





webs of at-tent(s)ion, studio tomas saraceno, photo by nicholas knight

Learning From Nature

The most radical shift begins with a question, a willingness to situate ourselves in conditions rather than conclusions, to inhabit the in-between, and to seek meaning not from the isolated object, but from the fabric of relationships that make it possible. As we embark on this new academic year, our guiding principle is simple, yet profound: Learning from Nature, not as metaphor, but as context, process, and a living field of negotiations.

Learning from nature is not a retreat to a “pure state”; it is an opening up, a movement toward the complexity that nature reveals at all scales, from the structure of a leaf to the cycles of a river, from the emergence of a bird’s nest to the adaptive intelligence of a city. Nature models co-existence, resilience, incompleteness, and collaboration, the very qualities our built work should aspire to.

This orientation invites us to shift perspective. Instead of seeing architecture as a set of objects imposed onto a site, we explore how architecture emerges from, rather than in spite of, the conditions that surround it. Each project becomes a conversation with landscape, microclimate, resource flows, local knowledge, and the social, biological, and material ecologies that orbit every act of building.

The welcoming of our first Landscape Architecture class is not only a milestone; it is an invitation for all of us to reposition the ground beneath our feet. This is a call for more porous boundaries: between disciplines, between theory and practice, between making and unmaking. We ask: What if the architect’s hand is not the master, but one of many actors? What if every intervention is also an experiment? What if the path to sustainable futures lies not in invention alone, but in the careful reading and re-reading of the site?

To learn from nature is to prototype with nature. It is to approach design as an iterative process: testing, observing, adapting, respecting uncertainty and the passage of time. Just as the forest is not static, our design studios become testing grounds for models, sketches, mock-ups, structures, and stories. Nature is a material

intelligence, bamboo bending under load, water tracing its path, wind redirecting form. By tracing these patterns, we can ask better questions and make better decisions, together.

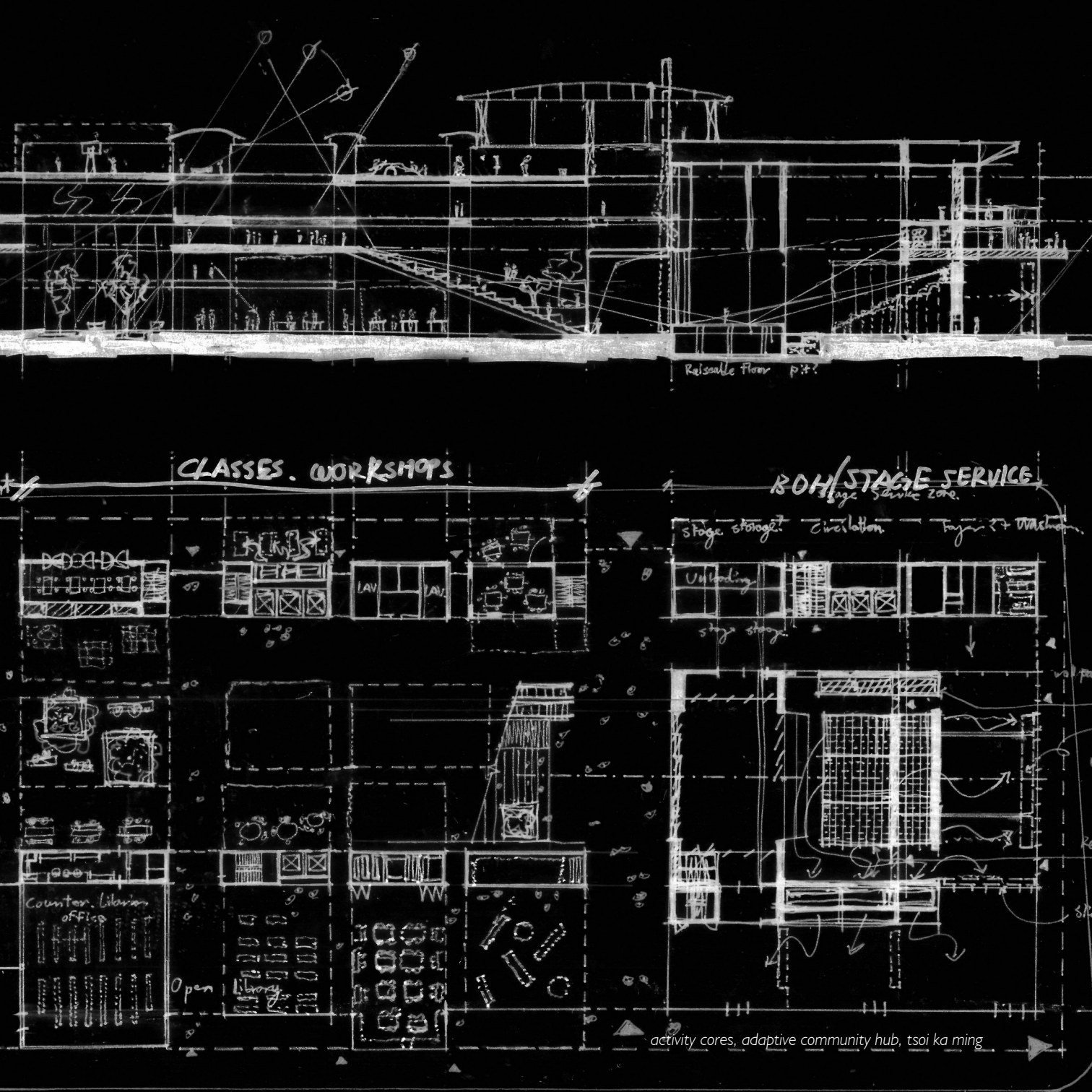
We celebrate the spirit of collective authorship. We value the workshop as much as the desk, the field as much as the screen, the hand as much as the algorithm. We are researchers, teachers, and students, but we are also facilitators, documenting the voices, histories, and aspirations that define a place. Our process values observation, participation, and contingency. We embrace ambiguity as a productive space, a place where new relationships and forms can emerge.

This year, let us focus on nature as condition. Not a backdrop, not a catalogue, but the web of systems and relationships through which design evolves. Can we make work that is generous to its environment, generative for people, for ecologies, for memory? What does it mean to build so as to leave room for changing contexts and latent possibilities? How can design become a support for other life, not an assertion of our own authorial will?

We invite you all, students, faculty, collaborators, local experts, into this laboratory of conditions. Let this school be a landscape of continuous inquiry, where we map, gather, test, and reflect together. May this year be marked not only by what we finish but also by how we slow down, listen, and learn along the way.

To learn from nature is to be adaptive, iterative, and generous. It is to design not for perfection, but for continuity, planting seeds for futures we cannot entirely predict, but hope to sustain. Let’s discover, together, what nature can teach us, if only we are attentive to the conditions that allow things and ideas to grow.

Peter W. Ferretto
School Director
School of Architecture, CUHK



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Programme Overview

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMME

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.

POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMMES

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.

MSc (LA) Landscape Architecture

The Master of Science in Landscape Architecture addresses the urgent global challenges of climate change and biodiversity loss. Our programme is founded on the principle that effective environmental solutions require a deep integration of ecological science and human dynamics. This principle redefines landscape architecture as a critical form of agency—a discipline of intervention that acts creatively and responsibly to shape resilient societies where nature and people thrive.

The programme cultivates a new generation of landscape architects: skilled designers, critical thinkers, proactive doers, and visionary leaders. Integrating design innovation with an entrepreneurial mindset, the programme empowers students to create sustainable solutions, drive climate action, and launch new initiatives in the emerging green economy. Graduates are prepared for diverse careers in landscape architecture, ecological consultancy, urban planning, and green entrepreneurship.

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 Master of Science in Urban Design programme 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-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.

JOINT PROGRAMMES

BSSc URSP Urban Studies

The Bachelor of Social Science (Urban Studies)—BSSc URSP—explores global urbanisation, urbanism, and the complexities of our rapidly evolving urban world. Jointly organized by the Department of Geography and Resource Management and the School of Architecture, with input across Social Science and Arts, the programme integrates urban theory, analytical skills, and sustainable practices. Students develop expertise in concentrations such as urban planning and design, urban environment, and urban policy and governance.

CSAT Creative Sustainable Arts Technology

The Creative Sustainable Arts Technology—CSAT—Programme is a collaboration between the School of Architecture and the School of Journalism and Communication, exploring technology-enabled creative productions in physical and virtual space, across architecture, arts, design and media. Open to students of all majors, the curriculum offers a thematic progression from foundational concepts to hands-on practice, culminating into individual and collective student-led creative projects.

Curriculum

	Studio	Humanities	Technology
BSSc(AS) 1	arch 1001 Condition Introduction to Architecture	arch 1003 Visual Studies	
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
BSSc(AS) 3	arch 3113 Materialise Architectural Design Studio I arch 3114 Adapt Architectural Design Studio II	arch 3321 Architecture and Global Culture	arch 3423 Building Technology II Building Structure arch 3424 Building Technology III Environmental Technology
BSSc(AS) 4	arch 4115 Inhabit Architectural Design Studio III arch 4116 Perform Architectural Design Studio IV		arch 4425 Building Systems Integration
total units 78	33	12	12
MArch 1	arch 5110 Advanced Architectural Design Studio I	arch 5321 Architectural Theory and Criticism	arch 5421 Advanced Building Systems I arch 5422 Advanced Building Systems II
MArch 2	arch 6210 Advanced Architectural Design Studio II	arch 5721 Urban History and Theory	
total units 52	25	6	6

Computation	Practice	Urban & Sustainable	Electives and Faculty Package
			Students elect two non-architecture courses from the Social Science Faculty Package.
arch 2222 Digital Media			
		arch 3721 Land and City	
	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
	3	3	3
arch 5221 Architecture with Artificial Intelligence			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 6521 Professional Practice and Management		
	3	3	9

Calendar

2026-27 Term 1

week	event	date
1	First teaching day	07.09 M
2		14.09 M
3	Day following Mid-Autumn Festival	21.09 M 26.09 Sa
4	National Day	28.09 M 01.10 Th
5		05.10 M
6		12.10 M
7	Day following Chung Yeung Festival	19.10 M
8		26.10 M
9	MArch Collective Exhibition	02.11 M 03.11 Tu
10		09.11 M
11		16.11 M
12		23.11 M
13	BSSc Final Review BSSc Super Review	30.11 M 01.12 Tu 04.12 Fr
15	MSc (LA) 1 & MSc (UD) 1 Final Review MArch Concept Review MSc (UD) 2 Final Thesis Review	07.12 M 08.12 Tu 11.12 Fr

2026-27 Term 2

week	event	date
1	First teaching day	11.01 M
2		18.01 M
3		25.01 M
4	Lunar New Year holiday begins	01.02 M 07.02 Su
5	Lunar New Year holiday ends	08.02 M 11.02 Th
6		15.02 M
7		22.02 M
8		29.02 M
9	BSSc Reading week begins BSSc Reading week ends	08.03 M 13.03 Sa
10		15.03 M
11	Easter holiday begins	22.03 M 26.03 F
12	Easter holiday ends	29.03 M
13	Ching Ming Festival	05.04 M
14		12.04 M
15	BSSc Final Review BSSc Super Review	19.04 M 20.04 Tu 23.04 Fr
16	Labour Day	26.04 M 01.05 Sa
17	MSc (LA) 1 & MSc(UD) 1 Final Review	03.05 M
18	MArch Final Review MArch Super Review	10.05 M 14.05 Fr

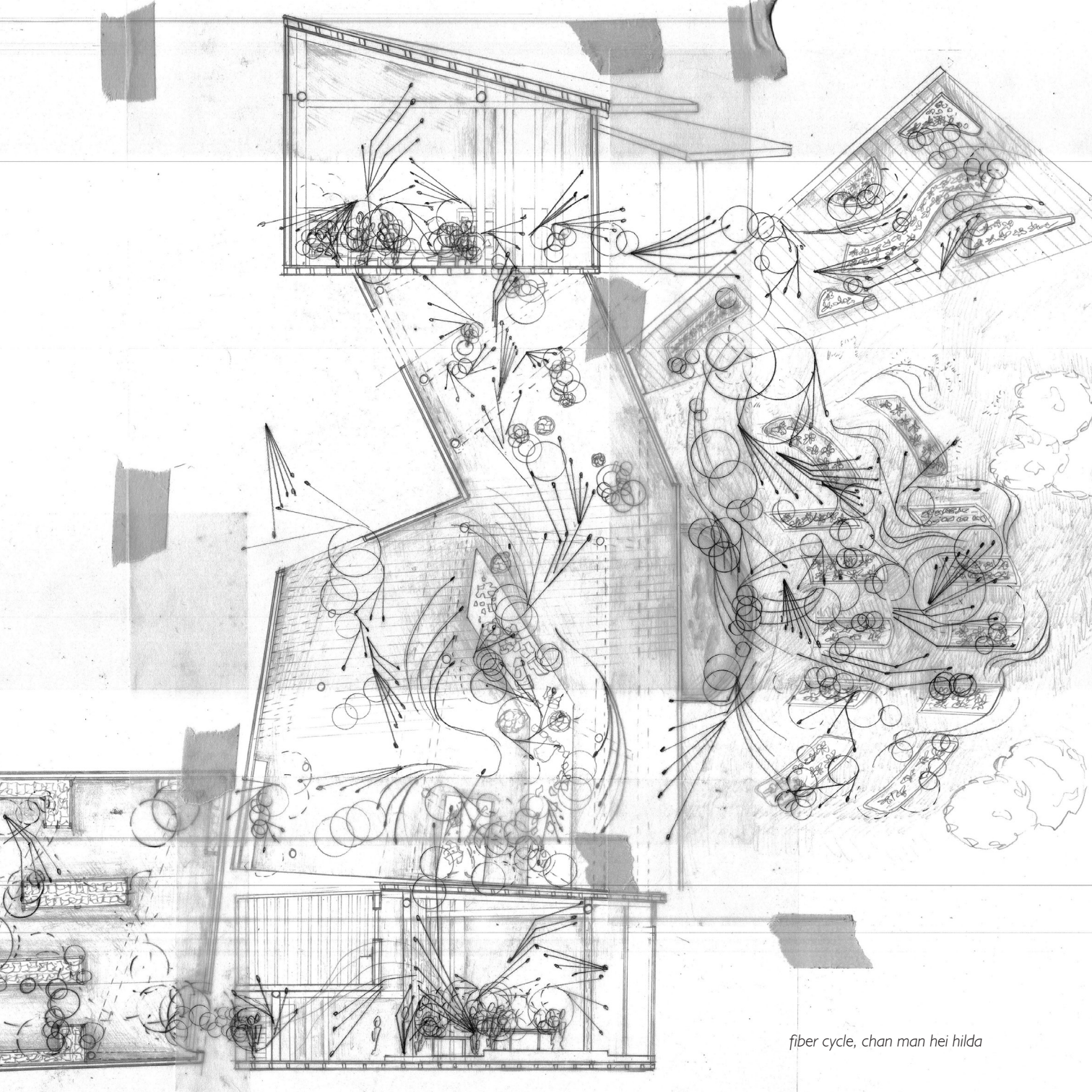


ARCHITECTURE AS VERB

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 (AS) design studios position 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, materialise, adapt, 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 (AS) Programme Director



Introduction to Architecture
arch 1001 t2

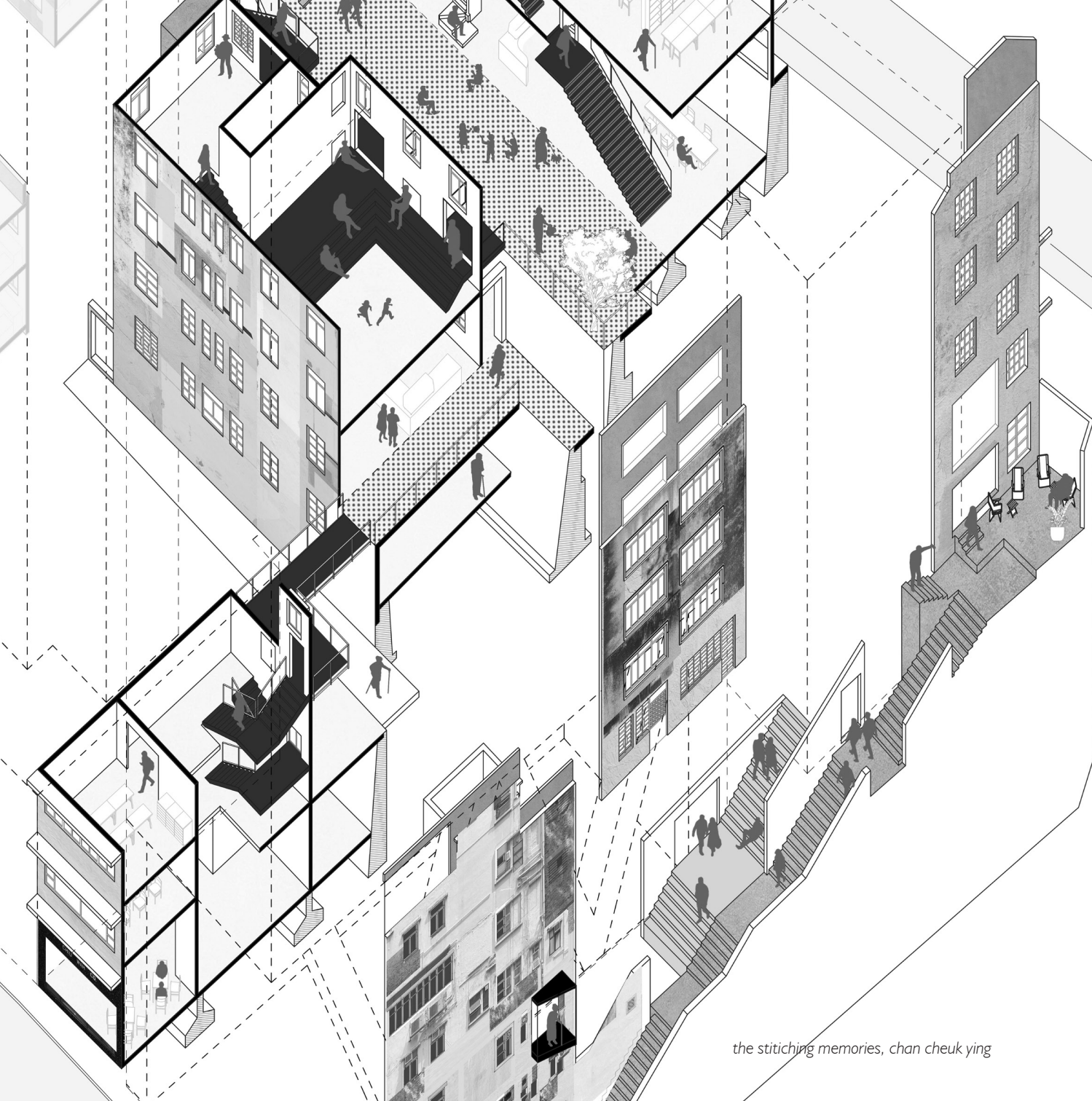
fiber cycle, chan man hei hilda

Studio 0 _ Condition

To study architecture is to enter a condition: a state of readiness, a set of dispositions, a way of seeing and acting in the world. This foundational studio—Condition—prepares you for the six “architecture as verb” studios that follow in Years 2, 3, and 4 of the BSSc(AS) programme. It does not teach you what architecture is; it conditions you to think, work, and question as an architect. Conditioning is not passive training. It is the deliberate cultivation of habits of observation, of analysis, of making, of reflection. This foundational studio introduces architecture not as a collection of static objects or fixed forms, but as a doing word—an active, dynamic process of inquiry and transformation.

The course operates on the conviction that architectural thinking occurs through disciplined acts of representation: drawing and model-making are not passive recordings but active, generative tools that make architecture “thinkable.” Over twelve weeks, students move through six sequential modes of architectural action: Measure, Prototype, Materialise, Adapt, Inhabit, and Perform. The course establishes foundational competencies in orthographic drawing, physical model-making, analogue collage, and conceptual synthesis—all while developing an awareness of building technology, structural logic, and material behaviour. The course culminates in a Pavilion project that synthesises all six verbs—a first architectural proposition that grounds subsequent years of study. Students learn that architecture is not something made for people, but something made with people: through collective imagination, responsibility, and action. This is the condition from which all architectural thinking begins.

Kelly Chow / Rina Ko / Margo Lee



the stitching memories, chan cheuk ying

REQUIRED COURSES

Visual Studies

arch 1003 Kelly Chow t2

How does an architect learn to see? This course answers that question through the disciplined act of analytical drawing. Beginning design students often assume that drawing is merely a skill for recording what is already known. In fact, drawing is a form of thinking – an analytical instrument that reveals hidden spatial, compositional, and cultural logics. Without the ability to read the visual world, a designer works in the dark. This course addresses that gap.

SSF PACKAGE

Design Thinking in Social Innovation

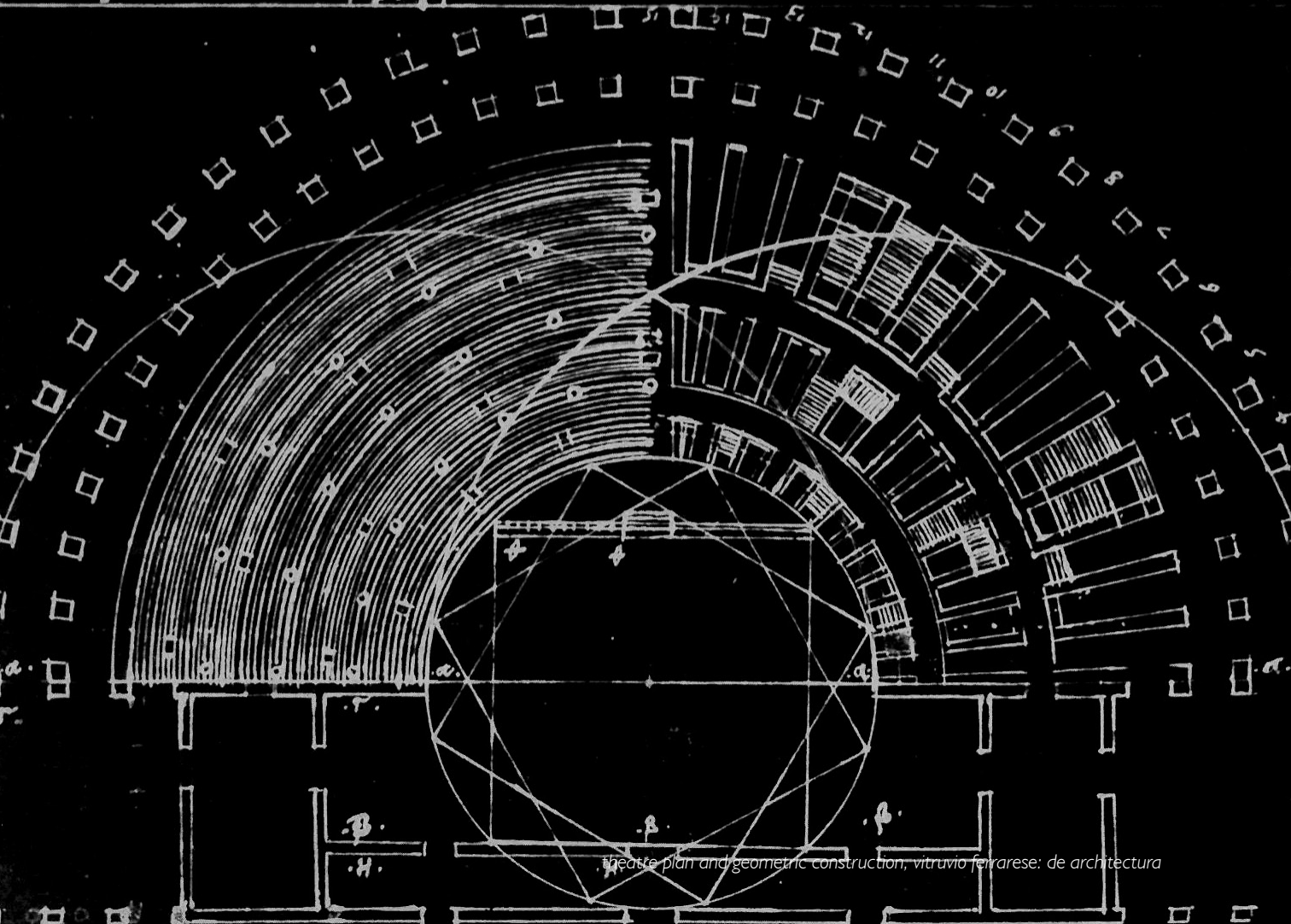
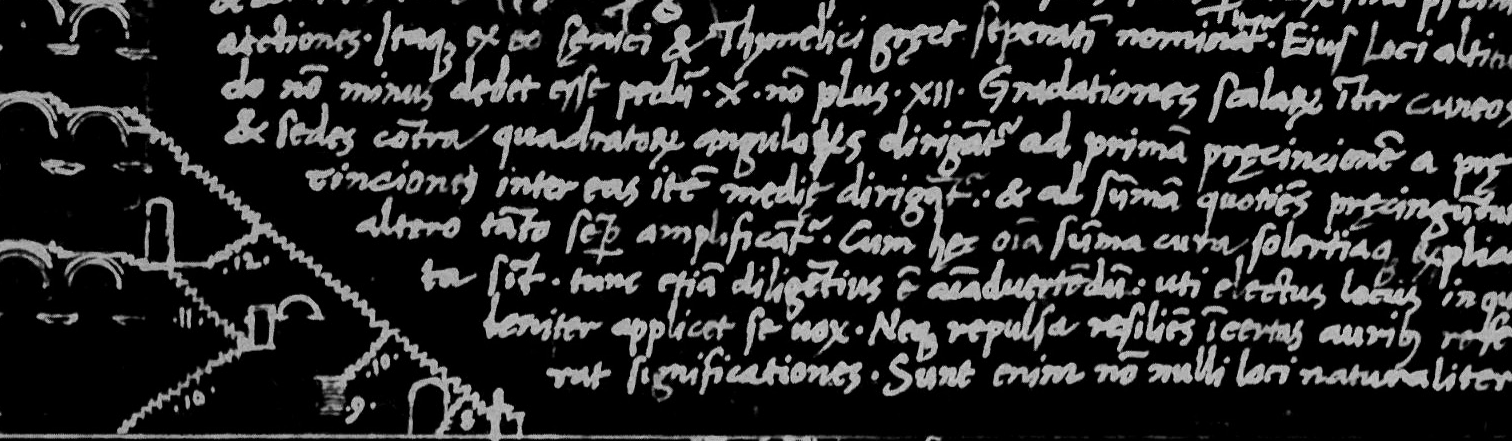
sosc 1001 Rina Ko t1

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.

Introduction to Art Tech Design and Interactivity

sosc 1003 Margo Lee t1 & t2

This introductory course explores the relationship among art, design, technology, and interactivity. Designed for students from diverse academic backgrounds, it introduces core design concepts, creative processes, and collaborative approaches for art-tech development. Through hands-on activities, sensor-based systems, and AI-assisted creation, students integrate artistic expression and user-centred design into creative craft works. This course also included field trip to local art-tech enterprises, bridging classroom learning with real-world industry applications. The course establishes a practical foundation for further studies in creative communication, interactive media, and spatial design technology.



Studio I _ 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. The two introductory design studios aim to challenge the conventional, individual-based learning approach by encouraging students within the same section to collaborate on a single project.

The first studio centres on the concept of measure, a fundamental activity that permeates our daily lives. From an early age, we observe our parents measuring our height and weight to track our growth. As we mature, we continue to rely on these measurements to choose appropriate clothing, helping us recognise subtle changes over time. These acts engage our bodies and shape our understanding of the spaces around us.

In architectural practice, measurements are equally essential, whether concerning the dimensions of a brick or the layout of a construction site. Students explore the fundamentals of architectural design through the lens of measuring the city of Hong Kong, specifically the Central area. This provides students with first-hand experiences, which deepen their understanding of the complexity of the city's spatial dynamics and build insight into the significance of each dimension and its relationship to human activities.

Pedram Ghelichi / Caroline Wuethrich / Xu Liang



fishing architecture: collective doing as performance. photo by pascal maitre

Studio 2 _ Prototype

Introduction to Architectural Design II
arch 21 / 2 t2

The architectural discipline has long perpetuated the misconception that creative agency exists exclusively during the design phase and is primarily an individual effort. This worldview reduces making and habitation to a mere aftermath of "architectural concepts," treating building use as a static activity where occupants are expected to simply conform to preplanned spaces. Categorical thinking of this kind segregates design, construction, and habitation into discrete phases—"design first, build second, then user occupation"—fundamentally underestimating architecture's creative and performative potential.

This studio challenges these assumptions by approaching the entire process of designing, building, and performing as a collective and performative practice. Here, students become active performers within the prototype, using their movements and actions as the primary generators of form. Rather than designing a form first and retrofitting a function or a performance, this studio inverts the process: performance is not an afterthought, but the engine driving every material, structural, and spatial decision from the outset. How students move through space, interact, gather, and activate the installation directly determines its physical configuration. In this inverted model, prototyping serves as a live testing ground where bodily action reshapes physical boundaries, transforming each prototype into an active experiment in how performance and form co-create one another.

Xu Liang / Pedram Ghelichi / Caroline Wuethrich



collective building in progress, studio prototype

REQUIRED COURSES

Digital Media

arch 2222 Adam Fingrut t1

This course introduces fundamental digital tools and workflows essential for contemporary architectural practice. Students develop technical literacy across measurement, modelling, fabrication, and representation through hands-on engagement with industry-standard software. Through the themes of digitization, design, and synthesis, students will develop a deeper understanding of how technology informs architectural thinking and production. Throughout, students engage with a variety of digital and physical media designed to complement their design studio work.

Cultural Contexts II

arch 2323 Pedram Ghelichi t2

This course provides the theoretical ground for the parallel design studio Prototype and explores modern architectural history and theory through the lens of craft. Craft here means a way of thinking about how architecture is made, how people work, and how materials behave, not just a technical skill. It becomes a channel to revisit key movements from the mid-nineteenth century onward in Western and East Asian contexts, reading canonical projects through making, prototypes, and construction processes rather than only finished form. This challenges students to understand architecture through processes of becoming and to explore the temporal dimensions of architecture.

Cultural Contexts I

arch 2322 Adam Jasper t1

Walter Gropius banned the study of history at the Bauhaus School in Dessau. He feared student creativity would be overwhelmed by the wealth of the past. Nonetheless, Architecture needs its history. Architectural solutions are historically reflexive: they build upon the spatial solutions of the past, the experiential memories of individuals, and the cultural memories of collectives. When we argue that this or that structure is an interesting piece of architecture, we implicitly refer to other, earlier buildings that haunt our imaginations. Engineers can optimise structures, but architects learn to work with dreams.

Building Technology I: Materials and Construction

arch 2413 Xu Liang t2

Technical knowledge of materials, construction, and structures is vital for any building endeavour. Rooted in traditional techniques and practical experience, this foundation constantly adapts to advancements in science and technology. This course inspires students to discover construction as a driving force in design, recognising that architecture's essence lies in the poetry of its assembly. By strategically expressing materials, choreographing connections, and celebrating structural logic, students learn to integrate technical expertise with creative vision—crafting sustainable, innovative, and functional spaces that profoundly transform our living environment and enrich the human experience.



Architectural Design Studio I
arch 3113 t1

sgae nw headquarters, ensamble studio, photo by iwan baan

Studio 3 _ Materialise

To materialise is to give presence to what is not immediately visible. In this studio, the verb frames architecture as a means of translating unseen forces—atmosphere, ritual, spirit, memory, and hidden order—into spatial form that can be felt, perceived, and inhabited. Materialization is not understood simply as construction or physical production, but as a movement from the immaterial to the spatial, from inner experience to shared environment.

The studio approaches design as an embodied and phenomenological process. Architecture is not measured only by form, function, or image, but by the way space acts upon the senses and the body. Le Corbusier's idea of "L'espace Indicible," or ineffable space, offers an important reference for understanding how proportion, light, material, rhythm, and silence can produce experiences beyond direct explanation. Space is therefore not only conceived intellectually, but perceived through movement, atmosphere, touch, sound, shadow, and orientation.

Materialise becomes a conceptual guide for transforming abstract ideas into spatial experiences with poetic, cultural, and spiritual depth. To materialise is to make the invisible sensible, to give form to lived experience, and to allow architecture to emerge as a meaningful encounter between body, place, and spirit.

Hiroyuki Shinohara / Adam Fingrut / Rina Ko



Architectural Design Studio II
arch 3114 t2

Studio 4 _ Adapt

To adapt is to transform what already carries social, spatial, and cultural meaning. In this studio, the verb frames architecture as a method for confronting Shanghai's inherited urban conditions, layered urban fabrics charged with memories of the past and the pressures of contemporary development, as seen in conditions such as Shikumen neighborhoods and waterfront infrastructures.

Adaptation is not simply preservation, beautification, or reuse. It is a critical negotiation between continuity and change, between local life and global capital, between public memory and curated consumption. In Shanghai, recent urban renewal projects reveal different models — and contradictions — of adaptation, including the industrial-cultural transformation of the West Bund, the commercial heritage reconstruction of Zhangyuan and Panlong Tiandi, the street-based vitality of Wukang Road and Anfu Road, and the micro-renewal of storefronts along Panyu Road.

The studio asks how architecture can resist tabula rasa redevelopment while avoiding nostalgic imitation. Rather than treating the existing city as either an obstacle to progress or an image to be consumed, Adapt challenges students to intervene in its conflicts, frictions, and unfinished histories. It guides students to transform existing urban conditions into meaningful architecture that sustains public life, memory, and everyday use while allowing new forms of collective culture to emerge.

Hiroyuki Shinohara / Adam Fingrut / Lily Zhang



re:link zero waste centre, phoon cheuk yee cherry

REQUIRED COURSES

Architecture and Global Culture

arch 332I Adam Jasper t1

This is a thematic history and theory course for advanced undergraduates. It seeks to prepare the student to take a position in contemporary debates of a global nature, debates in which architects may ultimately serve a significant role. This years theme is on environmental issues, from the scale of multi-lateral government initiatives to individual buildings. Students will encounter case studies in contemporary architecture that intelligently illustrate, or seek to mitigate, the environmental conflicts that are the topic of weekly lectures. They will also prepare an imaginary exhibition on the relationship between the environment and architecture.

Building Technology III: Environmental Technology

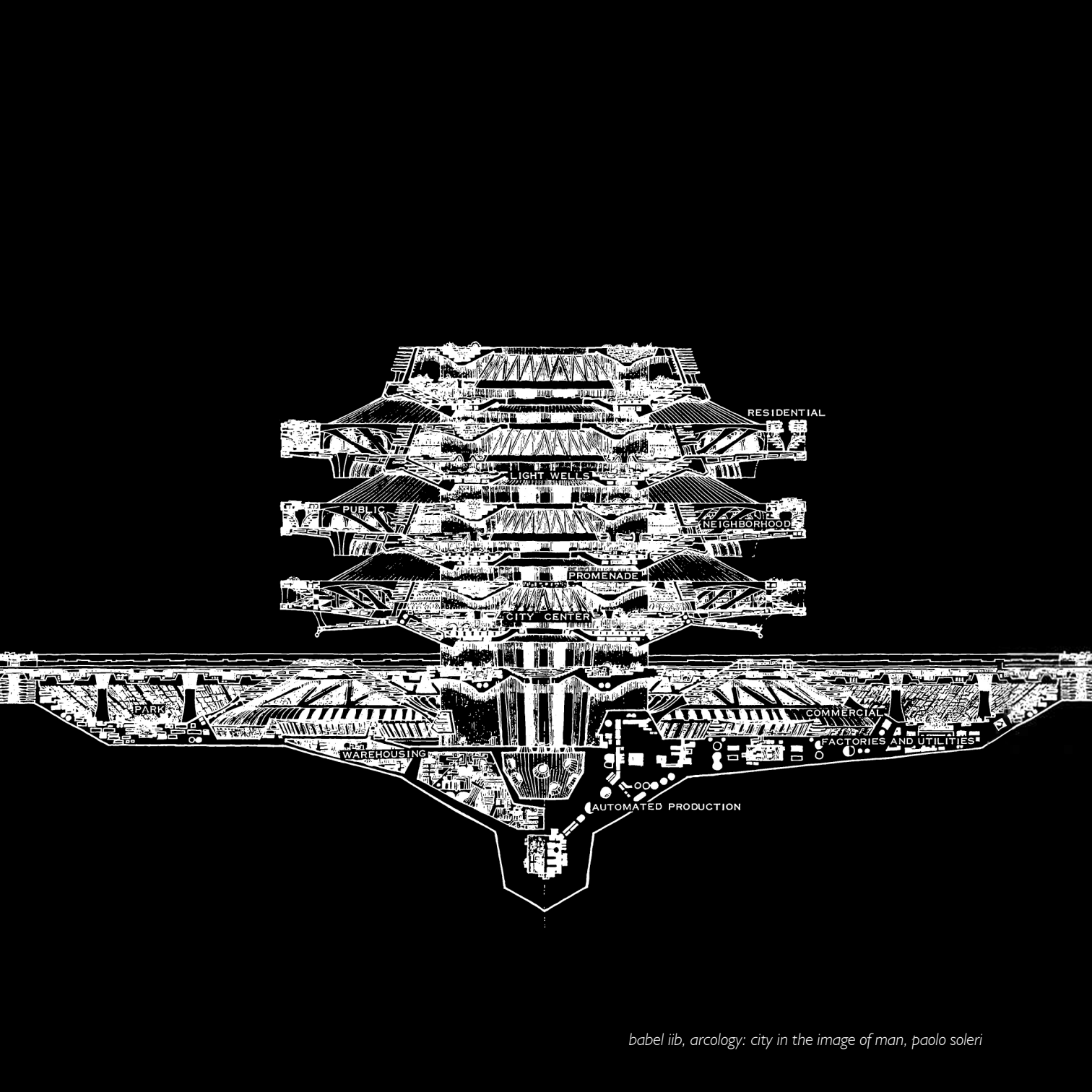
arch 3424 TBC t2

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.

Land and City

arch 372I Melody Yiu t2

The course explores the histories of architecture and urbanism through the lens of two entities: Land and City. It considers how modern planning and design practices intersect with the larger social, political, and economic forces that shape urban forms and social milieus. Through lectures, tutorials, fieldtrips, and group exercises, the course introduces students to the issues through interconnected lenses of land, environment, and urban development. With a particular focus on Hong Kong in relation to global contexts, the course helps students develop a critical perspective on the built environment and the urban challenges we face as designers today.



Architectural Design Studio III
arch 4115 tl

Studio 5 _ Inhabit

To inhabit is more than to occupy space. It is to dwell, to settle into rhythms of everyday life, to make room for memory, care, intimacy, and belonging. A house may provide shelter, but a home is made through living: through the repeated gestures of cooking, resting, gathering, waiting, grieving, celebrating. In this sense, architecture is never only a physical container; it is a frame for life as it is felt, shared, and sustained.

Inhabit begins with the dweller. It asks how architecture might emerge not from abstract form, but from the routines, relationships, and rituals that shape daily existence. Routine gives rhythm to time; home gives those rhythms place. Within the home, multiple lives overlap—sometimes quietly, sometimes in negotiation—through spaces of privacy, encounter, and care.

Inhabit asks how life shapes architecture, and how architecture, in turn, can enable more empathetic, adaptable, and socially grounded ways of living by foregrounding care, sustainability, and the everyday negotiations through which belonging is produced and shared. Through this lens, the studio reimagines alternative housing futures for Hong Kong.

Maggie Ma / Han Man / Wataru Shinji / Wang Zhenfei



Architectural Design Studio IV
arch 4116 t2

a garment factory in a urban village

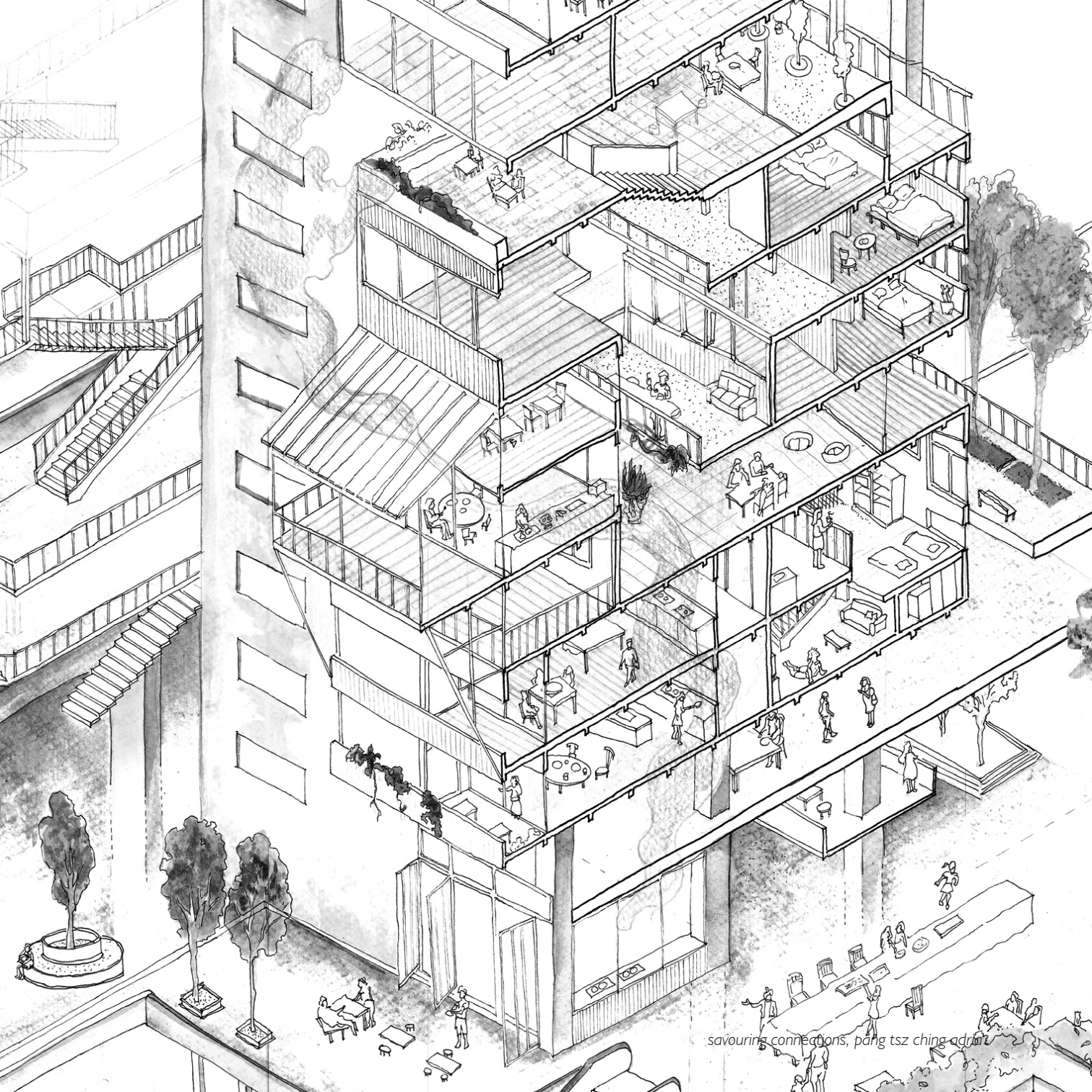
Studio 6 _ Perform

Studio 6 is the Design Thesis, the culminating studio of the BSSc programme and a decisive shift from guided exercises to independent architectural inquiry. Students no longer respond to a fixed brief; they define their own terms of engagement, identify a critical issue, and situate it within broader architectural and urban debates. The studio foregrounds authorship: framing questions, setting priorities, and making consequential design decisions that articulate a clear architectural position.

To perform is to refuse neutrality. In a world of social inequality, cultural tension, and environmental fragility, the key question is not what a building looks like, but what it does. Thesis projects are expected to act as agents that negotiate between competing conditions—economic pressures and public life, cultural inheritance and contemporary use, ecological systems and human occupation. Performance is understood as social and cultural effectiveness as much as technical optimization. A successful thesis must register, respond, and exert force within its context, translating abstract research into a multi-scalar, multi-layered architectural argument. Ultimately, the Design Thesis demands the design of a protagonist: a carefully resolved proposal that performs with clarity, intention, and conviction.

This year, students will formulate their thesis in direct relation to Fashion. Fashion is not a side issue for architecture but one of the main stages on which contemporary life is rehearsed, openly dealing with bodies, images, desire, and time. The studio treats the encounter between architecture and fashion as an open field of inquiry, a place where assumptions can be unpicked and re-stitched.

Han Man / Kelly Chow / Maggie Ma / Wataru Shinji



REQUIRED COURSES

Building Systems Integration

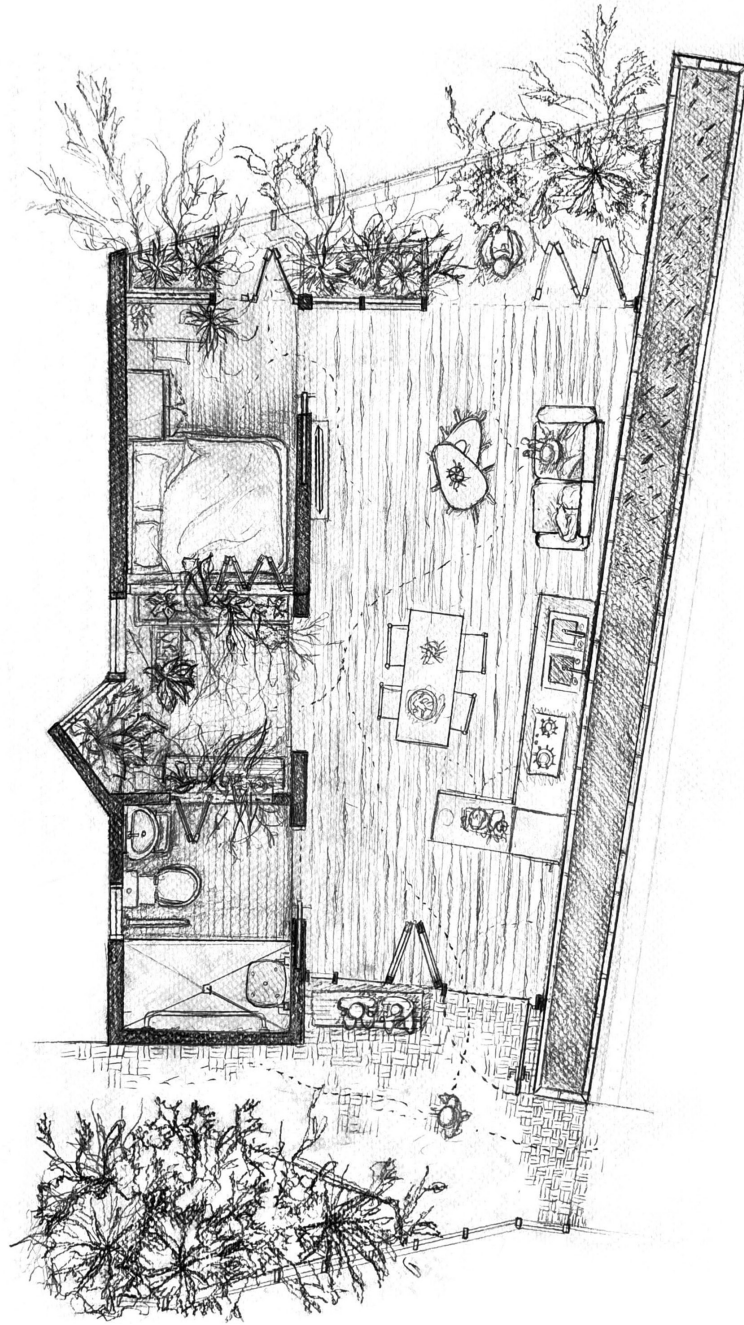
arch 4425 Kelly Chow t1

Architecture's power lies not just in form, but in the integrated orchestration of its building systems. This course bridges the gap between conceptual design and technical resolution, asserting that site, structure, envelope, services, and interiors are not constraints but generative opportunities. By reframing building technology as a design driver, students learn to articulate rigorous, performative architecture. Special emphasis is placed on leveraging Building Information Modeling (BIM) and Artificial Intelligence (AI) as diagnostic and generative tools within the architect's workflow, preparing students for the data-driven demands of contemporary practice in high-density urban contexts.

Future Practice and Sustainable Response

arch 4426 Maggie Ma t2

How would architects practice? How does architects bring changes to society? As practitioners, we should develop a critical view not only on design but also on our role as professionals and as contributors to the community. This course prepares students to practice architecture by providing basic understanding and critical reflection on the fundamental roles and values of an architect. Through the study of both traditional and alternative practices, the course is designed to inspire students to visualise future practices to understand their own responsibility and contribution to the ever-changing society.



open axis and protected axis, elderly-friendly unit, lam hui wing

ELECTIVE COURSES

Balance of Nature

arch 4131a Lily Zhang t1

What is a landscape? In particular, how can we understand the concept of open space within the dense metropolis of Hong Kong? Is it scenery or a garden? Or an open area between city and architecture? If we consider architecture as interior space, can all other outdoor spaces be landscape? What do people seek in these spaces, and what kind of quality and newness do they pursue? We aim to answer these questions by looking at how people use the various open spaces and vacant lots scattered around Hong Kong and how they can be reimaged in new ways.

From Concept to Construct

arch 4431a Wang Shuaizhong t1

This course supports student participation in the CEDD-organised pavilion design competition for the Northern Metropolis, while providing dedicated consultation for the ARCH3113 design studio. Emphasising materiality, construction methodology, and buildability, the course prepares students to translate design intent into buildable reality through systematic study of competition precedents, iterative design development, and focused technical tutorials. Students develop practical knowledge of material behaviour, joint detailing, prefabrication, and circular construction in the Hong Kong context.

Robots | Drawing | AI

arch 4231a Adam Fingrut t2

This course explores computational representation in architecture through robotic drawing. Students develop AI tools that generate geometric instructions for a 6-axis plotter, producing large-format drawings. The course questions conventional architectural representation by rebuilding drawing from computational first principles: geometry, tone, mark, and machine. Collaborating with AI, students progress from basic lines to complex 3D and topographic representations. The final project requires a generative, physically plotted drawing system accompanied by critical reflection. Assessment emphasizes process, iteration, and representational argument.

Learning from Yasmeen Lari: Zero-carbon Design-build

arch 4431b Hiroyuki Shinohara t2

This elective design-build course introduces students to low-carbon humanitarian architecture through the work of Dr. Yasmeen Lari, with a focus on natural materials for disaster recovery and community resilience. In collaboration with M+ and the Yasmeen Lari Octa Green project, students will study, model, prototype, and construct a shelter structure. The course combines research, technical drawing analysis, material experimentation, hands-on fabrication, and full-scale assembly to explore architecture as an ethical, ecological, and socially engaged practice.

Architectural Archive, Medium and Representation

arch 4331a Melody Yiu t1

This course examines architectural representation as both a technical and a cultural practice, looking at technological transformations during the late 20th century and its relation to the current turn in digital production and generative AI. Students will explore how drawings, collages, photographs, prints, and digital media reflect architectural ideas through the ways of making, and how representation changes as social and cultural conditions evolve. Through seminar discussions, direct engagement with archival material, and creative production, the course aims to equip students with a critical mindset in reading and making architectural images.

Mapping Water Adaptation: Water Networks in the Pearl River Delta

arch 4731a Cai Jiaxiu summer

The elective explores how water networks support water-based production and organise everyday life across one of China's most dynamic delta regions. Through fieldwork, cross-scale mapping, visual analysis, and stakeholder engagement in the Sangyuanwei Embankment System, students investigate water networks as living territorial infrastructures and develop critical skills in territorial analysis and design research. The course culminates in the collective production of an atlas that generates insights for delta urbanism, urban planning, and climate change.



ARCHITECTURE AS AGENCY

exhibition as collective engagement

The word agency comes from the Latin *agens*, meaning “to act.” In times of crisis, disruption, and social disparities, architecture has both the opportunity and responsibility to act, responding critically and creatively to the spatial, social, and environmental challenges of our time.

Across the MArch programme, the 12 Design Studios are organised into four thematic clusters: Civic, Ecology, Heritage, and Inhabitation. Together with the notion of agency, these themes operate as interdisciplinary lenses rather than fixed categories, providing a shared framework for exploring contemporary concerns while allowing students and tutors to develop diverse research interests, contexts, and design positions.

Through this structure, the programme aims to stimulate critical reflection and design experimentation, strengthen collaboration and exchange across studios, and encourage students to explore how architecture can act as an agent of change in shaping more inclusive, equitable, and sustainable futures.

Francesco Rossini / MArch Programme Director



intangible cultural heritage festival 2025, shunde, china

Delta Plug-ins Cai Jiaxiu

Civic, in this studio, is understood as an ongoing process of collective imagination, co-creation and social learning through which diverse actors shape shared futures. The studio investigates how architecture can operate as civic plug-ins: strategic spatial, social, and institutional catalysts connecting landscapes, heritage, infrastructures, communities, and public life across the Pearl River Delta. Using the PRD as a living laboratory, students engage in research, exhibitions, public forums, field-based collaborations, and collective actions as integral parts of the design process. Civic action and architectural form are developed in parallel through engagement with communities, governments, industries, and other stakeholders. Architecture is approached not merely as an object, but as a prototype for organizing participation, translating knowledge, and enabling territorial transformation. Through this approach, the studio explores a university-led design governance framework in which design becomes a vehicle for collective learning, knowledge exchange, and shared agency. Civic is therefore understood not as a building type, but as an evolving process through which architectural plug-ins support community development and contribute to more resilient futures across the PRD.



civic space in hsk photo by inge goudsmit

Civic Contradictions Inge Goudsmit

This studio understands the civic as an interconnected spatial ecosystem, that simultaneously includes physical institutional buildings, public places, everyday life of streets, and informal spaces of community interaction. By framing the civic as both an infrastructural network and a site of human behavior, the studio treats it as negotiated space that is never neutral. It is the active, physical manifestation of how a society organizes its collective life, negotiates its public values, and structures its shared rights.

This structural duality positions the civic as a continuous arena between top-down regulatory frameworks and bottom-up societal agency. From the top down, the civic realm is dictated by masterplans, institutional codes, statutory zoning ordinances, and administrative guidelines seeking to program, manage, and organize public life. In contrast, from the bottom up, the civic is constantly claimed, rewritten, and occupied through the routines, practices, and lived realities of its citizens.

As architects, we operate between these force fields. By investigating the friction where top-down ideas collide with bottom-up lived realities, students learn to understand how space is socially constructed.



credit: lands department, hksarg

Imagining NM2050 Joshua Lam / Leung Man Kit / Wong Kam Sing

In the Northern Metropolis (NM), how can civic spaces serve as the social condenser of urban-rural development and realise the vision of sustainable living for all? Through civic architecture, the seemingly complex and contradictory forces, from environmental, socio-cultural, economic, and most importantly spatial, are mediated, negotiated and reconciled. Civic becomes a precursor to paradigm change in conceptualising the NM, celebrating commonality and embracing difference. Civic of the NM shall await the studio to put forth our interpretation, from either becoming a social condenser (Koolhaas, 1982), as production of lived space (Lefebvre, 1991) for both urban and rural, to embracing the dynamic of spatial appropriation under the unique socio-political context of Hong Kong (Hou, 2012).

The studio conceptually serves as an agency of civicness, where views and forces of the NM are negotiated through students' thought processes, design research, and interventions. The exploration is structured under four themes, namely Civic x URI (Urban-Rural Integration), Civic x Nature, Civic x Climate, and Civic x Co-, which offer spectacles of thematic exploration on investigating critical aspects of the NM.

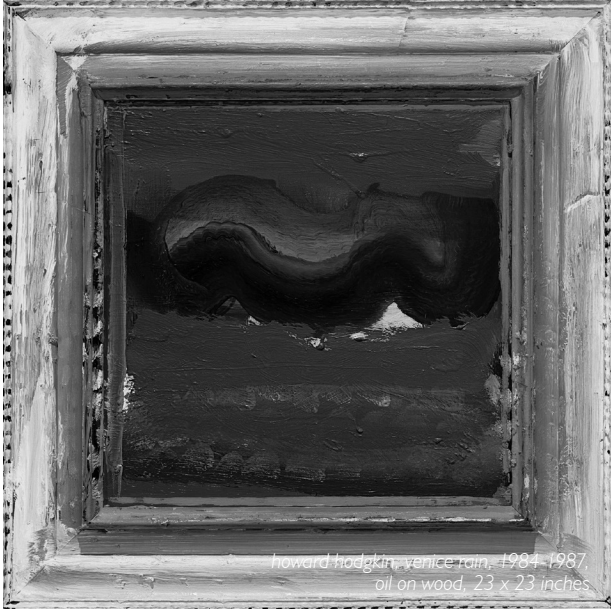
ECOLOGY



Climate-Adaptive Urban Regeneration: Anthony Cheung / He Yueyang / Alvin Kung

The studio reimagines Yau Ma Tei and Mong Kok as a hyper-dense kinetic machine—a sprawling organism where human activity, resource cycles, and multispecies life converge in an evolving territorial ecology. Disrupted by relentless urbanization, the city’s metabolism becomes our site for speculative repair. We treat the urban grid not as a static constraint, but as a complex socio-technical habitat—a “material bank” of latent potential where existing structures wait to be decoded, repurposed, and reborn. The studio extends Ecology beyond present-day conditions by exploring how future climatic and urban extremes reshape the built environment. It is experimental through speculative scenarios, yet practical through real-world constraints and implementable architectural solutions, encouraging students to transform ecological principles into architectural ideas, spatial qualities, and new ways of inhabiting high-density cities.

Collaborating with RLP Asia, our work positions ecology not only as a performance objective, but as a generator of architectural form, spatial experience, and regenerative urban living, while prioritising climate adaptation, circularity, and performance within the living city.

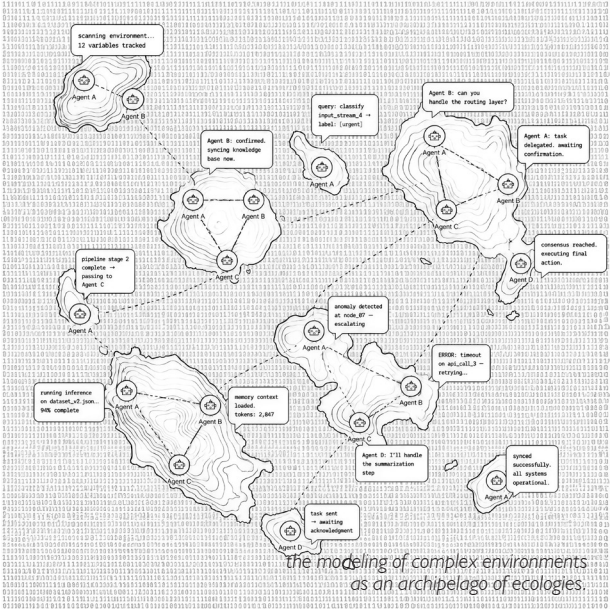


Condition: Learning From Nature Peter W. Ferretto / Condition_Lab

Ecology, derived from the Greek words oikos (home) and logos (the study of), this word forms the foundation of our cluster. At its core, it explores the relationship between living organisms and their environment, deeply connecting it to the concept of the house and the act of dwelling. This serves as the starting point for our work: understanding and fostering our symbiotic relationship with nature.

Our ultimate objective is architectural wisdom rather than a final project, cultivating a hyper-local approach that embraces risk and values the profound over the predictable. Rooted in the social and ecological provocations of Arcology (Architecture / Ecology), a concept conceived by Paolo Soleri (1919 – 2013), the studio prompts a revaluation of the human relationship with extreme nature. Taking cues from Stewart Brand’s “How Buildings Learn”, we shift our role from rigid architects to that of active agents.

The studio aims to change the way we design architecture. It is a testing ground for challenging preconceptions. By understanding how nature works, we embark on a journey to conceive new radical forms of architecture.



Megastudio 4: Archipelago of Habitats Lam Tat

Megastudio 4: Archipelago of Habitats contributes to the Ecology cluster by treating architecture as the medium through which ecological complexity becomes spatial intervention. The studio studies islands—literal or conceptual—as bounded systems shaped by climate stress, demographic change, tourism, habitat, and resource exchange. Agent-based modelling and computational workflows are used to map relations, simulate behaviours, and test scenarios, but their purpose is architectural: to generate spatial judgement, programme, organisation, and intervention. Students translate simulations into architectural propositions rather than leaving them as abstract system models. Within this shared methodology, students may define their own research topics and case studies, enabling a diversity of sites, scales, and ecological conditions. The studio therefore complements the cluster not by adding another thematic position, but by offering a distinct architectural method: one in which computation sharpens design intelligence, and ecological systems are ultimately transformed through form, space, and intervention.



geographical data, three parallel rivers of yunnan protected areas, unesco

Productive (Agri)Cultures

Chan Chi Yan / Juan Minguez / Betty Ng

Productive (Agri)Cultures mobilizes architecture's Agency as a diplomatic practice, rejecting the fiction of architecture only producing stable, autonomous objects. We will investigate the building as a dense assemblage—a Machine that actively choreographs the entanglement of cultures, ecosystems, economies, and regulations in the context of agriculture.

This year's studio was allocated to "Heritage" as its conceptual lens, in alignment with the Cluster Themes of CUHK's MArch Program 26–27. Our test site for this investigation is located in the Three Parallel Rivers, a 300-kilometre long UNESCO World Heritage Site, overlooking the Lancang River leading to the Mekong in Vietnam. The program will be a Communal Winery in Cizhong Village, Yanmen Township, Deqin County, Diqing Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Yunnan Province, where a century-old Cizhong Catholic Church blending Western Gothic and traditional Chinese, Tibetan, and Bai styles is still standing. Built in 1909 by French missionaries, the church is surrounded by vineyards originally planted to make communion wine.



structural [re]assemblage: reclaimed elements and 3d-printed joints, [s]equilibrium lab. image: gemini

Structural [Re]assemblage

Wang Shuaizhong

Structure carries more than loads. A column that once held a floor slab carries with it a tectonic memory, a material history, and a set of decisions about how weight should move through space. When the system to which it belonged dissolves, through demolition or decay, these arguments do not disappear. They become fragments.

Structural [Re]assemblage claims these fragments as an architectural inheritance. Hong Kong is dense with such discarded matter. Salvaged concrete components, reclaimed steel sections, and fallen timber shaped over decades by wind and self-weight: each is a piece of structural thinking, waiting to carry again. What is inherited is not form or provenance, but capacity that's still latent in the material.

Structural [Re]assemblage asks: what new architectures can be built from what has already been formed, by human hands or by nature? Students learn to read structural capacity in discarded materials, and to design systems that give fragments new purpose. Heritage, in this studio, is not a question of preservation but of reactivation: how what materials once carried can be mobilised to serve new lives.



van nelle factory, rotterdam. photo: wkiarquitectura

Manufacturing Legacy (in GBA)

Zhu Jingxiang

Ancient materials, historic sites, and original structural parts should be kept intact, while traditional craft, classical forms, and inherited systems are practiced, updated, and passed on, with core principles fully understood and distinctive cultural experiences delivered. This pursuit of continuity raises a core ontological question about identity amid transformation. The ancient Greek paradox of the Ship of Theseus perfectly captures this conflict between permanence and change. When every wooden plank of the ship is gradually replaced, none of the original material remains. People argue whether the renovated ship is still the same one. The puzzle deepens if another ship is rebuilt using all the discarded original timbers. This longstanding dilemma forces people to separate material succession from the wholeness of form. Could a targeted design solution within a definite scale and local context settle this philosophical puzzle?

This studio focuses on translating the old with the new. It links the evolution of manufacturing to various forms of heritage, including physical matters, craftsmanship, know-how, and collective memory, as well as intellectual principles and value exploration.



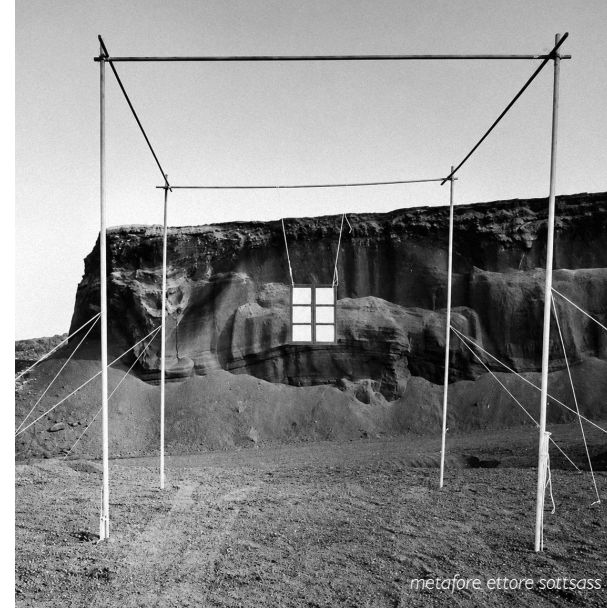
lam shui po (2023) the travel intern

Inhabiting the Public Realm: Streetscape in Urban Renewal

Simon Hsu

Inhabitation explores how people actively live in, adapt to, and claim ownership over physical spaces. It moves the conversation beyond “habitation”—the mere structural provision of housing—to focus on the social infrastructure and placemaking of residents’ daily living patterns, communal networks and shared collective memory.

This concept is intrinsically entwined with the vibrant urban streetscape, which encompasses roadways, sidewalks, street furniture, landscaping, lighting, and the facades of adjoining buildings. Faced with a chronic lack of formal public facilities in many densely populated neighborhoods in Hong Kong, the streetscape becomes the ultimate all-encompassing public realm that connects the city together. Here, street life is not merely a byproduct of foot traffic or interstitial space between buildings; it serves as the most visible, dynamic stage where the rich and messy reality of inhabitation unfolds. Local communities treat the street as a collective living room, open-air market and informally-negotiated safe space, frequently incorporating building interiors through porous street walls that blur the boundary between private and public, inside and outside, structured and spontaneous.



metafore.ettore sottsass

People / Places / Possession

Francesco Rossini

Central to human existence, the noun inhabitation derives from the Medieval Latin *inhabitātiō*, itself rooted in the verb *inhabitare* (“to dwell”). While its etymological origin evokes notions of possession (“to have” or “to hold”), it also reflects the enduring significance of housing as a source of stability and social aspiration. Yet inhabitation extends beyond the ownership or occupation of space; it describes the complex process through which individuals and communities establish relationships with places, encompassing questions of attachment, identity, and everyday life.

The studio approaches inhabitation as a dynamic process of exchange between people, buildings, and the environments they collectively inhabit. In this sense, architecture is understood not as an autonomous object but as a framework for everyday life, shaped by acts of appropriation, rituals, and evolving social practices, while simultaneously influencing the ways individuals and communities live, interact, and relate to their surroundings. Through design research and critical inquiry, students will explore how architecture can support new and alternative forms of living, belonging, and coexistence in response to the challenges and opportunities of contemporary society.



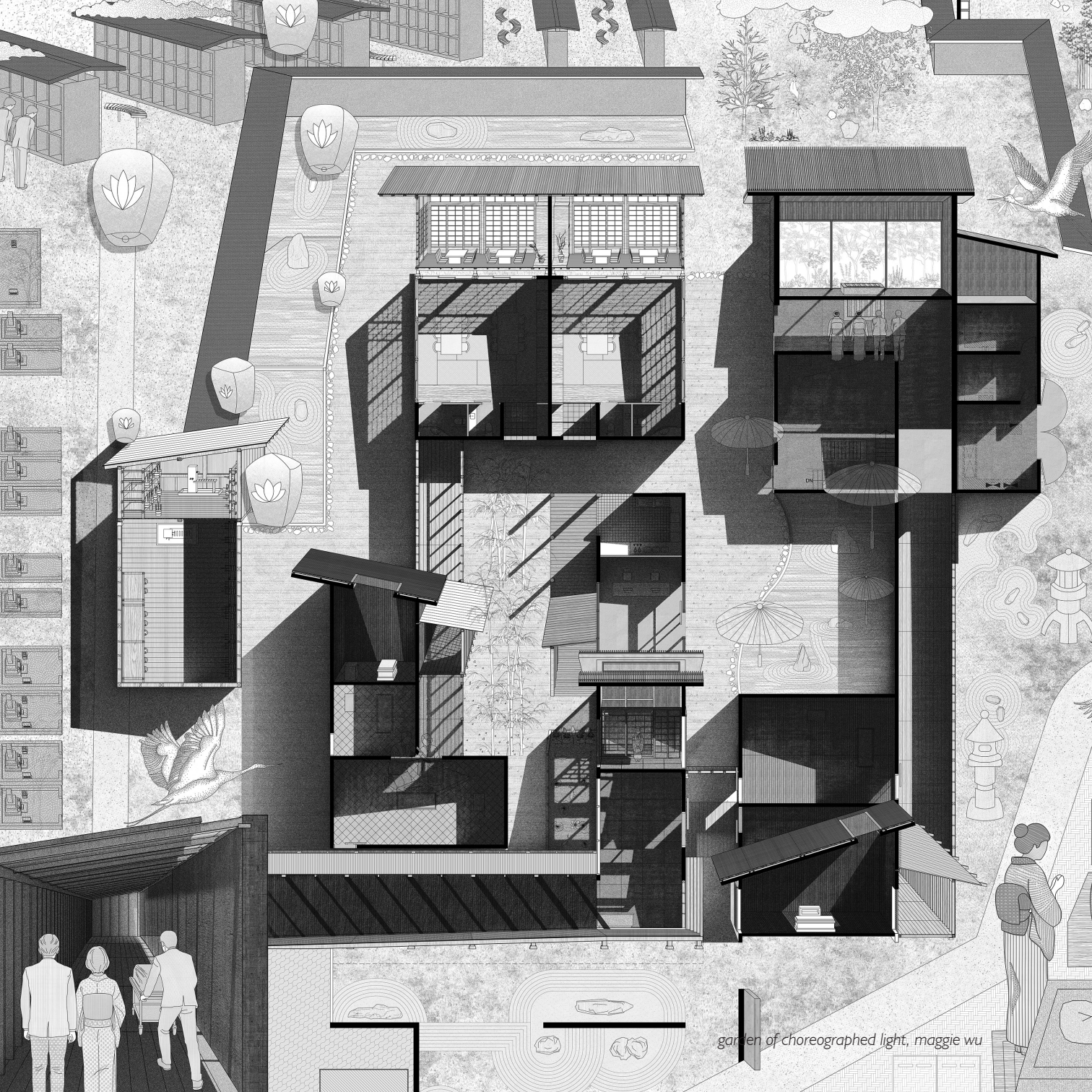
learning from nature

Workbitat: “for Living, Not for Speculation”

Nelson Tam

Through looking into the “non-speculative” housing options, this studio tries to reclaim our imagination towards Inhabitation. We are aware of the subtle yet intriguing difference between inhabitation and habitation, especially in architecture, phenomenology, and urban theory. Both derive from Latin *habitare* (“to dwell”). Inhabitation refers to the active, ongoing process of making a place one’s own (how is it different from owning a place?)—the reciprocal relationship between inhabitant and space. Habitation, by contrast, is the place for living. That process of turning a space into a place for living in is inhabitation.

Therefore, this studio discusses not only habitational terms such as housing, floor plans, functions, and flat units, but also the issues of inhabitation: movement patterns, social rituals, sensory qualities (light, acoustics, texture), sense of belonging, personalization, and appropriation of space. Through the lens of inhabitation, we reimagine the ways we live—not only places to live. We seek to reinvent the rituals, rhythms, relationships, and routines that unfold within and through spaces. Form follows from a new understanding of how life could be lived—not the other way around.



REQUIRED COURSES

Architecture with Artificial Intelligence arch 5221 Wang Zhenfei t1

Traditional architectural methods struggle with complexity and inefficiency, whereas AI-augmented design transforms the field. Through machine learning and generative models, AI enhances precision, creativity, and sustainability, generating optimized solutions beyond human intuition. It improves collaboration, reduces errors, and streamlines workflows. Real-time simulations ensure energy efficiency and structural integrity. More than a tool, AI bridges imagination and reality, learning from data to create adaptive, intelligent environments. It is essential for pushing aesthetic and functional boundaries, shaping a future where built spaces respond intelligently to human and environmental needs.

Advanced Building Systems II arch 5422 Nelson Tam / Zachary Wong t2

[Rethinking Technology as Design Agency] Building technology is inevitable in modern buildings. It transcends a mere instrumental “tool” for architectural realization. The critical selection and integration of technologies—determining what systems are available, how to employ them, why they align with design intent, and how they materialize spatial narratives—constitute fundamental acts of design articulation. Building on the Technical Workflow (A. Building Programs – B. Building Performance – C. Building Systems – D. Systems Integration – E. Architectural Design), we will delve into the complexity of these systems and their implementation, focusing on how technological synthesis shapes and elevates architecture.”

Architectural Theory and Criticism arch 5321 Adam Jasper t2

This course begins with recent architecture and works its way backwards. Each week, a different theme, usually an unresolved problem in architecture, will be raised through the use of a contemporary architectural example. We will then trace the problem back through history, through architectural movements, and through literature and film. In the process, we will encounter the –isms of architecture, from brutalism to metabolism, from high modernism to post-modernism, and see how they encounter fields like housing, civic architecture, or the problem of the city. We will see how the frameworks of each “–ism” shape the ways that problems are faced, but not necessarily solved.

Urban History and Theory arch 5721 Han Man t1

This course explores the histories of urbanism and the competing forces that shape city design and their social environments. Students will be introduced to seminal urban theories and recent discourses in architecture, planning, landscape architecture, and urban design to analyze various urban processes and their impacts on local communities. Discussion throughout the course will engage with questions related to contemporary urbanization and consider how historical knowledge can impart a better understanding of the challenges that we face in today's globalized context.

Advanced Building Systems I arch 5421 Nelson Tam / Zachary Wong t1

[Rethinking Performance as Design Agency] The course introduces Building Performance and Building Requirements, and how the fulfilment shapes systems selection. Students will explore spectrum of responses, from passive strategies to high-performance technological solutions, while treating compliance as a guiding framework than constraint. The main aim is to show that choosing and integrating building systems is a fundamental architectural decision. By establishing a Technical Workflow in choosing and integrating building system, it serves as the foundation for Term 2 design and use it as a guiding reference for an innovative, responsible and architecturally meaningful design.

Professional Practice and Management arch 6521 Hubert Un t1

This course prepares final-year architecture students for professional practice in Hong Kong by bridging academic study with real-world requirements. It introduces key regulatory frameworks, including planning controls, land leases, and building regulations, alongside the architect's professional roles, contractual responsibilities, and procurement processes. Emphasis is placed on ethical practice, sustainability, and accountability to clients, users, and the public. Through lectures, guest practitioners, and applied assignments, students develop practical skills in interpreting regulations and integrating them into design. The course also explores career pathways within and beyond architecture, supporting students' transition into professional and interdisciplinary contexts.

ELECTIVE COURSES

Plan Matters: The Poetry of Order

arch 5131a Nelson Tam t1

This course investigates strategies of spatial organization in contemporary architecture through the lens of the floor plan. Le Corbusier’s proclamation that “the Plan is the generator” anchors our inquiry, establishing plans as primary sites of architectural invention rather than mere documentation. Through systematic analysis of a curated collection of plans, we examine the graphic expression of spatial organization, the relationship between organizational strategies and spatial quality, and the interplay between spatial ordering and other architectural considerationsóstructure, enclosure, program, material expression. The plan is a drawing. And it is also a world.

Visual Narrative and Methods

arch 5131b Xu Liang t1

In an era of ubiquitous digital media, architectural photography is rarely a passive, neutral recording of the built environment. This course challenges the conventional view of photography as mere documentation, repositioning it as an active instrument of design inquiry and qualitative research. Students will investigate how the subjective acts of framing, selecting, and sequencing images actively construct architectural meaning. By treating the camera lens as a critical tool, the course exposes how visual media shape spatial cognition, public perception, and the dissemination of architectural theory.

Ground Zero: AI Sandbox

arch 5231a Adeline Chan t2

AI can generate a floor plan within seconds—the real question is which idea deserves your judgment, your taste, and your time. This elective is about getting fast and getting good at the part of design that comes before the final answer: generating, testing, breaking, and rebuilding concepts. Think of it less like a studio crit and more like a sandbox you get to make a mess in—on purpose, every week. Stepping into rotating roles as developers, engineers, and users, you’ll chase new AI workflows, build custom agents, and discover where machine speed ends and human vision begins.

Geopolitical Urbanization and Development Practices

arch 5731a Lam Tat t2

This course examines the urbanization strategies, political frameworks, and finance systems underpinning megaregional development in Africa. It operates across three interwoven levels—ideology (post-critical urbanism beyond modernist utopia and postmodern critique), know-how (PPP, sovereign strategy, programme design, impact measurement), and finance (development, sovereign, impact, Islamic, and programmable capital). Students develop a concession-zone proposal for the Hargeisa–Berbera corridor (Somaliland), braiding ideology, instrument, and capital into one coherent strategic deliverable.

The Public Plot

arch 5731b Inge Goudsmit t2

Do public buildings produce public life? This course investigates the public plots surrounding civic buildings in Hong Kong and examines how these spaces connect architecture to everyday urban life. Through eight collective site visits and auxiliary observations, mapping, photography, and architectural documentation, we will explore how public plots are used, occupied, accessed, and experienced. Focusing on the relationship between civic institutions, their surrounding urban context, and public activity, the course develops a comparative understanding of how public architecture engages with the city beyond the building itself.

Inhabiting Density - MIAW 2.0

arch 5731c Francesco Rossini summer

Housing is one of the most urgent challenges facing contemporary cities. Although Milan and Hong Kong represent profoundly different urban conditions, both are experiencing increasing pressure on housing affordability and a growing need to reconsider the relationship between private dwelling, collective space, and the city. Organised as an intensive design workshop, the elective brings together students from The Chinese University of Hong Kong and the Politecnico di Milano, using cross-cultural collaboration as an active part of the learning process. Students will explore new models of accessible, collective, and sustainable urban living.

Archiving Hong Kong’s Modern Architectural Heritage

arch 5331a Han Man summer

This course investigates Hong Kong’s post-war modern architectural heritage as a living, endangered archive. Students learn to identify significant yet vulnerable buildings and sites, and to document them through fieldwork, photography, drawing, digital modeling, and archival research. Working in teams, they build focused archives and curate a small exhibition, accompanied by a critical essay that situates each case within broader histories of Hong Kong’s urban development, conservation debates, and sustainability concerns. The course equips M.Arch students with analytical, representational, and collaborative skills that support heritage-aware architectural practice and informed adaptive reuse in Hong Kong and comparable contexts.

Structuring Shade

arch 5431a Wang Shuaizhong summer

This elective course explores lightweight structures as a design response to solar control. Students begin by analysing solar geometry and environmental performance using computational tools developed by visiting scholars, identifying shading geometries driven by climatic data. They then investigate a range of lightweight structural typologies, including bending-active, tensile membrane, deployable, and foldable systems, through physical prototyping and digital modelling, selecting the system best suited to realise their shading geometry. The course culminates in the collective construction of a full-scale installation on campus, integrating AR/VR tools throughout for geometric verification and on-site design adjustment.

Extra-ordinary Arrangement of Loadbearing Components

arch 5631a Zhu Jingxiang t1

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.



LIVING LANDSCAPES: WHERE NATURE AND PEOPLE THRIVE

In a time of accelerating climate change and biodiversity loss, effective environmental solutions demand a deep integration of ecological science and human dynamics. Our approach understands landscape architecture as a critical form of agency, a practice of intervention that acts creatively and responsibly to shape resilient societies where nature and people thrive.

This approach is built on three interconnected pillars: Nature, grounding designs in local ecosystems and pioneering nature-based solutions; Ecology, championing evidence-based design through AI and data for measurable, high-performance outcomes; and People, designing with empathy to create inclusive, healthy cities. At the core of the curriculum are two year-long, interdisciplinary projects. The Hong Kong Project treats the region as a living laboratory, engaging with high-stakes territorial transformations such as the Northern Metropolis, where urban expansion, ecological conservation, rural heritage, and cross-border infrastructure meet and negotiate. The Global Project extends this inquiry to international challenges through collaboration with overseas partners.

Elva Tang / MSc (LA) Programme Director



Landscape Architecture Studio I
larc 5111 & 5112

a line made by walking, richard long

The Hong Kong Project: Thresholds

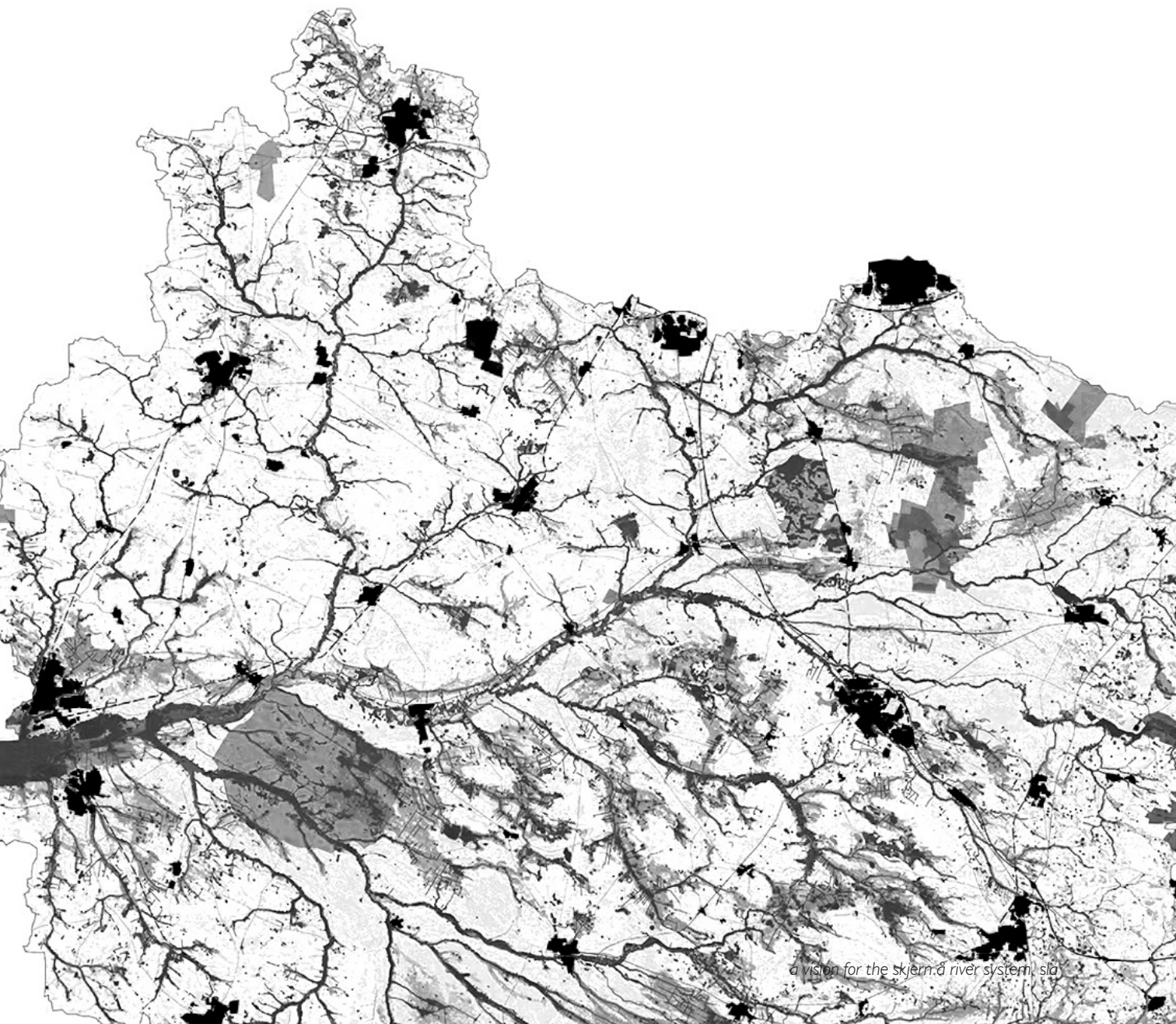
The Hong Kong Project is a three-year design research platform that treats a single, high-stakes territory, the Northern Metropolis, as a living laboratory. Each academic year introduces a progressive thematic chapter, moving through Thresholds, Flows, and Commons, layering cumulative spatial knowledge onto the same contested ground. Throughout this trajectory, the programme's three pillars of Nature, Ecology, and People remain constant, ensuring that biophysical performance and community value carry equal weight.

This year's studio focuses on where divergent landscape systems meet, negotiate, and conflict. As urban tech-hubs interface with protected wetlands, and rural heritage meets cross-border infrastructure, students treat edges and boundaries not as static lines but as active, thickened spaces where the fundamental tensions of our era become spatially legible.

Spanning a full academic year, the studio moves from territorial mapping and rapid prototyping in Term 1 toward rigorous spatial, material, and systemic resolution in Term 2, culminating in a public exhibition and an industry venture pitch. Throughout, students work across five threshold lenses of climate, ecology, metabolism, culture, and development, and engage directly with stakeholders from government agencies to local communities.

Strategic partnerships with AECOM, Napital, and SLA ground academic enquiry in the economic, political, and environmental realities of the region, situating student propositions within the real debates and decisions defining the territory's future.

Elva Tang / Rasmus Astrup / Jiali Li / Stephen Suen / Jack Wu



a vision for the skjern å river system, sla

REQUIRED COURSES

Ecology and Planting in Landscape Design

larc 5321 Stephen Suen / Elva Tang / Jack Wu t1

The course introduces ecology and planting as the conceptual and material basis of contemporary landscape architecture, treating them as a design medium through which the discipline acts on the world. Structured around five interconnected modules, it moves from the principles of ecosystems, habitats, and Nature-based Solutions, through the economics of nature and its digital futures, to ecology as a design medium and the more-than-human city. It equips students with a macro-perspective on the discipline, grounded in the specific scientific, economic, and technical knowledge that ecological design demands, and the responsibility it carries within society.

Urban and Landscape History and Theory

larc 5331 Cecilia L. Chu t1

This course explores the histories of urbanism and the competing forces that shape city design and their social environments. Students will be introduced to seminal urban theories and recent discourses in architecture, planning, landscape architecture, and urban design to analyze various urban processes and their impacts on local communities. Discussion throughout the course will engage with questions related to contemporary urbanization and consider how historical knowledge can impart a better understanding of the challenges that we face in today's globalized context.

Research Methods in Urban Design

urbd 5704 Xinyu Liu t2

Urban design demands both critical thinking and practical research skills to address complex urban challenges. This course moves beyond theoretical abstraction to ask a fundamental question: What should urban designers know, and how can research methods produce this knowledge? Structured to support future thesis and studio projects, the course focuses on translating research into design interventions. Through workshops and case studies, students will learn to combine methods effectively, address real-world urban challenges, and conduct ethically grounded research.

ELECTIVE COURSES

Topical Studies in Rural Revitalisation

larc 5232 Thomas Chung t2

This elective explores rural revitalisation as a critical design-research agenda within Hong Kong's rapidly transforming Northern Metropolis, focusing on the frontier territories such as Sha Tau Kok, Ta Kwu Ling and Kwu Tung. These areas are not simply rural remnants awaiting development, but complex socio-ecological landscapes where border conditions, village heritage, productive land, ecological value, changing mobility, and community life intersect under intensifying urban pressure. The course asks how architecture and landscape can contribute meaningfully to this moment of transition.

Environmental and Urban Economics

urbd 5702 Sylvia He t1

This course introduces the application of microeconomics in environmental and urban studies, providing analytical tools for case study, project review, policy analysis, and city management. Through this courses, students are equipped with a way of economic thinking in urban planning and policy making, preparing them to analyze environmental and urban problems based on microeconomic reasoning.

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.



URBAN DESIGN IS RE-THINKING CITIES

As the world grows more aware of the fragility of our ecosystems and human and planetary health, the need for sustainable and healthy cities has become increasingly urgent. In response, the MSc in Urban Design programme explores how to plan, design and transform high-density urban environments in the context of climate, technology and societal change.

The programme develops rigorous research and design projects that examine the economic, cultural and regulatory processes shaping cities, as well as the human interactions and experiences that constitute urban life. Students engage with theoretical and scientific literature, international and regional case studies, and advanced methods for the analysis, simulation and visualisation of urban areas. Central to the programme is an engagement with urban regeneration, challenging students to reconcile top-down planning ambitions with community needs, and to reimagine renewal strategies that align physical transformation with long-term cultural and economic vitality.

Jeroen van Ameijde / MSc (UD) Programme Director



Urban Design Studio I
urbd 5710 t1

Engaging With Communities to Understand Collaborative Structures

The city-making process is often concentrated in the hands of a few, with a developmental mindset that prioritises time and cost efficiency over people. This has resulted in a top-down view of cities like Hong Kong, celebrating grand architecture and infrastructure while everyday life is often left out, leading to weakened community ties and the misallocation of urban resources.

Studio I confronts this challenge through East Kowloon, a district at the intersection of Hong Kong's ambitious economic future and its complex industrial past, serving as a comprehensive case study in the dynamics of urban regeneration. Encompassing a deeply fragmented patchwork of urban morphologies, from the massive Kai Tak Development Area to the post-industrial grids of Kwun Tong and Kowloon Bay, alongside ageing residential enclaves, the district is the focal point of profound spatial and social restructuring driven by top-down policies like "Hong Kong 2030+."

The studio process is structured around three stages: Investigate, Strategise, and Design. It begins with immersive fieldwork and multi-scalar mapping, followed by stakeholder engagement to develop an Urban Collaborative Model, and culminates in design frameworks tested through tactical urbanism. Students will critically review constraints, engage with residents, shop owners, NGOs, and policymakers, and translate top-down planning logic into human-centric, participatory design scenarios that balance physical upgrading with social sustainability. Ultimately, the studio promotes collective action by embracing local intelligence and resilience, rethinking urban conditions through the commons to create a more inclusive and sustainable urban environment.

Jessica Cheung / Jeroen van Ameijde



Urban Design Studio II
urbd 5720 t2

yau ma tei, hong kong

Designing Urban Transformations for Cultural and Economic Vitality

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. Focusing on East Kowloon as a microcosm of Hong Kong's fragmented urban condition, the studio examines how divergent policies, zoning regimes, and socioeconomic forces create physical discontinuities that sever organic connections between neighbourhoods. Encompassing a diverse array of urban types, from the newly planned Kai Tak Development Area to the post-industrial landscapes of Kwun Tong and Kowloon Bay alongside ageing residential enclaves, the district embodies the tensions between top-down planning ambitions and local realities.

The studio proceeds through research, conceptual framework building, and design development. Students investigate the historical evolution, physical character, and social dynamics of their chosen neighbourhood, then turn to international precedents to build a repertoire of engagement and conservation strategies. Working across past, present and future timeframes, they assess existing conditions and speculate on alternative trajectories. The final proposal synthesises community, ecological, developmental, and governance considerations across multiple scales. Ultimately, the studio aims to demonstrate that preserving a district's distinctive character and social fabric need not compromise development potential, embedding heritage and social resilience within redevelopment strategies to sustain both cultural identity and economic vitality.

Eric Ho / Rick Lam / Hendrik Tieben



the living space of single mothers

REQUIRED COURSES

Environmental and Urban Economics

urbd 5702 Sylvia He t1

This course prepares students to evaluate the social, economic and environmental impacts of urban design and planning. Topics include planning policies, migration, transport, zoning, and the potential for more sustainable, just and liveable cities. Students will learn about contemporary urban economic research and data sources.

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. Students are introduced to key urban theories and contemporary discourses in architecture, planning, conservation, and urban design through case studies across different periods and locations.

Research Methods in Urban Design

urbd 5704 Liu Xinyu t2

This course develops essential research skills through theoretical foundations, methodological tools, and applied research design. Students explore frameworks including place studies and morphological analysis while mastering qualitative and quantitative methods, guiding them from formulating questions to data analysis and application.

THESIS

Urban Design Thesis

urbd 6701 Jeroen van Ameijde /
Sylvia Chan / Cheng Sifan / Liu Xinyu t1

The Urban Design Thesis course enables students to conduct independent research on a specific urban issue. Through literature review, methodology development, and case study testing, students formulate research questions and develop insights, culminating in a thesis report and oral presentation to a panel of experts.

ELECTIVE COURSES

Urban Processes

urbd 5731 Sunnie Lau t1

This course offers an introduction to urban processes including urban ideals, city forms, spatial data, urban regeneration, placemaking, and community engagement. Students learn digital tools like GIS and data mapping, gaining hands-on experience through fieldwork assignments, community workshops, and direct engagement with stakeholders.

Urban Transport Networks

urbd 5732 Daniel Pätzold t2

This course introduces the history and application of urban transportation systems and their impact on contemporary mobility patterns. Topics include urban integration, policy, transport concepts, planning aspects, and technical requirements, with visiting lecturers sharing first-hand professional knowledge.

International Workshop—Barcelona

urbd 5734a Hendrik Tieben t2

This intensive project-based workshop addresses urban fragmentation by focusing on the integration of Barcelona's C-31 highway within the surrounding area of the Besòs Delta. Students work in mixed international teams to develop design ideas that reconnect specific areas through physical, ecological and social integration.

International Workshop— The Spatial Tech Venture Lab

urbd 5734b Jessica Cheung / Sunnie Lau summer

This course bridges urban design, data science, and commercial viability, operating as a structured accelerator program. Students develop digital spatial innovations, build prototypes, and prepare funding proposals. A one-week field trip to Singapore provides benchmarking against real-world innovation ecosystems and financing models.

Environmental Design for Liveable and Healthy Cities

urbd 5735 Sunnie Lau t2

This course provides a comprehensive understanding of sustainable and environmental design through a lecture series by disciplinary experts. Students are exposed to the latest research, project examples and policy initiatives aimed at improving the economic, social and environmental sustainability of urban environments.



ADVANCING KNOWLEDGE

As the world confronts complex environmental, social, and technological transformations, advanced research in architecture and the built environment plays a vital role in shaping sustainable, equitable, and resilient futures. The MPhil–PhD programme at CUHK offers rigorous scholarly training for students seeking to develop original research that advances knowledge and informs design, policy, and practice.

The programme combines structured coursework with intensive independent research, equipping students with strong theoretical foundations, methodological expertise, and critical perspectives. Doctoral research at the School spans design research, history and theory of architecture and urbanism, sustainable environmental design, heritage conservation, and emerging technologies in the built environment.

Cecilia L. Chu / MPhil-PhD Programme Director

Samuel Kerongo Arwari
The “Public-Isation” of Urban Space: Exploring
Everyday Rituals in Oldtown Mombasa, Kenya

Marlon James Brownsword
Stories From the Backend: Regional Histories
of Cybernetics and Spatial Planning in Germany
and China, 1960–1990

Chen Jiajian
Outdoor Thermal Comfort for Healthy and
Equitable Urban Waterfronts: From Socio-
Behavioural Evidence to Adaptive Bioclimatic Design

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

Ding Yihang
Gendered (Im)mobilities: Women's Spatial
Practices and Experiences in Modern Shanghai

Miguel Esteban Alonso
Design Perceptions: The Image as an Urban
Phenomenon

Gong Yidan
Designing Medium in the Process of Urban
Commoning in the Context of Urban
Regeneration in Hong Kong and Mainland China

Hao Jiayue
Continuity Through Change: Community-
Led Adaptation of Bamboo Houses Under
Modernization

He Liang
Sustainability Under Fiscal Constraint: Analyzing
Viability–Benefit Coupling in China's Urban
Parks, Evidence From Shenzhen

He Xinyi
Microclimatic Characteristics of Green Spaces
Under Different Wind Conditions

Jiang Pu
Navigating in a Layered City: An Analysis of
Wayfinding Quality of the Hong Kong's Elevated
Walkway Networks

Jin Yuan
Water as a Contested Medium: From Early
Colonial Water Governance to the Making and
Afterlife of the Kowloon Waterworks, Hong Kong

Lam Man Yan
Agency of Architecture: Towards an Alternative
Social Architectural Practice for Community
Empowerment

Lau Hing Ching
Redefining Bim: Reviving Architecture Logic
Within a Mandared Workflow

Lee Man Ting Miriam
From Religiosity to Recreation: Regenerative
Conservation of Eco–Cultural Landscape Using
Lantau Mountain Camp as a Case Study

Lei Danyang
How Neighbourhood Shared Spaces Support
Older Adults' Recreational Activities? A Mixed-
Methods Study of Public Housing Estates in
Hong Kong Through the Lens of Recreationist–
Environment Fit

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

Li Yangzhi
Upcycling Construction Waste: A Framework
for Automation in Sustainable Construction

Liang Wanying
Revisiting Older Adults' Informal Care in High-
Density Residential Areas

Lim Kye Lee Clarissa
Spatial Practices of Collective Culture: Mapping Arts
Collectives and Urban Built Conditions in Malaysia

Lin Shuiyang
Place Attachment in Urban Renewal: A Case
Study of Nantou Walled City

Lin Zhuojun
Rural Education in Africa: Sustainable Educational
Spaces Development in Low-Resourced Areas

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 Chunfeng
Typology, Conservation, and Revitalization of
Traditional Settlements in Hong Kong: Towards
an Integrated Framework for Rural Revitalization

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

Ni Ruoning
A Making Autonomy: The Common Methods
and Challenges Behind Contemporary Self-help
Housing Practices in Rural China, a Building
Technology Perspective

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

Peng Sining
Exploring Neighborhood Open-Space Greening
Effects on Aging-in-place Older Adults' Light-
intensity and Restorative Recreation in Hong
Kong Public Housing

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

Song Qiwei
Understanding the Relationship Between
Socioeconomic Dimensions of Urban Liveability
and Neighbourhood-level Perceived Qualities:
Using Hong Kong as a Case Study Site

Wajiha Tariq
m Human Needs to Spatial Indicators: A
Computational Methodology for Liveability
Assessment in High-Density Cities

Wang Jingying
Post-Earthquake Housing Recovery With
Traditional Construction: A Case Study in Japan

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

Xu Xin
Transforming Rural Heritage in the Middle
Ground: Reframing Discourse and Practice of
Hakka Earth Architecture

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

Zhang Jing
From Popularity to Wellbeing: Using Electronic
Word of Mouth to Identify, Explain, and
Respond to Failure Patterns of Industrial
Heritage Reuse

Zhang Jingchi
Research on the Development of Community
Building of Cultural and Creative Communities
in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

Zhang Wenting
Shaping Social Performance: The Role of Place
Quality in High-Density Micro-Scale Public
Spaces

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

Zhao Hanbing
From Waste to Resource Proxy-Based Pre-
Demolition Screening for Structual Concrete
Component Reuse in High-Density Cities

Zou Keren
Towards an Active City: Understanding Active
Lifestyles Through Environmental Perception
and Running Intensity

Incoming PhD Students

Duan Yu
Hung Kwong Lau
Lin Kaiyi
Luo Qingyun
Man Haotian
Si Ruolan
Sun Weijie
Tang Shudi
Xu Xiaozhen

Research Methods I
arch 7201 Cecilia L. Chu tI

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.



building a just future, yasmeen lari, kinoshita lecture 2025

Events 2025-26

Kinoshita Lecture

Yasmeen Lari 04.02.2026
Building a Just Future

Lectures

Wendy Teo 18.09.2025
Crowd Wisdom in Placemaking

Stanley Wong 18.09.2025
Socio-climate Spaces

Caroline Desroche, Cyril Desroche 02.10.2025
Learning from Los Angeles

Wing Shya 02.10.2025
Such Sweet Sorrow of no Morrow

Anastasia Globa 02.10.2025
Multi-Sensory Simulations for
Architecture and Beyond

Michael Fong 06.10.2025
Opportunities in Shaping
Northern Metropolis

Ian Cocks 03.11.2025
Building Homes—A Chronicle of Concrete

Ena Lloret-Fritschi 20.11.2025
From Slipform to Thin Formworks
for Sustainable Construction

Karen Scrivener 06.01.2026
Realistic Strategies for
Decarbonising Construction

Bianca Maria Rinaldi 15.01.2026
Natures in the City.
Landscape Architecture for Biodiversity

Jiang Ying 22.01.2026
Place and Construction

Negin Nazarian 20.02.2026
Future of Urban Wind
Modelling and Application

Ingrid Schroder 23.03.2026
A New Avant-Garde?

Kelly Shannon 02.04.2026
Water & Forest Urbanisms:
Learning from the Mekong Delta

Seminars

Research Seminar 1:
Thinking Ecologically: Design After Nature 11.09.2025

Rural Revitalisation Symposium 2025
Contextualising Urban-Rural Integration 03.10.2025

Research Seminar 2:
Curating the Modern Past 12.09.2025

International Research Symposium 2025
New Towns in Context 07.11.2025

Research Seminar 3:
Public Forum Crafts & People 05.02.2026

Research Seminar 4:
Artificial Imagination:
AI and the Future of Design 23.02.2026

Special Roundtable:
Architectural Education
in an Age of Uncertainty 23.03.2026

Research Seminar 5:
Image Archives andBuilding Histories 26.03.2026



hk matters exhibition, sham shui po

The Architectural Competition Conference
in Hong Kong, Shenzhen, and Zürich

27.03.2026

PhD Seminar: From Resettlement to
Revitalisation: Urban Ethnography
at Mei Ho House

28.03.2026

PhD Workshop: Beyond the Blueprint:
Reimagining Urban Informality
through Ethnography

11.04.2026

Field Trips

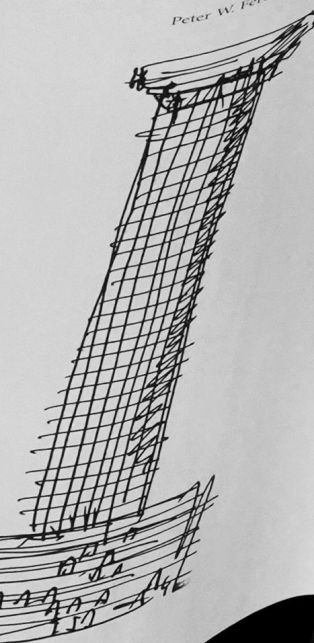
- | | |
|---------------------------------|---------|
| Yunnan, China | 10.2025 |
| Guangzhou, China | 10.2025 |
| Napoli, Italy | 10.2025 |
| Guangzhou, China | 11.2025 |
| Netherlands | 12.2025 |
| Hangzhou & Suzhou, China | 12.2025 |
| Tokyo, Japan | 12.2025 |
| Saudi Arabia | 12.2025 |
| Tokushima, Kyoto & Osaka, Japan | 01.2026 |
| Macao, China | 01.2026 |
| Guangzhou, China | 01.2026 |
| Bangkok, Thailand | 02.2026 |
| Guangzhou, China | 04.2026 |
| Osaka & Kyoto, Japan | 05.2026 |
| Foshan, China | 05.2026 |
| Netherlands | 06.2026 |
| Napoli, Italy | 07.2026 |

Exhibitions

- | | |
|---|--------------------|
| UniverSeedity – The Lightweight
Works from Prof. Zhu Jingxiang and
His Research Mates | 01.10 – 06.10.2025 |
| Architecture as Agency
Master of Architecture Exhibition | 02.12 – 09.12.2025 |
| Crafts & People by Yasmeen Lari | 05.02 – 26.02.2026 |
| 30th Master of Architecture
Graduation Show | 18.06 – 24.06.2026 |
| The Revamp of Sau Mau Ping
Road Safety Town Exhibition | 27.07 – 26.08.2026 |
| ArchSD40A Roving Exhibition | 22.08 – 28.08.2026 |

Call me Ishmael."

Peter W. Ferretto



This is the ultimate call of the outsider. This *Voice* is a collection of ideas and sounds put together by the CUHK School of Architecture. It serves as a record for all the conversations, proposals, scribbles, and notes that never grew into formal publications. *Voice* represents what is left over, forgotten, and hidden. It holds the thoughts a school creates that never see the light of day, the ideas that end up buried in a drawer or on a broken hard drive, slowly fading from our shared memory. This is also a moment to reawaken what Aldo Rossi called *L'architettura dimenticata* (forgotten architecture), an architecture that goes beyond a physical place to talk about pure ideas. Today, our voices are disappearing. As Brian Eno noted, we are surrounded by a sea of mediocrity. Because of this, the *Voice* becomes our "Minestrone" moment. It is like looking into the fridge and cooking up a soup from whatever we find; leftovers always taste better the next day. The *Voice* is a mix of things we are not forced to write or publish. In an era where everything is measured and quantified, this is our "Alan Vital"; the vital force that Henri Bergson spoke of fighting against architectural nihilism. Finally, the *Voice* represents a lesson we learned from the myth of Sisyphus: it is not the final result of the task that matters, but the attitude we choose when we perform it. Enjoy listening to our voice. We look forward to hearing yours.

VOICE 2026

This *Voice* is a collection of ideas and sounds put together by the CUHK School of Architecture. It serves as a record for all the conversations, proposals, scribbles, and notes that never grew into formal publications. *Voice* represents what is left over, forgotten, and hidden. It holds the thoughts a school creates that never see the light of day, the ideas that end up buried in a drawer or on a broken hard drive, slowly fading from our shared memory.

VOICE 2026

School of Architecture
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Obvious Things

Drawings Laid Out on the Table
A Way to Engage with Planet Earth
Curating Space-Times

Alvaro Siza
Essy Baniassad
Yasmeen Lari
Kelly Shannon
Ena Lloret-Fritschi
Maggie Ma
Patrick Hwang
Han Man
Peter W. Ferretto
Edward Ng
Cai Jiaxiu
Sun Yanyu
Hiroyuki Shinohara
Melody Yiu
Wing Shya
Stanley Wong
Xu Liang
Francesco Rossini
Cecilia L. Chu
Miguel Esteban Alonso
Victor Manuel Serrano
Ding Yihang
Sam Zhang

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Building with Less	
Ena Lloret-Fritschi	

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"Call me Ishmael!"	
Peter W. Ferretto	
"Mon plaisir!"	
Sam Zhang	
Living Above	
Xu Liang	
Listen, it is Nature	
Edward Ng	
Modelling Time	
Miguel Esteban	
Scalette Rosse	
Francesco Rossini	
Technology is Beautiful	
Hiroyuki Shinohara	
A Year of Liquid Territory	
Cai Jiaxiu, Sun Yanyu	
Cultural Montage	
Sam Zhang	
Drawings Laid Out on the Table	
Melody Yiu	
Curating Space-Times	
Cecilia L. Chu, Miguel Esteban	
Ding Yihang, Victor Manuel Serrano	



studio field trip to saudi arabia

Student Exchange 2026-27

Exchange Programme

Partner University

- Delft University of Technology (Netherlands)
- Graz University of Technology (Austria)
- National University of Singapore (Singapore)
- Polytechnic University of Milan (Italy)
- Polytechnic University of Turin (Italy)
- Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile (Chile)
- The University of Auckland (New Zealand)

University of Applied Sciences Stuttgart (Germany)

University of Westminster (UK)

University-wide Exchange

- Katholieke Universiteit Leuven
- Keio University
- University of Liverpool

Outgoing

- TBC
- TBC
- Lee Lok Man Jade
- TBC
- TBC
- TBC
- Tse Yu Sum Maisie
- Chan Man Kay Audrey
- Audrey Nadia Haditio
- Liang Pok To Bosco
- Lam Man Wai
- Ho Wei Yee Valerie

Incoming

- Hudson Cheyanne
- Steenbock Antonia Johanna
- Lim Ze Rong
- D'Agnolo Matteo
- Massa Alice
- Contreras Oyarzo Ema de los Angeles
- TBC
- Reuther Tim
- Winterhalter Junis Tom
- TBC
- Callebaut Alia Rhita
- Ishikawa Nobuki
- Ng Yui Chit Yohji
- Norek Sofia

Incoming and outgoing students to be confirmed in Term 1.



celebrating collective achievement

Awards and Scholarships 2025-26

Awards	Recipients	Year
ARCASIA Students' Design Competition 2025	Chiu Cheuk Lun	MArch 2
Clifford Chun Fai Wong Prize in Housing Design	Wu Xiaotian	MArch 2
Clifford Chun Fai Wong Prize in Housing Design—Honorable Mention	Chiu Cheuk Lun	MArch 2
CUHK CAADRIA Student Award	Chen Jiajian	PhD
CUHK CAADRIA Student Award—Commendation	Chiu Cheuk Lun	MArch 2
CUHK CAADRIA Student Award—Commendation	Tsang Kin Hei	MArch 1
School Leadership and Service Award	Kwok Chi Sum Lam Hiu Ki Yeong Carole Sum Yin	BSSc Y4 MArch 2
Southwest Jiaotong University Tianfu Construction Festival, Second Prize	Choi Ka Wai Kwok Ting Ching Lee Yi Ning Sze Hoi Ching Wong Cheuk Lam	BSSc Y3 BSSc Y2
The Society of Construction Law Hong Kong Prizes	Tsoi Ka Ming Kwok Sin Kiu	MArch 2
The National Stage of Saint-Gobain Architecture Student Contest 2026	Lau Kai Yan Carmen Fung Wing In Ingrid Liao Ho Ngai	BSSc Y4
Prof. Essy Baniassad Undergraduate Architectural Design Studio Award	Wong Yik Tung Angus	BSSc Y4
Prof. Tunney Lee Postgraduate Architectural Design Studio Award	Wu King Sze Maggie	MArch 2
School of Architecture Best Studio Design Awards Adapt	Cheung Yan Kiu Lee Chung Yin Phoon Cheuk Yee Cherry Tse Hoi Ching Xie Sum Wing Chan Man Hei Hilda Phoon Cheuk Yee Cherry Chan Nok Hang Ma Ya	BSSc Y3 BSSc Y3
Materialise		



live performance as a way to narrate

Awards

Inhabit

Perform

Scholarships

Andrew Lee King Fun Architects Ltd Exchange Scholarship

Professor Raymond Fung Scholarship

P&T Travel Scholarship

Wong Tung & Partners Scholarship

Awards (Alumni)

The Champion of the Revamp of Sau Mau Ping Road Safety Design Competition in the Professional Category

Unesco Ancient Theatre TerraViva Design Competition

Recipients

Choi Wing Kiu
Yu Hei Tung
Fung Wing In Ingrid
Pang Tsz Ching Adria
Kan Michelle Ming Sheung
Pang Tsz Ching Adria
Tsui Sze Ting
Leung Wallace
Chan Chui

Year

BSSc Y4

BSSc Y4

Recipients

Tse Hoi Ching
Fong King Ting
Shen Yumeng
Chan Ka Yi
Tsang Kin Hei
Kwok Yeuk Hung
Ng Ho Wai
Yao Xiaojian
Tsoi Ka Ming

Year

BSSc Y3

MArch 1

MArch 1

MArch 1

MArch 2

Recipients

Tai Cheuk Wai
Cho Lok Man
Yuen Wan Ching
Ling Pak Wai
Chu Ching Lam Jen
Chiu Lok Yin
Wan Hoi Wah
Tsz Wai Fu Riley
Kwan Ho Chi Ben

Year

MArch 2023

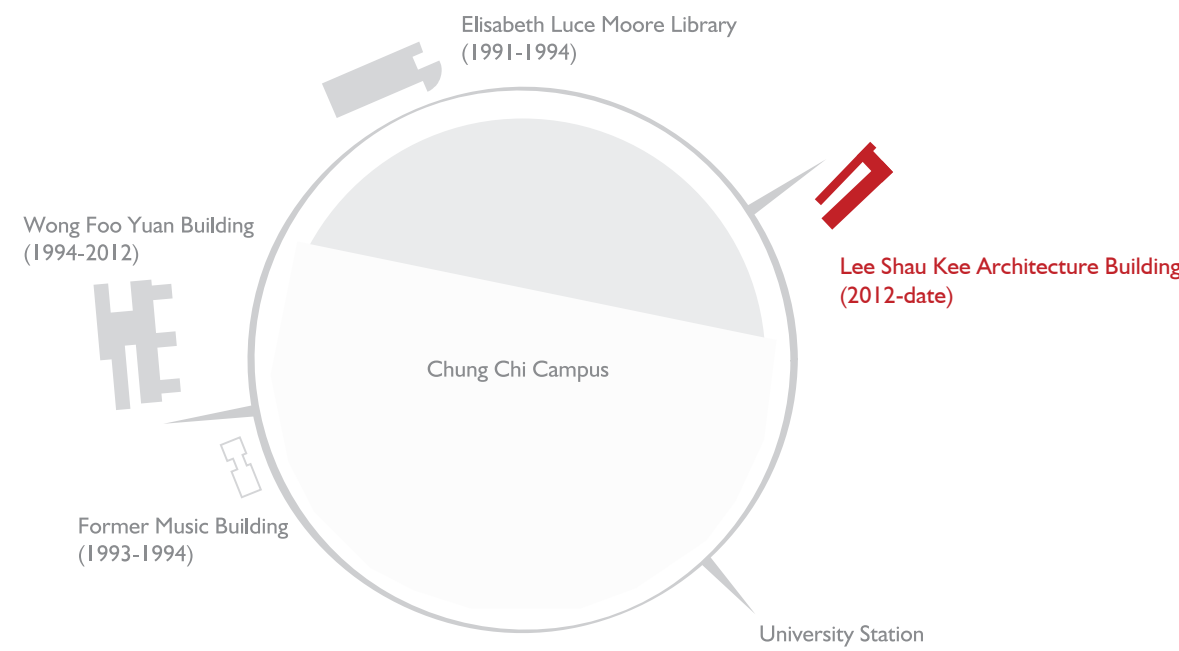
BSSc 2019

MArch 2023

PhD

BSSc 2025

Location



SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE
香港新界沙田中文大學建築學院
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text / images students and staffs
photographers chung lam chi, samson huang, lai chun kit, tang ka huen



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thomas chung | andrew yu



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



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



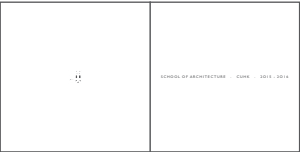
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thomas chung | andrew yu



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



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



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bruce lonnman | xu liang



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



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



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



blackbook 2020-21 198 x 198mm 60 pages
xu liang | tammy kong



blackbook 2021-22 198 x 198mm 68 pages
xu liang | tammy kong, bianca lam



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xu liang | tammy kong, rachel lai



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xu liang | tammy kong, jovian wong



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xu liang | tammy kong, jovian wong



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



blackbook 2026-27 198 x 198mm 88 pages
xu liang | jovian wong, zhang xiaojun

LEARNING FROM NATURE

