationships between the tangible and intangible elements of architectural systems? The course aims to empower students to acquire fundamental understanding towards building systems, anatomise existing buildings by investigating the system integration through building information modelling (BIM), and challenge the effectiveness and efficiency of the existing design by proposing sustainable redesign strategies.

Future Practice and Sustainable Response
arch 4426 Maggie Ma t2

This course is designed to equip students with the essential knowledge to embark on a professional career, focusing on the fundamental roles and values inherent to the profession. Examining key principles of practice, including professional relationships, conduct and procedures, it lays the groundwork for a comprehensive understanding of what it means to be an architect. By exploring traditional practices alongside alternative spatial agencies, the course aims to broaden students' perspectives, encouraging them to reflect on their responsibility towards adapting to and influencing the dynamic future of architectural practices.

site analysis on a lived map, choi ka ying

Rural Revitalisation: Creating Profiles for Digital Humanities
arch 4131a Jimmy Ho t1

Countryside revitalisation has been increasingly emphasised in academia within architectural conservation discourses. Architecture can serve as a place-making tool between urban and rural areas, making the countryside a site for hybrid identification along the ambiguous boundary between these spaces (Semprebon, 2022). This course uses a rural village in Hong Kong as a case study for in-depth investigation of historical and cultural, socio-spatial, and environmental aspects. Issues related to architectural elements, landscape character, community engagement, permaculture, eco-farming, and social impact will be explored using digital tools.

Mediums of Spatial Representation
arch 4131b Melody Yiu t1

This course explores the medium of architectural representations in the late 20th century, including sketches, drawings, mixed-media collages, photographic reproduction, and the development of screen-based digital media. It will involve both the study of history and theories through lectures and seminar discussion, as well as creative exercises that engage with archival material. The course is designed to stimulate both critical thinking and creativity through in-class and field activities, towards a design / curatorial project on the topic of medium, representation, and interpretation.

Visual Narrative and Methods
arch 4131c Xu Liang t2

In the age of ubiquitous digital media, architectural photography has become a powerful tool for representation and dissemination. However, is it merely a passive medium for documentation, or can it be an active instrument of design inquiry? This course challenges the notion that architectural photography is a neutral recording. Instead, it posits that framing, selecting, and sequencing images is a subjective process that can significantly shape our perception of architecture. By critically examining the photographer's role as an interpreter and storyteller, students will develop a nuanced perspective on the potential of architectural photography to drive the design process.

Computational Tools for Environmental Analysis in Design Studios
arch 4231a He Yueyang t2

Climate responsiveness is a key concern in tropical and subtropical architecture, where high temperature, intense solar radiation, and monsoon-driven wind shape livability. This course supports undergraduate studios by introducing design-oriented theories, step-by-step tutorials, and user-friendly computational tools. Through three modules—Module I: Climate data interpretation, Module II: Daylight simulation, and Module III: Natural ventilation simulation—students will learn to critically reflect on how environmental simulations can be integrated into the design process, and how results can inform decisions while reconciling performance-driven adaptations with architectural intent.

A Year in Hong Kong
arch 4331a Han Man t1

The history of Hong Kong's architecture and urbanism bears profound significance, owing to its distinctive manifestations of colonial modernism and vertical urbanism in a high-density urban environment. This course investigates Hong Kong's post-war architectural and urban history through a focused examination of a pivotal year, serving as a cross-section of the city's urban development at multiple scales. Using a variety of archival sources, we will investigate the key projects, principal actors, policies, regulations, among other factors that shaped the buildings and urban forms. Most critically, we will analyse the causal relationships between these various forces and their material manifestations in the built environment, while assessing their lasting impacts on Hong Kong's urban fabric.

ARCHITECTURE AS AGENCY

women space for mama mboga in rural africa, wong ching tung

The word agency comes from the Latin *agens*, meaning "to act." In times of crisis, disruption, and social disparities, to act is both an opportunity and a responsibility—a precious chance to initiate meaningful processes of change. Architecture, as a discipline of intervention, has the capacity to respond critically and creatively to the spatial, social, and environmental challenges of our time, while encouraging reflection on our roles as architects within society. As Richard Sennett has recently observed, our discipline can address inequalities and safeguard the right to the city, shaping spaces that are open, inclusive, and accessible to all.

Across the MArch programme, the 14 studios are organised into four thematic clusters—Edges, Fragments, Frames, and Fields. These themes, alongside the notion of agency, serve as conceptual lenses and tools for exploration, providing a framework for investigating space and the built environment. Rather than defining specific fields of inquiry, they aim to spark critical reflection, foster collaboration, and connect diverse research and design interests, promoting the exchange of ideas among students and tutors.

Francesco Rossini / MArch Programme Director

EDGES
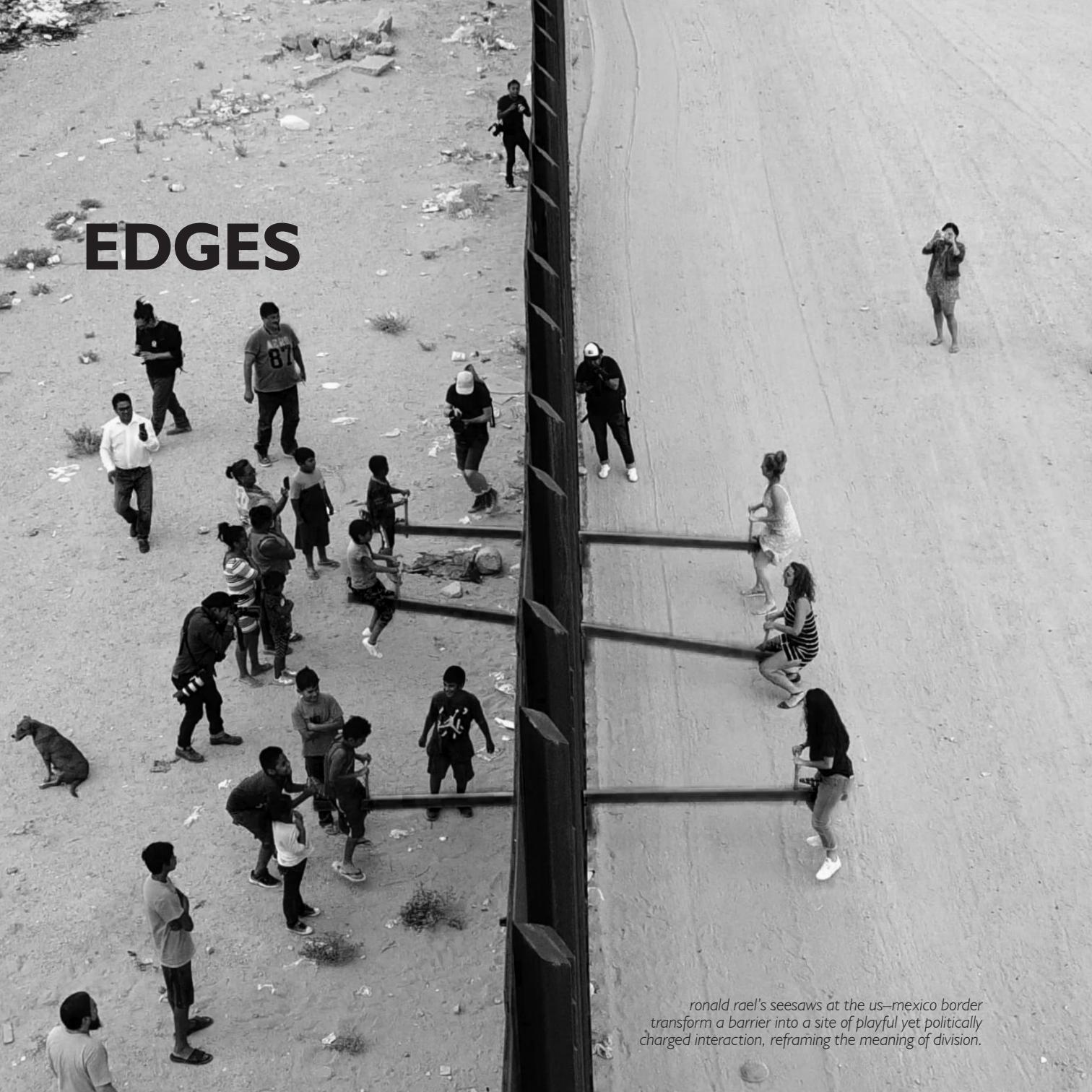
ronald rael's seesaws at the us–mexico border transform a barrier into a site of playful yet politically charged interaction, reframing the meaning of division.

EDGES as a conceptual lens opens new possibilities for redefining how people engage with, transform, and adapt the built environment across diverse socio-spatial conditions. It investigates spatial agency at the margins—physical, social, and symbolic—by focusing on thresholds where different systems, communities, and forces come into contact, conflict, or exchange.

Often associated with boundaries and limits, the edge also evokes moments of contrast and transition: between inside and outside, public and private, built and unbuilt, solid and void, and countless symbolic dualities. This cluster invites students and tutors to question such dichotomies and to operate precisely where conditions are unstable or undefined—using design to mediate, challenge, or amplify these in-between spaces, where architecture begins and ends, and inhabitation is constantly negotiated.

Within this cluster, three studios engage with diverse themes: redesigning marginal, abandoned, and neglected urban edges in Naples; exploring how design can help maintain the fragile balance between built form and natural systems; and developing strategies to address the tensions of Hong Kong's urban renewal through the lens of thresholds.

metaphysical naples by mimmo jodice

design beyond boundaries,
lily zhang & wataru shinji

tonkin street, hong kong / via euripide, milan

From Marginal Spaces to Social Places:
Explorative Design Strategies in Napoli and Hong Kong
Francesco Rossini

How can architecture act as a form of agency in reimagining marginal urban areas and transforming edge conditions into spaces of collective use and social inclusion?

This studio will reflect on the MArch programme's annual theme through a joint design collaboration with the University of Napoli Federico II. Engaging in a comparative exploration of Hong Kong and Naples, the studio will investigate marginal and problematic conditions that have emerged from speculative development and inadequate planning policies. Both cities present complex challenges resulting from their distinctive morphological features and historical patterns of urbanization. Using the coastline as a starting point, students will focus on fringe zones, neglected public spaces, disconnected districts, and other forms of marginality that remain unresolved. Edges, in this sense, represent boundaries that often reinforce exclusion, yet also hold significant potential for transformation, offering opportunities to redefine their role within the urban fabric.

Using Richard Sennett's concept of porous edges as a theoretical framework, the studio will reflect on how cities can overcome rigid boundaries and promote open, permeable margins that enable alternative spatial strategies and support socially inclusive approaches to urban development. The investigation will be grounded in two waterfront sections, each spanning about 15 km, where students will explore how architecture can act as a form of agency in responding to contemporary social, spatial, and environmental challenges.

Design Beyond Boundaries
Lily Zhang

In this ever-changing world, how can we expand beyond merely changing and extracting from the environment, and instead consider what we may actually create anew to revive our destroyed planetary home?

Today many people born and raised in cities such as Hong Kong perceive human-made nature such as gardens, parks, and public spaces as natural environments. Our lives are shaped by artificial constructs, creating a misleading divide between natural and human-made spaces. In fact, there is no such thing as a boundary on this planet. As we evolve, we risk extinction, highlighting the need to closely examine our environmental impact. Designers have an ethical responsibility to to take action and contribute to more-than-human living spaces and trans-species comfort.

In this studio, we will design in harmony with nature to breathe new life to places degraded by human activity by creating scenery through designing the natural environment itself, and expand the prospects of design. The limits of human design are defined solely by our values. Our goal is to tackle the challenge of designing not just architecture or landscape, but the broader environment that surrounds us. Students will select sites based on research and field visits, creating architecture and landscape projects aligned with the nature, culture, community, and ecosystem of their chosen locations. By integrating diverse species and natural elements, we aim to evoke a sense of scenery that transcends traditional definitions, enriching our design process with insights from various fields and fostering a deeper understanding of place.

Grafting the Edge:
Rethinking Urban Renewal Through Thresholds
Simon Hsu / Sebastian Law

What design strategies allow edges to maintain neighborhood identity amid change, serving as active interfaces between memory and future possibilities? How can these edges act as "healing grafts" to soften the jarring contrasts of urban renewal?

In response to our overarching theme this year, our studio will challenge Hong Kong's conventional approaches to urban renewal, which fall mainly into two problematic categories: the tabula rasa approach of towers-on-podium model and the pencil tower infill strategy over the lot of two tong laus. While these methods may address goals of urban renewal—combating urban decay, improving living conditions, revitalising economic growth—they often erase collective memory, heritage and social values in the process. Our studio will empower architecture as an active agent in reimagining sustainable regeneration—one that balances sensitive preservation and innovative intervention to foster a renewed sense of community.

Within the cluster of edges, our studio will explore urban renewal through interfaces—between old and new, preservation and reinvention, diversity and gentrification, and memory and imagination. Rather than imposing radical erasure or nostalgic replication, we seek a mediating graft: a design strategy that stitches together the city's layered identities. We argue that this mediation begins at the edges—the thresholds where buildings meet the street, where private interiors engage with public life. Our studio will investigate how these edges can drive architectural interventions and urban renewal, bridging various disparities in age, scale, style and program.

FRAGMENTS

FRAGMENTS relate to a condition of incompleteness. As a conceptual lens, this cluster explores agency through reconstruction, reappropriation, reorganisation, and reinterpretation. Fragments engage with architectural and urban conditions by adding value to the traces, memories, and existing conditions that persist on site, embracing their historical and socio-spatial narratives. Drawing inspiration from the Japanese philosophy of Kintsugi—where repair becomes a form of enhancement and value creation—this cluster invites students and tutors to explore how to work with loose pieces and partial forms: broken, residual, or overlooked elements. Working with what is incomplete, abandoned, or dysfunctional becomes an act of care and imagination, fostering a more responsible and critical understanding of the built environment and its socio-cultural dynamics.

The four studios in this cluster explore a range of topics, mostly in the GBA: redesigning and reorganising headquarters and campuses to organise fragments into complex forms; developing cohesive systems that respond to the evolving needs of the manufacturing industry; reassembling structural–spatial fragments of industrial buildings in Hong Kong; and adapting dysfunctional or abandoned structures for new community uses.
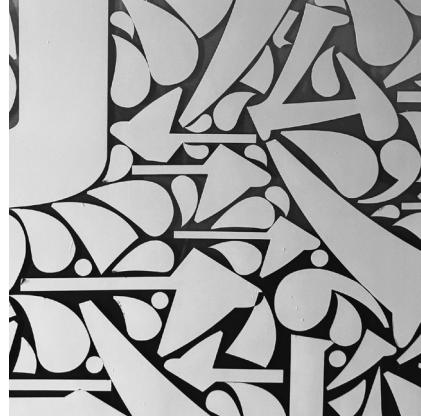
richard chivers' photograph of a stripped building façade exposes layers of past lives, functions, and materials, turning demolition into a reading of urban memory.

apple park, foster + partners

stroke collection of chinese calligraphy

concrete spolia: reuse of building waste, [s]equilibrium lab

urban renewal in salemi, alvaro siza

Studio Workbitat—(　　　) Headquarters Campus
Nelson Tam

How would a headquarters campus design encode a tech corporate's ethos? How would a campus bring together individuals as one community? How would a campus convert individuals' agency into one collective corporate spirit? What make such a campus appealing to talents to come and innovate there?

The Greater Bay Area (GBA) is currently driving an unprecedented transition towards a knowledge-based economy. Amid a wave of "Re-Industrialisation," GBA cities are leaping into future industries like AI, quantum tech, and bio-manufacturing. Their success hinges on attracting global talent while the saying "exceptional talents choose fertile grounds" becomes paramount. To "build nests for phoenixes", the GBA is redefining its urban-industrial ecology.

This is the stage for Workbitat—a concept transcending the dichotomy of "workplace" and "habitat" to cultivate integrated ecosystems that spark creativity while nurturing daily life. As Joel Kotkin observed: "The future belongs to cities that tailor spaces for talent." While the GBA enhances "hard connectivity" (infrastructure) and "soft connectivity" (policy), architects must translate strategies into embodied experience: using spatial narratives to transform headquarters into talent-attracting "microcosms and campuses into living innovation organisms. Through designing a customized "Workbitat" for the selected company, we will explore how space enhances innovation, well-being, agency, and individual empowerment, while "fragments" will be deployed as a creative tool.

Manufacturing Alterations (in GBA)
Zhu Jingxiang

How can a design system enable manufacturing operations to undergo agile transformation and adapt to evolving needs?

Globalization has transformed the Greater Bay Area into a "global workshop" over two decades. However, recent advances in digital technology and robotics, along with geopolitical tensions, have compelled local manufacturing enterprises to adopt new strategies, including upgrading exhibition/training facilities, relocating production bases to reduce costs and avoid tariffs, building global distribution centers, and redesigning flexible production lines.

This studio examines this phenomenon, studying how visionary and inclusive renovations can contribute to community development in Term 1. In Term 2, it seeks smart alteration proposals for manufacturing operators through an agile development approach. The studio references successful renovation projects in Hong Kong and Shenzhen to analyze strategies and tactics, learning about manufacturing practices and emerging needs through field trips and interviews, leading to effective development plans.

Throughout this journey, students will recognize architects' proactive roles in enhancing design fundamentals related to spatial organization, functional rearrangements, and system integration. They will explore capacities in interior and urban design, construction management, and community participation, fostering advanced practice models for the future.

Structural [Re]assemblage
Wang Shuaizhong

For what human behavior should the structural elements be reassembled? By what structural principles should the structural elements be reassembled? With what tectonic details should the structural elements be reassembled?

Structures as physical objects embody manifold possibilities for human interaction, which are unfortunately overlooked in our building conventions separating architectural and structural design. Among the mass-produced ordinary buildings, structures are reduced to definite assemblies solely for load-bearing, the fixity of which contributes to the buildings' contemporary obsolescence and deterioration. Nevertheless, being an assembly hints at the possibility of reassemblage. By conceptually (in the case of adaptive reuse) or actually (in the case of component reuse) fragmenting an already existing structural whole, the existing structures can be actively engaged in a new field of material and human activity.

Grounded in the contemporary context of stock renewal and circular construction, this studio invites students to rediscover spatial and social potentials for existing structures through fragmentation and reassemblage. The students will first investigate common structural typologies in Hong Kong's building stock, and then experiment with their agency through the lens of human behaviours, structural principles, and tectonic details. Using assembled drawings and models, students will explore how structural fragments can be reassembled for new forms of living.

Converting Fragments
Han Man

How can we theoretically identify and define fragments in architectural conversion? What strategies and innovative design approaches can be implemented to address fragments?

The studio will explore the conversion of built heritage. In this studio, built heritage not only means historically valuable structures, but also ordinary buildings, industrial structures, or mass housing schemes, etc. However, instead of focusing on a certain programmatic type of building, the exploration will centre on various strategies and methods of architectural intervention—how to act "as an agent of change".

We will use "fragments" to challenge the perception of architecture as an autonomous and independent object, while also rejecting the "tabula rasa" approach to urban renewal that is typical of modernism. Embracing the mindset of a "bricoleur," we will celebrate and utilise every available fragment as a valuable design resource. We will keep, add to, remove, design, piece together... fragments, exploring various methods to work with them.

By interrogating notions such as *Kintsugi* and *Zap Saang*, we will reimagine the architectural structures that emerge from these fragments. Will they lead to a new entity, a new fragment, or what Rem Koolhaas describes as the "ensemble of fragments"? Acting with and empowering other agents, we will work with the fragments for an adaptive and sustainable environment.

FRAMES

photograph of the torre de david in caracas shows life unfolding in an unfinished high-rise, where inhabitants redefine an abandoned structure through adaptation and agency.

FRAMES explores how architecture can exercise agency by shaping perception, structuring relationships, and constructing spatial narratives. This cluster examines how architecture frames movement, programs, and social interaction—not as fixed formats, but as adaptable systems that respond to change. It invites students and tutors to reconsider the relationship between container and content, recognising that framing is not a neutral act but a form of architectural agency that organises and structures how space is experienced, interpreted, and used. Through innovative spatial articulation, tectonic exploration, and territorial strategies, students are encouraged to see framing as a tool for critical engagement and transformation, enabling new ways of using, adapting, and shaping the built and urban environment.

Within this cluster, the four studios engage with diverse themes: repositioning architecture as a tool for urban innovation through Hong Kong's hyper-dense structure; reframing design as a process of distributed co-agency between humans and machines; articulating urban complexity through territorial acupuncture, infrastructure, and ecology in the GBA; and using experimental representation to envision and develop new design possibilities for urban life in Hong Kong.

michael wolf's corner houses, courtesy: blue, lotus gallery

progress of futuristic saudi city 'the line'

paris 2024 olympic poster, ugo gattoni

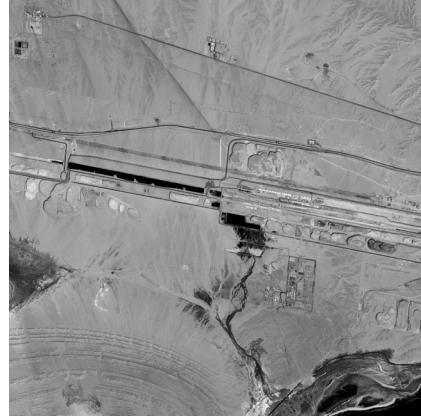*sesc pompéia, lina bo bardi, photo by nelson kon*

Lessons for Hyper-Dense Cities: The Hong Kong Perspective
Claude Godefroy / Elva Tang

Can learnings from Hong Kong inspire or inform new approaches to hyper-dense city centers in the world?

The "Learning from Hong Kong" studio positions architecture as a tool for urban innovation, using Hong Kong's hyper-dense, vertically driven environment as a living laboratory for extreme architecture and urbanism. This studio proposes to survey and identify Hong Kong's most distinctive architectural frames, examining how they mediate cultural identity, connect fragmented spaces, and structure urban life. Through this process, students will uncover how these frames operate as flexible, culturally rooted systems, capable of informing innovative design approaches in other hyper-dense contexts.

Hong Kong's urban fabric is defined by its verticality, adaptability, and ingenuity. The studio positions these characteristics as valuable lessons for addressing pressing challenges in global urbanism, including climate change, land scarcity, socio-economic inequality, and cultural homogenization. Students will investigate how principles embedded in Hong Kong's architecture—such as multifunctional spaces, efficient land use, and elevated pedestrian networks—can inform the design of liveable, resilient, and sustainable urban centers globally.

Megastudio 3
Tat Lam

How can human–AI co-agency generate new architectural responses to mega-scale complexity, offering alternatives to the hegemony of the single designer and enabling more distributed, adaptive forms of authorship?

This studio investigates architecture as an active form of agency, shaped by and shaping social, political, and material systems. Drawing on Structuration Theory, students will examine how design operates between structure and agency, embracing both intended and unintended consequences. The studio introduces post-agency as a design ethos, redistributing authorship across human, machine, and material systems, and exploring the ethical, political, and creative implications of co-design with AI.

"Frames" serve as conceptual and operational devices—structural logics that are stable yet reconfigurable. Students will interrogate these frames at various scales, from urban systems to construction modules, using Large Language Models and prefabricated systems as generative tools. Term 1 emphasizes collective experimentation, developing a shared design grammar and AI-driven interface for contexts like NEOM. Term 2 advances individual projects, applying collective methodology to "meganess" sites worldwide.

Through iterative prompting, prototyping, and systemic analysis, students will engage architecture not as a fixed object but as a dynamic negotiation between control and emergence. The studio aims to cultivate critical, adaptive, and collaborative design practices capable of navigating the complexities of contemporary urbanism.

Venture Urbanism:
Entrepreneurial Agency for Carbon-neutral Regeneration
Sunnie Lau

How can architects leverage AI-driven systems design and participatory sentiment analysis to activate techno-ecological thresholds in aging urban clusters, transforming decaying infrastructure into circular, carbon-neutral prototypes while prioritising community-defined equity?

Cities generate 70%+ of global carbon emissions, with aging infrastructure in dense urban clusters as both culprit and catalyst. As climate risks escalate—from Hong Kong's urban heat islands to coastal flooding and Paris's legacy voids—traditional planning fails. This studio positions architects as entrepreneurial agents, launching ventures that retrofit decay into circular, carbon-absorbing systems while centering justice.

In this studio we will design a "venture cartography", by collectively establish a shared analytical framework for entrepreneurial regeneration across Hong Kong and Paris. Students will co-create "carbon accounting atlases" visualising material/energy flows; "community partnership blueprints" co-drafted with grassroots groups; "venture prototype proposals" (spatial + business model) for high-impact pilot zones. Students will forge a collective methodology where architecture acts as an entrepreneurial agency, turning urban decay into investable, just, carbon-neutral futures. In term two, collective research will turn to individual grounded project. Each student will select their own site and tools developed under three pillars: carbon neutrality, spatial justice, and entrepreneurial agency in Term 1; for engaging with and responding to contemporary social and spatial challenges.

Urban Resilience as Agency: Frames of Situated Practice
Inge Goudsmit

How can architectural practice be reframed to critically engage with the changing conditions of urban life and respond with situated, adaptive, and inclusive design strategies?

This studio begins with a provocation: how well do architects really know the sites they design for? Too often, architectural practice relies on abstracted representations—maps, plans, and diagrams—that reduce complex urban realities to measurable surfaces. These tools, while essential, can obscure the lived, social, and political dimensions of space. In this studio, we challenge students to move beyond conventional site analysis and engage with the city as a layered and contested terrain, where urban resilience is understood not as a fixed condition but as a dynamic form of spatial agency. By foregrounding urban resilience as a lens, the studio explores how architecture can support adaptive, inclusive, and long-term responses to urban change. Architecture becomes a medium for inquiry, dialogue, and transformation.

In the first semester, students will analyse the city through multiple frames—top-down, bottom-up, and lateral—using critical cartography, ethnographic methods, and visual research. In the second semester, students will design for and with these frames. Drawing from their site research, they will develop spatial propositions that respond to diverse urban narratives and needs. Through experimental representation and critical design, students will explore how architecture can frame new possibilities for urban life.

FIELDS

*aerial view of greenhouses in spain reveals
the abstract geometry of agricultural exploitation
and the human imprint on the landscape.*

FIELDS examines distributed agency as part of broader ecological, infrastructural, and territorial systems. This cluster moves beyond isolated objects to explore how space is shaped by networks, flows, and layered conditions across scales. Students and tutors are invited to intervene within open frameworks, from urban–rural interfaces to modular habitats and environmental systems—and to understand space as a living matrix of relations. Here, fields relate not only to the urban and built environment, but also to broader domains of inquiry, including Architectural interventions, technology, climate systems, and cultural production. Agency in this context lies in the ability to navigate complexity and calibrate spatial and conceptual systems capable of adaptation, evolution, and resilience.

The three studios in this cluster address a range of topics: tackling sustainability challenges to envision new strategies for the Northern Metropolises; exploring how pilot projects on climate, mobility, and governance shape space across scales in the PRD; and developing agri-tectural strategies to mediate between natural systems, economies, culture, and policy through vineyard design in Yunnan Province.

### NM2050: Imagining the Northern Metropolis by 2050
Joshua Lam / Leung Man Kit / Wong Kam Sing

In the face of rapid urbanisation, climate crisis and risks to biodiversity, how shall the NM in the journey towards carbon neutrality before 2050 (NM2050) address social-environmental-economic challenges and achieve the vision of sustainable living for all?

The Northern Metropolis (NM), covering an area of about 30,000 hectares, was announced in 2021 as the major driver of the future development in Hong Kong.

The NM2050 is envisioned to leverage unique ecological, infrastructural, and territorial systems in distinct zones (fields) and inject impetus for a professional services hub, innovation and technology, boundary commerce, and blue/green recreation, tourism, and conservation under the current NM Action Agenda. The opportunities lie not only in generating new economic momentum but also enhancing the social and environmental capacities of the NM.

The thematic exploration will stimulate the students to imagine the matrix of socio-economic, cultural, environmental, and technological dimensions. Through the agencies of regenerative thinking and sustainable design, it will help trigger an integrated and innovative perspective for the NM, culminated as a collective position, a series of master planning ideas, proposal and exhibition for the first semester and individual projects at selected nodes in the second semester.
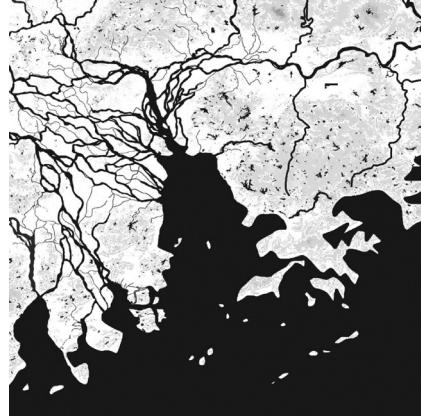
Delta Plug-ins
Cai Jiaxiu

How can architecture operate as agents across scales to design conditions that enable adaptation and transformation in delta regions?

This studio begins with water. In the Pearl River Delta (PRD), water is the underlying condition shaping cities. infrastructure, ecology, and everyday life. As a strategic hub of economic development, the PRD embodies China's modernisation. The architecture, infrastructure and landscape in the PRD exist in an interconnected network, forming a shared field and territory— together, they act as the agency for urban adaptation and transformation.

Students will approach the PRD as a complex system and develop an understanding that spans across-scales (architecture, urban and regional) and across-layers (landscape, infrastructural network and architectural occupation). Students will design "plug-ins", that create conditions and activate systematic changes for PRD's future. Methodologies include mapping and prototyping to analyse the PRD's West River territories, under themes of *water towns*, *port territories* and *megaprojects*. Mapping serves as a generative tool for design, revealing the environmental, infrastructural, and socio-political conditions. Prototyping tests strategies in response to eco-hydrological systems, economies, governance, and community needs.

Through this process, students will position architecture as a mediator between territorial systems and lived experience and design interventions that shape both local places and impact long-term regional transformations.

Fermenting Territories
Chan Chi Yan / Juan Minguez / Betty Ng

How can architecture mediate between geology, chemistry, biology, economies, culture, technologies and policies to cultivate a productive realm for both human and land?

This studio's macro-scale context examines the dynamic relationship between China's urban centres and its vast countryside, challenging the simplistic notion of an "urban-rural divide", and study the territory as a continuous field of flows, shaped by state strategy, economic forces, and technological development.

The studio's chosen "laboratory"—the winery in Yunnan—is a multi-scalar phenomenon where actors like geology, biology, chemistry, economics, culture, technology and policies are inextricably entangled. In Yunnan, "terroir" is not a passive backdrop but an active collaboration among a multitude of these actors, a "parliament" where diverse entities negotiate their existence. By interrogating the winery, we can trace the trajectories of materials, life forms, and capital that connect a remote geography to global circuits of consumption.

The architectural task becomes one of designing for the particular, resisting the generic. An intervention in this landscape must acknowledge and engage with the entire parliament of actors that co-produce the wine, challenging students to design not a static object but an intervention into a dynamic system.

festival art regenerates kat o culture, chen jiayu

REQUIRED COURSES

Advanced Computational Design
arch 5221 Wang Zhenfei t1

Digital design is a computational approach where architectural elements are defined by algorithmic relationships rather than fixed forms. Using tools like Grasshopper, Dynamo, or Python scripting, architects manipulate variables to create adaptable, complex geometries. This method enables data-driven, iterative design that responds to changes, allowing exploration of complex shapes that manual drafting can't achieve. The course provides an overview of advanced digital design methods, focusing on computational tools, mathematical principles, and practical applications through lectures and workshops, equipping students with essential skills for innovative architectural design.

Architectural Theory and Criticism
arch 5321 Adam Jasper t2

This is a challenging course designed to re-acquaint you with writing as a reflective practice, as a means of communication, and as a scientific resource. Like drawing, writing is a fundamental tool of architecture. It is also a practice. Both free writing—where you just observe and remark on your experiences—and research writing—where you carefully formulate your question, compile supporting information, evaluate it, present your case, and draw conclusions—will be required of you. You will be ready to write your dissertation and maybe even pursue additional post-graduate research with the help of this course.

Advanced Building Systems II
arch 5422 Zachary Wong t1

[Rethinking technology as design agency] Building technology is imperative in modern architecture, transcending its traditional role as a mere instrumental tool for architectural realization. The course will propel students to directly engage with and navigate the interdependencies among Building Programs, Building Performance, Building Systems, Systems Integration, and Architectural Design. Instructors Zachary Wong and Nelson Tam have reimagined arch 5421 & 5422 as a year-long scaffolded exploration of building technologies synchronized with design studios. In the first term, the focus will be on building performance and the diverse methods to achieve it.

Advanced Building Systems I
arch 5421 Nelson Tam t2

[From technical solution to architectural articulation] Building on the groundwork laid in the first term, in the second term, students will delve into the critical selection and integration of technologies. This involves determining the available systems, how to deploy them, why they align with the design intent, and how they materialize spatial narratives. These actions form the core of design articulation. By adopting a building systems-led approach, students will explore the integration of building systems. This process equips them to navigate complexity and embrace proactive technological innovations within their studio projects. Technical requirements are redefined as creative design parameters, and technical resolutions become options that serve the design purpose effectively.

Professional Practice and Management
arch 6521 Hubert Un t1

This course introduces final-year architecture students to the professional practice of architecture in Hong Kong. It covers regulatory frameworks, including Building Ordinances and Codes of Practice, and discusses building contracts, procurement methods, and dispute resolution strategies like arbitration. Emphasising professional ethics prepares students for responsible practice. Career pathways, such as working in firms or starting independent practices, are outlined, along with opportunities in real estate, urban planning, and sustainability. By the end, students may gain a deeper understanding of Hong Kong's architectural landscape and be better positioned to explore a range of professional opportunities.

Urban History and Theory
urbd 5703 Cecilia L. Chu t1

This course explores the histories of urbanism and the competing forces that influence the design and planning of cities and their urban milieus. Students are introduced to key urban theories and contemporary discourses in architecture, planning, landscapes, conservation, and urban design. The course content is structured around sets of case studies, with each week focusing on a specific theme that highlights continuities and congruencies between designed environments across different periods and locations. Discussions throughout the semester engage with questions of contemporary urbanisation and explore how historical knowledge can impart a better understanding of the role of design practice in the 21st century.

in between, a cross-border primary school, tang shudi

Plan Matters
arch 5131a Nelson Tam t1

Through a focused study of a curated collection of plans, this course aims to establish a comprehensive body of knowledge on the strategies employed for spatial organisation in architecture. Specifically, we will examine the graphic expression of spatial organisation, the relationship between spatial organisation and spatial quality in our chosen design cases, and the ways in which space-organising strategies interact with other architectural aspects, such as enclosure, structure, program, and material expression. By engaging in this rigorous analysis of spatial organisation in architecture, we target to deepen our understanding of the fundamental principles of spatial organisation in contemporary architecture.

History of the Architecture School
arch 5331a Adam Jasper t2

The architectural studio is celebrated by researchers into education as a model of teaching that other disciplines might learn from: it is innovative, encourages collaborative work, and enables learning through failure. At the same time, an international history of the architecture school has yet to be written. This class will attempt to sketch that missing history with a special emphasis on the traditions of teaching used at our own School of Architecture. Where does the architectural school, and where does our architecture school, come from? What kind of knowledge does it produce? Where is it going? This class combines elements of institutional history with local experiments in epistemics.

Reuse as Design
arch 5431a Wang Shuaizhong t1

This course invites students to reimagine structural design at the end-of-life stage, focusing on the reuse of obsolete yet structurally sound concrete components. It emphasises an integrated approach that balances aesthetics and functionality, covering topics such as form-finding, structural analysis, reuse matching, multi-objective optimisation, and post-evaluation. This course encourages students to explore how algorithmic methods and hands-on model making can be seamlessly integrated to transform discarded components into new structural forms, resulting in performance-driven, carbon-conscious, and visually striking designs.

Extra-ordinary Arrangement of Loadbearing Components
arch 5631 Zhu Jingxiang t2

As fundamental structural components appeared from ancient time and widely used in everyday buildings, walls and beams achieve multiple goals beyond bearing loads, such as enveloping space, filtering light, indicating various programs, and responding to a place. In masters' hands, a precise arrangement of wall and beam components can capture the soul. In contrast, when these components are covered by false ceilings or masked by plaster, the tectonic expression or beauty generated from necessity is lost. This elective course will unveil the multilayered issues of wall and beam design through in-depth study of selected cases from international architects and local reality.

Geopolitical Urbanisation and Development Practices in Contemporary Megacities of the Developing World
arch 5731a Tat Lam t2

This course examines how geopolitical forces, investment strategies, and governance frameworks shape megaregional development in emerging contexts, with a focus on Africa's East–West connectivity corridor. Through case studies, students investigate how finance, infrastructure, and policy intersect to influence urbanisation. Emphasising both top-down capital logic and bottom-up community needs, the course equips students to design strategic, fundable, and inclusive development proposals that address environmental, social, and economic sustainability within complex territorial systems.

Hotels, Hospitality and Tourism
arch 5834a Daniel Pätzold t1

We will use buildings related to tourism and recreation as examples of architectural form amplified by design drivers. Understanding societal and economic developments in the context of hospitality allows us to introduce a great number of influences and knowledge that articulates design. Hospitality as a building purpose necessitates a good insight on inclusive design for wellbeing. Lectures will be accompanied by site visits and professional sharing, assignments shall help strengthen studio projects. Inspiration for students own design is the key objective.

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URBAN DESIGN IS RE-THINKING CITIES

sketching out design strategies

In a time of unprecedented global challenges, the need for sustainable and healthy cities has become more obvious. As the world is becoming increasingly aware of the fragility of our ecosystems, human and planetary health, there is a renewed urgency to explore urban design solutions that incorporate principles of social and environmental sustainability, as well as the capacity to adapt to societal changes.

The MSc in Urban Design programme explores how to create sustainable high-density cities in the context of climate, technology and societal change. It develops rigorous research and design projects, focusing on economic, cultural and regulatory processes that shape cities, human interactions and experiences that constitute urban life. Throughout the study, students engage with theoretical and scientific literature, international and regional case studies, and new advanced methods for the analysis, simulation and visualisation of urban areas.

Jeroen van Ameijde / MSc (UD) Programme Director

wang zhaoyan, shen rongrong, li muzi, zhang yujia, msud 2024

Engaging With Communities to Rethink Urban Conditions

Urban Design Studio 1
arch 5710 t1

The city-making process is often decided in the hands of a few, with a developmental mindset that prioritises time and cost efficiency over people in global cities like Hong Kong. This approach has resulted in a top-down view of the city that celebrates grand architecture and infrastructure, while people and everyday life are often left out of the picture. This exclusive planning process has led to social issues such as weakened community ties and misallocation of urban resources. As urban designers, positioned between the decision-makers and end-users, we have a chance to rethink urban design in a bottom-up way that reconnects people to the city, and question how we can create strategies to influence stakeholders towards urban design that can impact all. How might we rethink our urban condition through "commons" as the inspiration for collective action?

To address these questions, Studio 1 will focus on field work, community engagement, participatory design, and strategic urban renewal approaches for the Yau Ma Tei and Mong Kok areas. Through engagement with key stakeholders from the community, private sector and local authorities, the studio will critically analyse the government's vision for the regeneration of its old urban districts, balancing economic regeneration objectives with the need for human-centric, community-oriented development. Overall, the studio seeks to promote collective action by embracing the power of local intelligence and resilience, to rethink urban conditions through commons and create a more inclusive and sustainable urban environment

Jessica Cheung / Jeroen van Ameijde

bian zehua, li jiahao, hu yifan, msud 2023

Designing Urban Transformations for Cultural and Economic Vitality

Urban Design Studio II
arch 5720 t2

In Hong Kong, many older districts have evolved without comprehensive planning—often neglecting open space, community needs, and environmental quality—while favouring economic growth and maximum build-out. Current redevelopment mechanisms tend to erase historic urban fabric and decades-old social networks in pursuit of higher plot ratios and profit margins.

Urban Design Studio II explores theories and methodologies for human-centric urban renewal and regeneration. Via historic, site and user research, students will first obtain a clear understanding of the neighbourhood's physical characteristics, identity, problems and pain points, and social processes. Precedent studies from around the world will equip them with tools of engagement, intervention, conservation and re-development to formulate their own methodologies in reviving a site or neighbourhood of their choosing. Critical analysis, data mapping, user research and validation, and application of current and proposed planning tools are the basis of a forward-thinking, sustainable and healthy community that balances bottom-up and top-down mechanisms.

If urban metabolism dictates that ageing building stock must be replaced, we must ask: how can this be achieved more strategically and surgically? Can we retain local landmarks and cultural "flavours," enhance streetscapes and public open spaces, assist with resident relocation, strengthen neighbourhood retail networks, and rebrand district identity—without diminishing development potential? By integrating place-specific heritage, social resilience, and spatial quality into redevelopment strategies, we can align urban transformation with long-term cultural and economic vitality—shaping a more liveable, human-centric urban environment.

Eric Ho / Rick Lam

REQUIRED COURSES

Environmental and Urban Economics
urbd 5702 Sylvia He t2

This course prepares students to develop criteria for value judgments about the complex social, economic and environmental impact of urban design and planning. A range of topics will be discussed including planning policies, migration, transportation, zoning and livability issues, and potentials for more sustainable, just and livable cities. Students will learn about contemporary urban economic research and online sources of economic data.

Urban History and Theory
urbd 5703 Cecilia L. Chu t1

This course explores the histories of urbanism and the competing forces that influence the design and planning of cities and their urban milieus. Students are introduced to key urban theories and contemporary discourses in architecture, planning, landscapes, conservation, and urban design. The course content is structured around sets of case studies, with each week focusing on a specific theme that highlights continuities and congruencies between designed environments across different periods and locations. Discussions throughout the semester engage with questions of contemporary urbanisation and explore how historical knowledge can impart a better understanding of the role of design practice in the 21st century.

Urban Transport Networks
urbd 5732 Daniel Pätzold t2

The course provides an introduction into history and application of urban transportation systems and their impact on contemporary mobility patterns. Urban integration, policy, transport concepts, planning aspects, technical requirements and ways of implementation along precedents are presented. During the course visiting lectures will share first hand professional knowledge whilst its adaption to student design projects will be encouraged.

International Workshop
urbd 5734 Hendrik Tieben

As in every year, the programme incorporates an international urban design workshop in an overseas location in collaboration with one of our international partner programmes. Previous workshops have taken place in Taipei, Berlin, Lisbon, New York and Bologna. The most recent programme in Berlin included analysis of experimental housing areas, the transformation to the capital after the German reunification, and recent regeneration projects,

ELECTIVE COURSES

Urban Processes
urbd 5731 Sunnie Lau t1

This course offers an introduction to urban processes such as urban ideals, typology, city forms, spatial data, urban regeneration, placemaking, and the role of community engagement in the development of Hong Kong and beyond. The course also focuses on the integration of digital tools in urban design processes, for instance, students will learn about technologies like GIS and data mapping to analyse urban spaces. Through lectures, field work assignments, and community workshops, students get hands on experience by directly engaging with various stakeholders as well as community members. Students will learn from industry experts who will provide practical insights and networking opportunities.

Environmental Design for Liveable and Healthy Cities
urbd 5735 Sunnie Lau t2

This course aims at providing a comprehensive and multidisciplinary understanding of sustainable and environmental design, by gathering and connecting a wide range of contemporary perspectives from academia and practice. Organised as a lecture series by a range of disciplinary experts, the course exposes students to the latest research, project examples and policy initiatives aimed at improving the economic, social and environmental sustainability of urban environments.

ADVANCING KNOWLEDGE

research makes knowledge

As the world faces growing environmental and social challenges in the 21st century, research in architecture and the built environment has become increasingly crucial for developing new paradigms of habitation for a sustainable and equitable future. Generating new knowledge and translating it into action requires a solid understanding of theories, refined research skills, and critical perspectives. Pursuing an MPhil-PhD degree offers these transformative opportunities. Students admitted to the programme carry out advanced study and research, with a combination of coursework and individual investigation.

Research at the School of Architecture: The School of Architecture is home to a multi-disciplinary team of research faculty, who combine approaches from the arts and humanities, social sciences, and sciences. All research conducted within the School shares a common goal of informing design and enhancing the quality and understanding of the built environment.

Cecilia L. Chu / MPhil-PhD Programme Director

Marlon James Brownsword
Early Cybernetic Explorations in Spatial Planning:
Institutionalisation and Waning of Cybernetic
Aspirations at Architecture Schools in the 1970s

Cheng Sifan
Happy Streets: Evaluating the Perceived
Restoration of Street Built Environments in the
High-density City Context

Fu Zhiying
Spatial Models and Efficiency Evaluation of
Youth Rental Housing in the Greater Bay Area

Gong Yidan
Reassembling Community Commons:
Investigating the Personal, Political, Spatial,
and Everyday Dimensions of Commoning in
Shekou, Shenzhen

Hao Jiayue
Countering Homogenization Under
Modernization: Mechanisms of Formal Continuity
in Dai Bamboo Houses During Material Transfer

He Liang
Planning-to-operation Synergy for the
Sustainability of Urban Green Infrastructure

Jiang Pu
Navigating in the Layered City: From Street
View Perception to Real-world Experience in
Hong Kong's Elevated Walkway Systems

Jin Yuan
From Colonial Infrastructure to Contested
Heritage: Reassembling Water, Equity, and
Memory in the Kowloon Waterworks System

Lam Man Yan
Rethinking the Role of Architects: Designing a
Socially Sustainable Architectural Practice

Lau Hing Ching
BIM in Agile—How Alternative Management
Enable Bim to Exert Impact

Lee Man Ting Miriam
Evolving Cultural Seascapes: Floating Communities
and Coastal Urbanism in Modernising Hong Kong

Lee Yilin
Facade Design of Residential Buildings in Sub-
tropical High Density City With Respect to
Future Change

Lei Danyang
Neighbourhood Built Environment, Socialising
Pattern and Sense of Community Among
Older Adults: A Mixed-methods Study in Hong
Kong Public Housing

Li Xiang
The Impact of Pocket Space on Spatial
Efficiency and Its Improvement Strategies in
Hong Kong's Private Compact Housing

Li Yangzhi
Integrated Digital-automation Systems for
Construction Waste Upcycling

Liang Erchun
Housing Types as Tools for Growth in the
Developmental State—A Case Study of
Shenzhen Since China's Open-door Policy
(1979-2019)

Lim Kye Lee Clarissa
Arts Collectives as Cultural Infrastructure in
Malaysia

Lin Shuiyang
Place Attachment and Cultural-led Urban
Regeneration: Constructing a Resident-
oriented Framework for Evaluating Place
Attachment in Historic Neighborhoods

Ling Pak Wai
Regenerating Educational Spaces Through
Community-driven Architectural Design:
A Bottom-up Approach in Africa's Informal
Settlements

Liu Ziwei
Learning From Progress: Revealing and
Reinterpreting Vernacular Timber
Craftsmanship Through Contemporary Design

Lu Pengyu
Play Spaces for Young People in High-density
Urban Neighbourhoods, Challenges and
Opportunities in Hong Kong

Ng Tsing Yin Provides
Digital Common(s): The Role of Immersive
and Gamification Technologies in Public Space
Co-design

Ni Ruoning
Making by Playing: Serious Games as a
Technical Aid for Resident-led Sifang Renewal
in Guangzhou, China

Ximena Ocampo Aguilar
Material Assemblages: Street Life Between
Regulation and Appropriation in Mexico City
and Hong Kong

Peng Sining
Exploring Spatial Criteria for Healthy Aging-in-
place in Hong Kong Public Housing Context

Victor Manuel Serrano
Transpositions in Cultural Landscapes:
Memories, Performances, and Heritage-
making in Puerto Rico

Song Qiwei
Revisiting Walking Accessibility to Public Amenities
Regarding Route Experience and Facility Quality
to Promote Quality of Life: An X-minute City
Perspective in High-density Context

Wajiha Tariq
Enhancing the Quality of Life in Hong Kong:
A Computational Approach for the Evaluation
and Redistribution of Urban Resources

Tian Fang
Study on Construction Strategies towards
SDGs in Rural Yunnan

Wang Jingying
Post-earthquake Housing Recovery With
Traditional Building Practices: Japan as a Case Study

Wang Luming
Operative Branching System Empowered by
Graphic Statics in Early Design Stage

Xu Xin
Transforming Rural Heritage: Hakka Earthen
Architecture in the Middle Ground

Yang Qi
The Rise of "wanghong" Space: The Impact
of Actor Networks and Social Media on the
Making of Urban Space in Shibati, Chongqing

Yano Yutaka
Values of Forest and Timber in Hong Kong—
Tracing the Process of Industrialisation and
Resource Commodification in Architecture

Ye Xinran
An Ethnographic Study of Socio-spatial Practices
in Urban Villages' Public Spaces in China

Yu Boyuan
Upcycled Wood Intelligence in Circular
Architecture, Engineering and Construction

Zhang Jing
Unlocking the Adaptive Cycle: A Dynamic
System to Industrial Heritage Reuse and Long-
term Adaptation

Zhang Jingchi
Mismatched Ideas of Authenticity: The
Integrated Development of Cultural Tourism
and Urban Regeneration in Chongqing

Zhang Yiwei
Exploring Climate-adaptive Urban Design
Guidelines of Public Space for Sea Level Rise
Response: The Case Study of Singapore

Zhao Hanbing
Data-driven Structure Design Framework for
Equivalent Reuse of Concrete Components in
Hong Kong

Zhao Mingming
A Data-driven Design Evaluation Framework
Using Multimodal Neurophysiological
Measurements in Stress-sensitive Environments

Zou Keren
Planning the Healthy City: A Data-driven
Framework for Assessing Health Equity
Through Urban Facilities

Incoming PhD Students

Samuel Kerongo Arwari
Chen Jiqian
Ding Yihang
Miguel Esteban Alonso
He Xinyi
Liang Wanying
Lin Zhuojun
Lu Chunfeng
Song Hengzhi
Tang Xiaoying
Zhang Wenting

REQUIRED COURSE

Research Methods I & II
arch 7201 & 7202 Cecilia L. Chu

Research Methods introduces students to
the essential components of a PhD thesis and
provides an overview of common research
methodologies in architecture and related built
environment disciplines. Course assignments
are designed to help students define the
scope of their thesis, frame relevant research
questions and arguments, and become familiar
with the types and uses of reference materials
for their projects. The course enables students
to articulate a critical intellectual position as
they develop their thesis topics, deepening
their understanding of the role of research in
architecture.

zhu jingxiang · francesco rossini · pedram ghelichi · melody yiu · kelly chow

adam fingrut · lu kang · wang shuaizhong · cecilia l. chu · nelson tam

hendrik tieben · inge goudsmit · jeroen van ameijde · peter w. ferretto · elva tang

maggie ma · adam jasper · mo kar him · jimmy ho · han man

edward ng · he yueyang · cai jiaxiu · hiroyuki shinohara · thomas chung

Faculty

Full-time Faculty

Cai Jiaxiu	*Assistant Professor*
Kelly Chow	*Professional Consultant*
Cecilia L. Chu	*Associate Professor*
Thomas Chung	*Associate Professor*
Peter W. Ferretto	*Director and Associate Professor*
Adam Fingrut	*Senior Lecturer*
Pedram Ghelichi	*Lecturer*
Inge Goudsmit	*Assistant Professor*
Han Man	*Lecturer*
He Yueyang	*Research Assistant Professor*
Jimmy Ho	*Lecturer*
Adam Jasper	*Assistant Professor*
Maggie Ma	*Assistant Professor*
Mo Kar Him	*Assistant Professor*
Edward Ng	*Yao Ling Sun Professor of Architecture*
Francesco Rossini	*Associate Professor*
Hiroyuki Shinohara	*Assistant Professor*
Nelson Tam	*Professional Consultant*
Hendrik Tieben	*Associate Director and Professor*
Jeroen van Ameijde	*Associate Professor*
Wang Shuaizhong	*Assistant Professor*
Xu Liang	*Lecturer*
Melody Yiu	*Research Assistant Professor*
Zhu Jingxiang	*Associate Professor*

Emeritus and Honorary Professors

Nelson Chen	*Honorary Professor*
Gu Daqing	*Emeritus Professor*
Heng Chye Kiang	*Honorary Professor*
Ho Puay Peng	*Emeritus Professor*
Ronald Lu	*Honorary Professor*
Tsou Jin Yeu	*Emeritus Professor*
Rocco Yim	*Honorary Professor*

Part-time Faculty

Nobuo Aoki	*Adjunct Professor*
Chan Chi Yan	*Adjunct Associate Professor*
Sylvia Chan	*Adjunct Associate Professor*
Jessica Cheung	*Adjunct Associate Professor*
David Dernie	*Adjunct Professor*
Raffaella Endrizzi	*Lecturer (PT)*
Stanislaus Fung	*Adjunct Associate Professor*
Claude Godefroy	*Adjunct Associate Professor*
Eric Ho	*Adjunct Associate Professor*
Simon Hsu	*Adjunct Associate Professor*
Rina Ko	*Lecturer (PT)*
Joshua Lam	*Lecturer (PT)*
Rick Lam	*Adjunct Associate Professor*
Tat Lam	*Adjunct Associate Professor*
Sunnie Lau	*Adjunct Associate Professor*
Sebastian Law	*Adjunct Professor*
Sarah Lee	*Adjunct Associate Professor*
Leung Man Kit	*Adjunct Associate Professor*
Liu Xinyu	*Lecturer (PT)*
Juan Minguez	*Adjunct Associate Professor*
Betty Ng	*Adjunct Associate Professor*
Daniel Pätzold	*Adjunct Associate Professor*
Ioana Alexandra Pricop	*Lecturer (PT)*
Victor Ioan Pricop	*Lecturer (PT)*
Nicola Saladino	*Adjunct Associate Professor*
Wataru Shinji	*Professional Consultant (PT)*
Wong Kam Sing	*Adjunct Professor*
Elva Tang	*Adjunct Associate Professor*
Hubert Un	*Lecturer (PT)*
Wang Zhenfei	*Adjunct Associate Professor*
Caroline Wuethrich	*Lecturer (PT)*
Zachary Wong	*Lecturer (PT)*
Xu Subin	*Adjunct Professor*
Lily Zhang	*Adjunct Assistant Professor*

student interview with hsieh ying-chun

Events 2024-25

Lectures

Peter W. Ferretto Amphibious Architects and the Origins of Invention	19.09.2024
Florian Heinzelmann Socio-climate Spaces	07.10.2024
Amy Perkins Building as a Verb	07.11.2024
Kiyoaki Takeda Regenerative Architecture: Innovating Urban Spaces for Greener Cities	16.01.2025
Simon Teyssou Architecture as a Manifestation of a Territory	06.03.2025
Aryan Khalighy Representational of Architecture, Architecture of Representation	12.03.2025
Lorenzo Zandri Constructing Images	18.03.2025
Marco Imperadori Archinature: Arte Sella Between Art/Architecture and Nature	19.03.2025
Hsieh Ying-Chun Participatory Construction	20.03.2025
Liu Yan From Baohua Shan to Tao Fong Shan: Danish Architect Johannes Prip-Møller's Study and Design Inspired by Chinese Chinese Buddhist Architecture	26.03.2025
Corrin Chan What if Architecture Can Make a Difference?	03.04.2025
Marc Angélil If the Saw Saws the Saw	04.10.2025

Philip Ursprung Lipstick on a Gorilla	04.10.2025
Tymon Mellor Forgotten Infrastructure: The Water Supply of Kowloon	23.05.2025
Li Junwei Utopian Suburbia	23.05.2025
Henry Endemann The Megaregion	26.05.2025

Seminars

PhD Admission Workshop 2024	19-20.08.2024
Rethinking Primary School Spaces for Teaching, Learning and Well-being	05-07.09.2024
Research Seminar 1: Craft in/and/for Architecture Hiroyuki Shinohara, Thomas Chung, Pedram Ghelichi	12.09.2024
Research Seminar 2: Assembling Landscapes Hiroyuki Shinohara, Wang Ting, Lily Zhang, Wataru Shinji	03.10.2024
Research Seminar 3 Architecture and the "Environmental Turn" Wang Shuaizhong, He Yueyang, Gianni Talamini	21.11.2024
The 16th Conference of the International Forum on Urbanism (IFoU): Urbanism of Hope	12-14.12.2024
ASI "Ground-based LiDAR Networks" Workshop	13-15.01.2025
Research Seminar 4: Modernist Heritage Melody Yiu, Han Man	23.01.2025

public lecture: tao fong shan, liu yan

Research Seminar 5: Architecture and the Public Inge Goudsmit, Adam Jasper	20.02.2025	**Field Trips**	
		Hangzhou, China	06.2024
Transitional Housing Symposium	21.03.2025	Shenzhen, China	09.2024
		Singapore	10.2024
Between Development and Natural Restoration Symposium	25.03.2025	Tokyo, Japan	
		New York, USA	
		Nairobi & Mombasa, Kenya	12.2024
Research Seminar 6: Habitable Futures Maggie Ma, Mo Kar Him	27.03.2025	Taipei, Taiwan	
		Hangzhou, China	01.2025
Research Seminar 7: 'Social Impact' in Architecture Jeroen van Ameijde, Jimmy Ho	10.04.2025	Shenzhen, China	
		Tokyo, Japan	02.2025
		Shenzhen, China	
Shifting Terms: The Nanjing Exchange as Point-of-Departure	11.04.2025	Milan, Italy	06-07.2025
Public Forum: Ecologies of Participation	25.04.2025		
PhD Symposium 2025 Undertaking: Research in the Face of Uncertainty	29.04.2025		

Exhibitions

Modern Eye—The Centennial Exhibition of Architect Chang Chao Kang	16.12.2024 – 09.01.2025
Tao Fong Shan Exhibition	26.03 – 03.04.2025
Accreditation Exhibition 2025	30.05 – 18.06.2025
2024 Master of Architecture Graduation Show	25.06 – 18.07.2025

study trip in kenya: learning from local communities

Student Exchange 2025-26

Exchange Programme	Outgoing	Incoming
Partner University		
Delft University of Technology (Netherlands)	TBC	Illig Max
		Van Der Horst Zephyr Azul
Graz University of Technology (Austria)	TBC	TBC
National University of Singapore (Singapore)	Cheung Yan Kiu	Chiew Woon Kai Charlene
	Liu Ching Lam Carolyn	Quek Bing Justin
Polytechnic University of Milan (Italy)	TBC	Bonetti Orso Maria
Polytechnic University of Turin (Italy)	TBC	Amelio Antonio
Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile (Chile)	TBC	TBC
The University of Auckland (New Zealand)	Chan Sin Tung Jasmine	Michelle Chen
	Fung Wing Tung	
University of Applied Sciences Stuttgart (Germany)	Ng Man Yuk	TBC
	Siu Wing Yiu	
University of Westminster (UK)	Fong King Ting	TBC
	Tse Hoi Ching	
University-wide Exchange		
Chalmers University of Technology		Sandberg Carl-William
Kyoto Sangyo University	Yeung Tsin Lok	
Malmo University		Olsson Moa Magdalena
The Pennsylvania State University	Wong Wai Hiu	
The University of Sheffield		Imonhimi Grace Efeimoeghe
University of Liverpool		Ahmad Aimen Faheem
		Couper Cameron Thomas

Incoming and outgoing students to be confirmed in Term 1.

finalist, architecture student contest 2025, lyon, france

Awards and Scholarships 2024-25

Awards	Recipients	Year
Clifford Chun Fai Wong Prize in Housing Design	Chow Sum Yin	MArch 2
Clifford Chun Fai Wong Prize in Housing Design—Honorable Mention	Fong King Ting	BSSc 2
Clifford Chun Fai Wong Prize in Housing Design—Honorable Mention	Lin Xiya	MArch 1
CUHK CAADRIA Student Award	Song Qiwei	PhD
CUHK CAADRIA Student Award—Commendation	Jiang Pu	PhD
DFA Hong Kong Young Design Talent Award 2024	Lam Man Yan	PhD
Design Talent Scholarship	Kang Ziqi	MArch 1
	Wang Yi	
	Wu Xiaotian	
	Huang Wanwen	MSUD 1
	Liu Ruoqing	
HKIA Student Medal 2025—Nominee	Tang Shudi	MArch 2
Museum of Emotions #5 competition	Choi Ka Ying	BSSc Y4
	Chu Ching Lam	
	Kwan Ho Chi	
	Wan Hoi Wah	
RIBA President's Medal Award Nominees—Silver Medal	Tang Shudi	MArch 2
	Wong Ching Tung	
RIBA President's Medal Award Nominees—Bronze Medal	Chiu Lok Yin	BSSc Y4
	Chu Ching Lam	
School Leadership and Service Award	Chu Chak Sum	MArch 2
The Society of Construction Law Hong Kong Prizes	Chan Shui Nam	MArch 2
	Lau Hoi Yan	
Southwest Jiaotong University Tianfu Construction Festival, Second Prize	Chen Pui Yan	BSSc Y3
	Chow Cheuk Lam	
	Lam Hiu Wing	
	Wong Wing Pan	
The National Stage of Saint-Gobain Architecture Student Contest 2025	Chan Yui Hei Joshua	BSSc Y4
	Ma Lechi	
	Yuen Kong Kit	MArch 2

Awards	Recipients	Year
Prof. Essy Baniassad Undergraduate Architectural Design Studio Award	Chu Ching Lam	BSSc Y4
Prof. Tunney Lee Postgraduate Architectural Design Studio Award	Tang Shudi	MArch 2
School of Architecture Best Studio Design Awards		
Explore I	Tan Chun Ying	BSSc Y2
Explore II	Fong King Ting	
Studio A	Wallace Leung	BSSc Y3
Studio B	Lam Hiu Wing	
Studio C	Chu Yik Ting	BSSc Y4
	Mak Kwan Yeung Sharon	
	Tebartz-Van Elst Matthias-Franziskus Maria	
	Tse Sze Kei	

Scholarships	Recipients	Year
Andrew Lee King Fun Architects Ltd Exchange Scholarship	Li Yisi	BSSc Y3
	Tse Yu Ching Megan	
	Wong Kai Yan Michelle	MArch 1
	Zeng Haorong	
Formica Scholarship	Tse Sze Kei	BSSc Y4
	Yuen Wan Ching Tiffany	MArch 2
Professor Raymond Fung Scholarship	Chu Ching Lam	BSSc Y4
P&T Travel Scholarship	Chiu Cheuk Lun	MArch 1
Wharf Architectural Design Internship	Ip Ka Shun	MArch 2
	Li Shizhao	
Wong Tung & Partners Scholarship	Chow Sum Yin	MArch 2
	Wong Ching Tung	

Awards (Alumni)	Recipients	Year
HKIA Young Architect Award 2023	Lam Ho Wang Owen	MArch 2018
HKIA Student Medal 2023	Chi Ho Man Ivan	MArch 2024

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Location

Elisabeth Luce Moore Library
(1991-1994)

Wong Foo Yuan Building
(1994-2012)
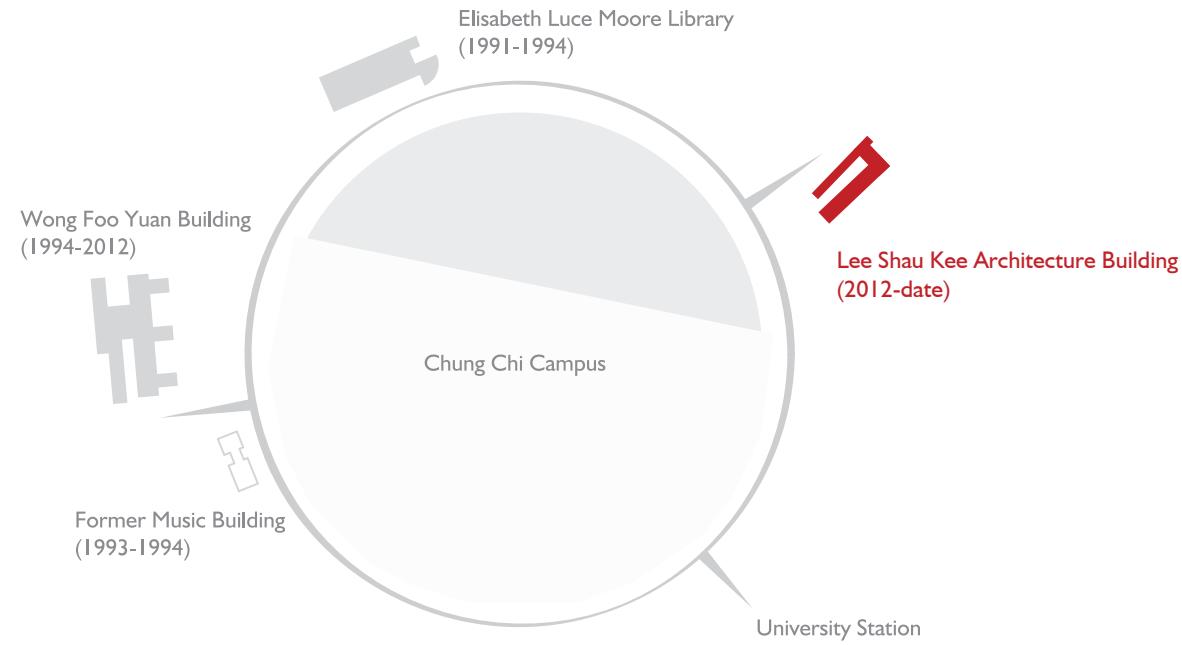
Lee Shau Kee Architecture Building
(2012-date)

Chung Chi Campus

Former Music Building
(1993-1994)

University Station

notebook 2001-02   210 x 210mm   36 pages
vito bertin | essy baniassad

blackbook 2009-10   198 x 198mm   44 pages
thomas chung | andrew yu

2020-21   198 x 198mm   60 pages
xu liang | tammy kong
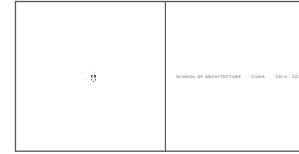
blackbook 2014-15   198 x 198mm   64 pages
bruce lonnman | andrew yu
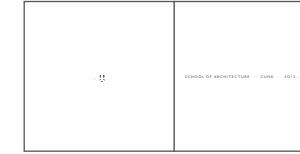
blackbook 2015-16   198 x 198mm   68 pages
bruce lonnman | andrew yu & xu liang
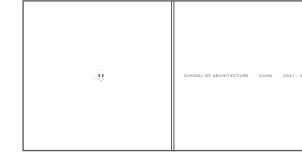
2021-22   198 x 198mm   68 pages
xu liang | tammy kong, bianca lam

blackbook 2013-14   198 x 198mm   64 pages
bruce lonnman | andrew yu

blackbook 2016-17   198 x 198mm   68 pages
bruce lonnman | xu liang

2022-23   198 x 198mm   68 pages
xu liang | tammy kong, rachel lai

blackbook 2012-13   198 x 198mm   64 pages
thomas chung | andrew yu

blackbook 2017-18   198 x 198mm   72 pages
bruce lonnman | xu liang

2023-24   198 x 198mm   66 pages
xu liang | tammy kong, jovian wong

blackbook 2011-12   198 x 198mm   52 pages
thomas chung | andrew yu

blackbook 2018-19   198 x 198mm   68 pages
bruce lonnman | xu liang, janice leung

blackbook 2024-25   198 x 198mm   88 pages
xu liang | tammy kong, jovian wong

blackbook 2010-11   198 x 198mm   48 pages
thomas chung | zachary wong

2019-20   198 x 198mm   68 pages
bruce lonnman | xu liang, janice leung

blackbook 2025-26   198 x 198mm   88 pages
xu liang | jovian wong, zhang xiaojun

ARCHITECTURE WITH PEOPLE

建築中大