

**SYLLABUSES FOR THE DEGREE OF  
BACHELOR OF ARTS IN ARCHITECTURAL STUDIES  
[BA(ArchStud)]**

*These syllabuses are applicable to candidates admitted under the 4-year ‘2012 curriculum’ to the first year of the Bachelor of Arts in Architectural Studies in 2018-19.*

Students entering the 4-year Bachelor of Arts in Architectural Studies curriculum in the academic year 2018-19 will take a professional core of 186 credits (including 156 credits of core courses, 18 credits of Faculty Foundation courses and 12 credits of disciplinary elective courses), plus a total of 54 credits in language and Common Core courses, totalling 240 credits for the 4-year curriculum.

The syllabuses of the Bachelor of Arts in Architectural Studies shall comprise the following requirements:

**University Requirements**

54 credits of compulsory University requirements which must be completed successfully:

One 6 credit course in Core University English <sup>1</sup> ; one 6 credit course in English language enhancement; and one 6 credit course in Chinese language enhancement <sup>2</sup>	18 credits
36 credits of courses in the Common Core Curriculum, comprising at least one and not more than two courses from each Area of Inquiry with not more than 24 credits of courses being selected within one academic year except where candidates are required to make up for failed credits	36 credits

**Faculty Requirements**

18 credits of compulsory Faculty requirements which must be completed successfully:

Three 6-credit Faculty Foundation courses including  - Introduction to Landscape City Architecture - Sustainability and the Built Environment	18 credits
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<sup>1</sup> Candidates who have achieved Level 5 or above in English Language in the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination, or equivalent, are exempted from this requirement, and Core University English is optional. Those who do not take this course should take an elective course in lieu, see UG6 of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula.

<sup>2</sup> Students are required to successfully complete the 6-credit Faculty-specific Chinese language enhancement course, except for:  
 (a) Putonghua-speaking students who should take CUND9002 (Practical Chinese and Hong Kong Society) or CUND9003 (Cantonese for Non-Cantonese Speaking Students); and  
 (b) Students who have not studied Chinese language during their secondary education or who have not attained the requisite level of competence in the Chinese language to take the Chinese language enhancement course should write to the Board of the Faculty to apply to be exempted from the Chinese language requirements, and (i) take a 6-credit Cantonese or Putonghua language course offered by the School of Chinese especially for international and exchange students; OR (ii) take an elective course in lieu.

<p>and either one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Housing and Cities</li> <li>- Introduction to Building Technology</li> </ul>	
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### **Professional Core of Architectural Studies**

The Architectural Studies curriculum has five types of courses which are taught using distinct learning modes. These are: Design Studios, Architectural History and Theory, Technology, Visual Communications and Disciplinary Elective courses.

Apart from Design 1 which is 6 credits all other design studio courses are 12 credits. All other courses are 6 credit courses. All Design Studios and the majority of Architectural History and Theory, Technology, and Visual Communication courses are offered in two parts with Part I running in the first semester and Part II running in the second semester of a single academic year. This split is designed so that the knowledge and skills learnt in each course can be directly related to concurrent project work in the Design Studio course, to allow a more specific and structured approach to student learning.

The Design Studio, Architectural History and Theory, Technology, and Visual Communication courses are assessed through 100% continuous coursework assessment.

### **Architectural Design Studio Courses**

(6 credits requiring approximately 180 hours of student learning activities per course, otherwise 12 credits requiring approximately 360 hours of student learning activities per course)

Each of the studio courses is a semester course.

These courses engage students, under staff guidance and supervision, through a range of problem-based design exercises addressing core and related issues essential to the training of an architect. The studio projects provide opportunities to apply key architecture theories and concepts learned in concurrent courses.

Teaching is conducted in lectures / workshops / review sessions (24-36 contact hours for 6-credit course and 96 contact hours for 12-credit course), and involves working on projects in both group and individual formats. Work is regularly presented and discussed in critical review sessions. Site visits, data research and practical workshops are required. The courses are assessed on the portfolio of project work produced, as well as contributions to discussions and activities in the studio sessions. Assessment is by 100% continuous coursework assessment of drawings, diagrams, photos, renderings, animations, physical models, prototypes and project presentation.

ARCH1074	Design 1	(6 credits)
ARCH2074	Design 2	(12 credits)
(Pre-Requisite: ARCH1074 Design 1)		
ARCH2075	Design 3	(12 credits)

(Pre-Requisite: ARCH2074 Design 2)		
ARCH3074	Design 4	(12 credits)
(Pre-Requisite: ARCH2075 Design 3)		
ARCH3075	Design 5	(12 credits)
(Pre-Requisite: ARCH3074 Design 4)		
ARCH4074	Design 6 ( <b>Capstone Experience</b> )	(12 credits)
(Pre-Requisite: ARCH3075 Design 5)		
ARCH4075	Design 7 ( <b>Capstone Experience</b> )	(12 credits)
(Pre-Requisite: ARCH4074 Design 6)		

### **Architectural History and Theory courses**

(6 credits requiring approximately 120-180 hours of student learning activities per course)

Collectively these courses examine the theories and practice of architecture through a comparative study of the history of architectural design and urbanism, in various geographic and cultural contexts. Teaching is conducted in lectures / workshop / review sessions (24-36 contact hours per course), and the course work includes reading of critical texts, site visits, research, case studies and the preparation of assignments, essays and reports. Work is regularly presented and discussed in critical review sessions. The courses are assessed through 100% continuous coursework assessment. Continuous assessment is usually by various methods including PowerPoint presentation, reports (up to 10,000 words), short essays (1,500 – 2,000 words), quizzes, projects and/or sketch books.

ARCH2058	Architectural History and Theory 1	(6 credits)
ARCH3058	Architectural History and Theory 2	(6 credits)
ARCH3062	Architectural History and Theory 3	(6 credits)
ARCH4603	Architectural History and Theory 4	(6 credits)
ARCH4606	Architectural History and Theory 5	(6 credits)

### **Technology courses**

(6 credits requiring approximately 120-180 hours of student learning activities per course)

These courses explore issues of materials, construction, structures and environment as they relate to the built environment. Particular emphasis is placed upon overarching concepts of environmental sustainability and ecological design in all courses. The curriculum examines state-of-the-art “high” technology in combination with comparative studies of vernacular “low” technological practices of construction. Students are equipped with a global understanding of divergent technological practices found in numerous regionally specific conditions. The courses establish key technical concepts and knowledge that underpin students’ architectural design work. Much of the course relates to projects undertaken in the design studios. Teaching is conducted in lectures / workshops / review sessions (24-36 contact hours per course), and activities include site visits, case studies, practical demonstrations, detailed design exercises and the preparation of assignments and reports. The courses are assessed through 100% continuous coursework assessment. Continuous assessment is usually by various methods including homework, group work, quizzes, group projects,

assignments, integrated coursework, presentation, and individual study. The usual output mainly comprises annotated diagrams and short written descriptions (up to a total of 5,000 words for the whole course).

ARCH2056	Building Technology 1	(6 credits)
ARCH3064	Building Technology 2	(6 credits)
ARCH3065	Building Technology 3	(6 credits)
ARCH4602	Building Technology 4	(6 credits)
ARCH4605	Building Technology 5	(6 credits)

### **Visual communication**

(6 credits requiring approximately 120-180 hours of student learning activities per course)

These courses introduce students to the essential tools of design communication, and teach the fundamentals of graphic design as a means to describe space visually. Students learn freehand drawing, computer aided drafting, physical model building and 3D computer modeling. They investigate approaches and techniques to manage, manipulate, and envision information, using various computer software to link photography, drawing, and other media.

Teaching is conducted in lectures / workshops / review sessions (24-36 contact hours per course), and activities include case studies, practical exercises, demonstrations, and the preparation of assignments and reports. The courses are assessed through submitted course work. Assessment is 100% continuous coursework assessment of drawings, diagrams, photos, renderings, animations, physical models, prototypes and project presentation (up to 5,000 words for the whole course).

ARCH2055	Visual Communication 1	(6 credits)
ARCH3056	Visual Communication 2	(6 credits)
ARCH3060	Visual Communication 3	(6 credits)

### **Disciplinary Electives**

(6 credits requiring approximately 120-180 hours of student learning activities per course)

These disciplinary electives are courses offered by the professional core to fulfill the curriculum requirements as specified in the syllabuses of the BA(ArchStud) degree curriculum.

Each 6-credit elective course requires approximately 120-180 hours of student learning activities in one semester. Elective courses are assessed through a variety of modes including class presentations, case studies, reading analysis, written assignments, research papers, visual projects, and integrated coursework. Approximately 36 contact hours of instruction are required in order to achieve stated learning outcomes within the curriculum. Students shall be guided in selecting these courses. The courses are assessed through 100% continuous coursework assessment. The total written output varies among different courses (up to 5,000 words).

Disciplinary electives offer students the opportunity to gain advanced knowledge in a chosen area of study. There are five categories of elective courses available for selection by candidates:

- I: History and Theory
- II: Urbanisation and Habitation
- III: Technology and Sustainability
- IV: Digital Media and Fabrication
- V: Practice and Management

Not only will students receive specialized knowledge through lectures, they will also acquire knowledge through research methodologies, as well as interactive learning and active engagement. The themes of these courses will cover contemporary and emergent issues. Students are required to take two elective courses, one in each semester.

These disciplinary electives may be taken in either the first or the second semester in the final year, or as an optional summer semester in the third year of study.

It should be noted that not all courses would be offered every year and that new course(s) may be introduced in any year.

### **CATEGORY I: HISTORY AND THEORY**

- ARCH7160 The Modern Movement and Beyond (6 credits)
- ARCH7161 Vernacular Architecture of Asia (6 credits)
- ARCH7162 Architecture and Memory (6 credits)
- ARCH7163 Architectural Histories (6 credits)
- ARCH7164 ReBuilding Utopia: Visions of Architecture in the Post-war World (6 credits)
- ARCH7165 Modern Architecture and the Visual Realm (6 credits)
- ARCH7166 Research Seminar in Visual Cultures (6 credits)
- ARCH7167 Topics in Modernism (6 credits)
- ARCH7175 Architectural Studies Field Workshop (6 credits)
- ARCH7177 Critical Readings in Modernism (6 credits)
- ARCH7178 Buddhist Architecture (6 credits)
- ARCH7179 Architects and Politics: Exhibiting Politics (6 credits)
- ARCH7180 Topics in Architectural History and Theory (6 credits)
- ARCH7183 Topics in Architectural History, Theory and Criticism (6 credits)
- ARCH7184 Beyond the Border: Early Modernist Chinese architects in the South (6 credits)
- ARCH7269 Architecture and the city (6 credits) (cross-listed under Category II: Urbanisation and Habitation)
- ARCH7380 Republic of Excess: Korea and Contradiction (6 credits)
- ARCH7401 Real Utopias (6 credits) (cross-listed under Category II: Urbanisation and Habitation)
- ARCH7404 Japan, Architecture, Myth: Unmaking Its Form and Content (6 credits)

### **CATEGORY II: URBANISATION AND HABITATION**

- ARCH7260 Housing in Urban Development (6 credits)

- ARCH7264 Contemporary Urbanism (6 credits)
- ARCH7265 Inter Cities (6 credits)
- ARCH7266 Globalization and Resistance in Architecture (6 credits)
- ARCH7268 Urbanism Field Workshop (6 credits)
- ARCH7269 Architecture and the City (6 credits) (cross-listed under Category I: History and Theory)
- ARCH7270 The “Navel” of the Earth (6 credits)
- ARCH7271 Composed Grounds (6 credits)
- ARCH7272 Together: Communes, Collectives, and Communities - Studying Socio Political Ecologies (6 credits)
- ARCH7273 Topics in Urban/Rural Studies (6 credits)
- ARCH7274 Topics in Urban Studies (6 credits)
- ARCH7275 A Visual Diary of Paris: Observe, Read, Collect, Draw, Record (6 credits)
- ARCH7276 City Metamorphosis: Urban Residual Space (6 credits)
- ARCH7401 Real Utopias (6 credits) (cross-listed under Category I: History and Theory)
- ARCH7402 Propositions for Planetary Living-II (6 credits)

### **CATEGORY III: TECHNOLOGY AND SUSTAINABILITY**

- ARCH7360 Building Structures and Systems (6 credits)
- ARCH7361 Sustainable Building Systems (6 credits)
- ARCH7363 Materials, Services and Structure (6 credits)
- ARCH7364 Nonspace: Materials, Processes, and Constructions (6 credits)
- ARCH7365 Design Research on Architecture and the Environment (6 credits)
- ARCH7375 Design after Nature (6 credits)
- ARCH7376 Inhabitable Territories (6 credits)
- ARCH7377 Concrete Approximations (6 credits)
- ARCH7378 Topics in Architectural Technologies (6 credits)
- ARCH7379 Performative Envelopes (6 credits)
- ARCH7382 Floating Marine Laboratory (6 credits)
- ARCH7383 Deep drawing: The narrative of steel through the industrial act of making (6 credits)
- ARCH7403 Material History (6 credits)

### **CATEGORY IV: DIGITAL MEDIA AND FABRICATION**

- ARCH7460 Computer Graphics for Architects (6 credits)
- ARCH7462 Computer-aided Architectural Design Methods (CAAD Methods) (6 credits)
- ARCH7466 Parametric Structures (6 credits)
- ARCH7467 Making Ways and Ways of Making (6 credits)
- ARCH7469 Explorative Architecture Techniques (6 credits)
- ARCH7470 Architecture by Nature (6 credits)
- ARCH7471 Material Fabrications (6 credits)
- ARCH7472 Topics in Advanced Technology (6 credits)
- ARCH7474 Structural Research – Gridshells (6 credits)
- ARCH7475 Visual Practices (6 credits)

### **CATEGORY V: PRACTICE AND MANAGEMENT**

ARCH7405	Research on Participatory Design in Architecture (6 credits)	
ARCH7563	Community Building Workshop (6 credits)	
ARCH7564	Building Information Modeling in Architectural Practice (6 credits)	
ARCH7565	Introduction to Building Information Modeling and Management (6 credits)	
ARCH7566	Topics in Practice and Management I (6 credits)	
ARCH7567	Topics in Practice and Management II (6 credits)	
ARCH7568	Design Practice Field Workshop (6 credits)	

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### First Year of Study

[First Semester courses]	
- Introduction to Landscape City Architecture	(6 credits)
- Sustainability and the Built Environment	(6 credits)
- Core University English	(6 credits)
- 2 Common Core courses	(12 credits)
[Second Semester courses]	
- Design 1	(6 credits)
- Housing and Cities#	(6 credits) or
- Introduction to Building Technology#	(6 credits)
- Chinese Language Enhancement Course	(6 credits)
- 2 Common Core courses	(12 credits)

# Students shall take either one of these two elective Faculty Foundation courses.

### Second Year of Study

[First Semester courses]	
- Design 2	(12 credits)
- Visual Communication 1	(6 credits)
- Architectural History and Theory 1	(6 credits)
[Second Semester courses]	
- Design 3	(12 credits)
- Building Technology 1	(6 credits)
[First or Second Semester courses]	
- English Language Enhancement Course	(6 credits)
- 2 Common Core courses	(12 credits)

### Third Year of Study

[First Semester courses]	
- Design 4	(12 credits)

- Visual Communication 2 (6 credits)
- Architectural History and Theory 2 (6 credits)
- Building Technology 2 (6 credits)
- [Second Semester courses]
- Design 5 (12 credits)
- Visual Communication 3 (6 credits)
- Architectural History and Theory 3 (6 credits)
- Building Technology 3 (6 credits)
- [Summer Semester course]
- Optional Disciplinary Elective (6 credits)

### Final Year of Study

- [First Semester courses]
- Design 6 (**Capstone Experience**) (12 credits)
- Building Technology 5 (6 credits)
- Architectural History and Theory 4 (6 credits)
- Disciplinary Elective (6 credits)
- [Second Semester courses]
- Design 7 (**Capstone Experience**) (12 credits)
- Building Technology 4 (6 credits)
- Architectural History and Theory 5 (6 credits)
- Disciplinary Elective (6 credits)

## **Year 1**

### **Semester 1**

#### **AFFC1027 Introduction to Landscape City Architecture (6 credits)**

This course is an introduction to the understanding of landscapes, cities, and architectures. Students will be exposed to why architecture is an essential necessity for our societies as well as recognising that architecture is both an expression of programme, form and structure as well as the resolution of cultural specificities and practices. We will demonstrate and examine how architecture is presented to the public and how its practice is varied and diverse in different societies. The various geographical, landscape and urban conditions found in Hong Kong will be the playground and the source for learning, describing and debating. In addition to lectures, a series of walks, visits, and exercises will allow the students to express, demonstrate, and challenge the different propositions presented in the class.

Assessment: 100% continuous coursework assessment

**AFFC1028 Sustainability and the Built Environment (6 credits)**

The course examines the broad range of issues confronting mankind's search for a sustainable future, such as population and urbanization; transportation and logistics; technology and mobility; water; waste; energy; food; (natural) disasters; and community and governance. Through the perspective of contemporary and historical case studies students explore how people, in their visions of the future, have sought to perfect built environments as the setting for model communities.

The ideas raised in the lectures, reinforced through weekly readings and weekly tutorial sessions, are brought together at the end of the course with an intensive workshop, in which students look to define their own vision of a sustainable community. This course is intended to inspire thinking about the way we should construct our living environments in future, in order to find a sustainable balance.

Assessment: 100% continuous coursework assessment

**CAES1000 Core University English (6 credits)**

The Core University English (CUE) course aims to enhance first-year students' academic English language proficiency in the university context. CUE focuses on developing students' academic English language skills for the Common Core Curriculum. These include the language skills needed to understand and produce spoken and written academic texts, express academic ideas and concepts clearly and in a well-structured manner and search for and use academic sources of information in their writing and speaking. Four online-learning modules through the Moodle platform on academic speaking, academic grammar, academic vocabulary, citation and referencing skills and avoiding plagiarism will be offered to students to support their English learning. This course will help students to participate more effectively in their first-year university studies in English, thereby enriching their first-year experience.

Assessment: 65% continuous coursework assessment and 35% examination

**Two Common Core courses (12 credits)**

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**Year 1**

**Semester 2**

**ARCH1074 Design 1 (6 credits)**

This course serves as an introduction to the skills and concepts that are further developed in the design studio sequence. This includes the concept of architectonics, section and plan, and the basic design process involving drawing and model making. In addition the course will include a series of workshop introductions to the tools and techniques of casting, woodworking and hand drawing. The course will culminate in a final design project. The focus of the project will be the design process itself, outside of the constraints and complexity of a building program. The course will also include lectures on diverse set of figures in architecture, science and art, examining the creative

processes that enable their work. The goal of the course is to familiarize students with the principles of creative work; understanding it through methodology and execution.

Assessment: 100% continuous coursework assessment

**AFFC1200 Housing and Cities (6 credits) (optional)**

The aim of this course is to develop students' abilities to identify, describe and analyze critically the role and function of cities at different stages. In addition, students will be encouraged to correlate between city formation and various elements in urban development, particularly housing issues, in an increasingly globalized context. The course is explicitly interdisciplinary, and introduces recurrent and emerging debates about housing and the role and function of cities in the 21<sup>st</sup> century together with a parallel analysis of an increasingly complex matrix of social, political and economic issues as the pace of urbanization increases. Upon completion of the course students will have an appreciation of the complexity of urban issues in an increasingly urban world, and an appreciation of one of the major functions of cities - housing people.

Assessment: 100% Continuous coursework assessment

**AFFC1201 Introduction to Building Technology (6 credits) (optional)**

This course provides the fundamental knowledge and concepts for functional design and construction of buildings. The aim of the course is to help students to explain why the building stands up, identify the function of essential elements and components of buildings, including the materials used and their installation methods. A morphological approach will be used to explain the building elements and components. Students will learn how to read from drawings and sketches, and appreciate their practical application from site visits. Topics will cover structural elements, building envelopes and services of buildings, including the materials and methods of their installation.

Assessment: 100% continuous coursework assessment

**CARC9001 Practical Chinese for Architecture and Landscape Students (6 credits)**

The main objective of this course is to enhance the students' command of Chinese for the architecture profession through basic training in presentation skills and in specific techniques for the preparation of target-oriented letters, proposals, plans and reports. This course also aims to develop students' ability to engage in negotiations, debates as well as critical and creative thinking. In order to promote artistic and aesthetic appreciation, thematic lectures and topical workshops on Chinese calligraphic and artistic representations will be conducted. Site visits to traditional Chinese temples, gardens and museums will be organized to provide students with opportunities to gain hands-on experiences of the inner dynamics of Chinese culture. Students will be able to acquire sophisticated Chinese language skills and knowledge of Chinese culture within the context of the discipline of architecture.

Aims and Objectives

1. Demonstrate ability in using effective spoken and written language skills required for daily life communication, surveying and architecture related professions and academic studies.
2. Reflect on their language learning experience and devise strategies for further improvement
3. Have in-depth oral presentation, discussion and debating skills.
4. Have an overall understanding between language and cultural concepts.
5. Have a better awareness and sensitivity toward language usage, critical thinking and aesthetic quality.

Assessment: 50% continuous coursework assessment and 50% examination

## **Two Common Core courses (12 credits)**

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### **Year 2**

#### **Semester 1**

##### **ARCH2074 Design 2 (12 credits)**

Design 2 is the first in a two-course sequence forming a comprehensive introduction to the foundation studies of architecture, addressing the core and related issues essential to the training of an architect. The course aims to teach architectural literacy, to develop critical and analytical skills, to enhance visual, spatial and ideological sensibilities with certain emphasis on the presentation of ideas, concepts, and design both in the visual and verbal format. Field trips form an integral part of the course.

Assessment: 100% continuous coursework assessment

Pre-requisite: ARCH1074 Design 1

##### **ARCH2055 Visual Communication 1 (6 credits)**

###### **Drawing**

Visual Communication 1 relates the study of architecture to the study of representational forms and methods. Taught through lectures that introduce fundamentals of visual communication including: grid, line, perspective, movement studies, projection, and composition, the course is a preliminary immersion in the culture of visual studies. Visual Communication 1 also provides students with basic skills and techniques (in freehand drawing, 2D and 3D CAD drawing, laser cutting, model making, Illustrator and Photoshop software) which allow the students to experiment with many of the issues and ideas introduced. Students will be responsible for individual projects which exhibit their grasp of the lecture topics. [Note: Software involved will be Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign and AutoCad]

Assessment: 100% continuous coursework assessment

##### **ARCH2058 Architectural History and Theory 1 (6 credits)**

###### **Modern Architecture**

This course examines the history of modern architecture, from the apex of the Industrial Revolution to the emergence of post-modernism in the late 1960s. Students will explore modern architecture not as a cohesive or isolated product of any formal school of thought but rather as a complex and contradictory history bound by key formal, theoretical, social, cultural, technological, economic, as well as political moments in time. Throughout the course, students will touch upon two key influences in the development of modern architecture: the key material changes brought about by technology and industrialization as well as received ideas of progress stemming from the utopian legacy of the Enlightenment. This course raises major disciplinary questions, themes, and issues that will reverberate throughout the subsequent Architectural History and Theory curriculum. Content will focus primarily upon the European avant-garde, though parallel architectural developments in both North America and Asia will also be covered.

Assessment: 100% continuous coursework assessment

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## **Year 2**

### **Semester 2**

#### **ARCH2075 Design 3 (12 credits)**

Design 3 is the second in a two-course sequence forming a comprehensive introduction to the foundation studies of architecture, addressing the core and related issues essential to the training of an architect. The course aims to teach architectural literacy, to develop critical and analytical skills, to enhance visual, spatial and ideological sensibilities with certain emphasis on the presentation of ideas, concepts, and design both in the visual and verbal format. Field trips form an integral part of the course.

Assessment: 100% continuous coursework assessment

Pre-requisite: ARCH2074 Design 2

#### **ARCH2056 Building Technology 1 (6 credits) Building Principles**

This course addresses the elemental aspects of building and the fundamental principles of structure. It will present building structures in masonry, timber, concrete, steel, glass and composite and examine the constructional possibilities and limitations of these materials. Furthermore it will seek a broad based understanding of how material and constructional choices are determined by its physical site, program, culture, era and environment. The course presents the historical culture of building technology and how material, structural, construction and detail decisions influence the overall architectural project. It will be further demonstrated how the importance of well-articulated geometries and proper means of measurements in drawing and modeling are an essential and integral part of construction methods and processes. The course material will be presented through a series of lectures specific to a material and through analyses of relevant case studies.

Assessment: 100% continuous coursework assessment

## **Year 2 Semester 1 or 2 courses**

### **CAES9121 Communication Course for Architecture Students (6 credits)**

This English-in-the-Discipline course is designed to help students to respond effectively to the communication demands of their studio programmes and their future careers. The focus is on raising students' awareness of the genre of professional discourse by providing them with opportunities to enhance their linguistic range in their approach to architectural, cultural, real-estate and built environment literacy.

Activities are organised through engagement in project-based discussion and written tasks designed to simulate the English Language demands on Architectural, Surveying & Built Environment professionals.

The out-of-class learning component of the course will supplement the main aims by consolidating use of vocabulary related to architectural, real estate & built environment and further enhancing students' writing. Students will also become familiar with self-evaluation and with resources they can access to take responsibility to improve their own language skills in future.

Assessment: 100% continuous coursework assessment

## **Two Common Core courses (12 credits)**

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## **Year 3**

### **Semester 1**

#### **ARCH3074 Design 4 (12 credits)**

Design 4 is the first in a two-course sequence that focuses on architecture and its context with an emphasis on program, spatial organization and the use of digital tools to conceptualize and present design ideas. The course aims to develop both an awareness of architecture within an urban context and an ability to develop an architectural language and design process. A study of an existing area will be made paying particular attention to its architectural, social and environmental characteristics. This study, which includes basic site analysis, will form the basis of ensuing design projects, sketch designs and field studies. Field trips form an integral part of the course.

Assessment: 100% continuous coursework assessment

Pre-requisite: ARCH2075 Design 3

#### **ARCH3056 Visual Communication 2 (6 credits)** **Visual Content**

Visual Communication 2 focuses on producing visual content through digital modeling and the communication among a variety of associated digital tools for drafts, analysis, diagrams and fabrication. Based upon the knowledge in geometry and computational logic, this course will construct a series of digital and physical models alongside the design studio projects including topography models out of the information available to the public domain, parametric massing and envelop models with a high degree of precision, communicative models for visualizing information through different format of the visual content, analytical models for design evaluation feedback, and the production models from a series of computer controlled fabrication devices, including the CNC milling machine, the large-format laser cutter, and a three-dimensional printer.

Assessment: 100% continuous coursework assessment

**ARCH3058 Architectural History and Theory 2 (6 credits)**  
**Global Perspectives I**

The purpose of this course is two-fold: to introduce students to the development of major architectural ideas and a selected group of significant architectural monuments in Europe, from ancient times to the nineteenth century, and the unique aesthetic, cultural, and historical issues that frame them; and to present the main issues in the study of architecture and the various methods used to analyze and interpret buildings in various spatial and temporal contexts. Lectures and course content will emphasize key themes of cultural, economic, and political interconnectivity and their impact upon architectural production, not only within Europe, but around the world.

Assessment: 100% continuous coursework assessment

**ARCH3064 Building Technology 2 (6 credits)**  
**Building Structures**

The course aims provide students with an appreciation and understanding of the behavior of both horizontal spanning as well as vertical structures. The relationships between load carrying mechanisms and various structural and architectural forms will be explored and case studies of significant structures of these types will be discussed and analyzed in relation to architectural planning and design processes. Structural aspects of site investigation, foundations and retaining structures will also discussed within the context of relevant case studies.

Assessment: 100% continuous coursework assessment

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**Year 3**

**Semester 2**

**ARCH3075 Design 5 (12 credits)**

Design 5 is the second in a two-course sequence that focuses on architecture and its context with an emphasis on program, spatial organization and the use of digital tools to conceptualize and present design ideas. The course aims to develop both an

awareness of architecture within an urban context and an ability to develop an architectural language and design process. A study of an existing area will be made paying particular attention to its architectural, social and environmental characteristics. This study, which includes basic site analysis, will form the basis of ensuing design projects, sketch designs and field studies. Field trips form an integral part of the course.

Assessment: 100% continuous coursework assessment

Pre-requisite: ARCH3074 Design 4

**ARCH3060 Visual Communication 3 (6 credits)**  
**Animate Systems**

Visual Communication 3 examines techniques associated with forming narratives in architecture. Beginning with modeling complex spaces, the focus will be on producing images and presentation line drawings. The course will introduce the concept of digital analysis for environmental and structural systems. The final project consists of an animated series of drawings which will utilize motion studies as a tool of design and discourse. [Note: Software involved will be Rhino, Grasshopper, Vray, Keyshot, Ecotect, Photoshop, and Illustrator]

Assessment: 100% continuous coursework assessment

**ARCH3062 Architectural History and Theory 3 (6 credits)**  
**Global Perspectives II**

The purpose of this course is two-fold: to introduce students the development of major architectural ideas and a selected group of significant architectural monuments in East, South, and Southeast Asia, from ancient times to the nineteenth century, and the unique aesthetic, social-cultural, technological and historical issues that frame them; and to present the main issues in the study of architecture and the various methods used to analyze and interpret buildings in various spatial and temporal contexts. Lectures and course content will emphasize key themes of cultural, economic, and political interconnectivity and their impact upon architectural production, not only within Asia, but around the world.

Assessment: 100% continuous coursework assessment

**ARCH3065 Building Technology 3 (6 credits)**  
**Building Sustainability**

This course introduces the ideas of sustainability through the underlying ecological principle of whole systems. Ecological systems by nature are dynamic. Therefore, a critical understanding of the functioning, limitations and requirements of the system are fundamental. Lectures and projects will explore the latent potential of these different systems (whether natural or artifice) and how they effect and are affected by the built environment.

Assessment: 100% continuous coursework assessment

## Summer Semester

Students can select one course from a list of disciplinary electives offered in the summer semester. However, if students are not permitted to proceed to Year 4, they will not be eligible to take this course.

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## Year 4

### Semester 1

#### **ARCH4074 Design 6 (12 credits) (Capstone Experience)**

Design 6, a capstone experience in the BAAS program, is the first in a two-course sequence that places emphasis on the development of a design ability to organize building processes of medium complexity within a social and economic framework and in the environmental context of Hong Kong. The course culminates with an integrated design project and is assessed by an oral examination. Other design projects, measured drawings and sketch designs supplement the main coursework. Field trips form an integral part of the course.

Assessment: 100% continuous coursework assessment

Pre-requisite: ARCH3075 Design 5

#### **ARCH4603 Architectural History and Theory 4 (6 credits) The City**

This course is intended to introduce students to the scholarly study of the city, from ancient Greece to the Shenzhen Special Economic Zone. Understanding the city as a global entity shaped by dynamic and ever-changing cultural, industrial, political and social processes forms a major goal of the course. Each lecture will be devoted to the examination of several key case-studies in coordination with an important concept or methodological concern in the study of the built environment. Recognizing how these processes manifest themselves spatially, and how they impact both architectural and urban form and development over time, constitutes another major course objective. Students will be expected to complete a final research project on a topic related to a city of their own choosing.

Assessment: 100% continuous coursework assessment

#### **ARCH4605 Building Technology 5 (6 credits) Building Integration**

Building Integration examines the architecture of integrated building systems. This course introduces methods of integration and procedures for analyzing building systems in relation to specific environmental considerations, architectural design, construction, and building life-cycle operations. Students will study exemplary case studies to understand how they work as integral buildings, what went into their consideration, and what they add to the accumulated knowledge of contemporary architectural practice. Emphasis is placed on understanding how successful integration

brings all building components together in a sympathetic way - while reinforcing the synergy of the whole without sacrificing the integrity of the individual building components. Workshops, site visits, and direct engagement with local expert practitioners will form an essential part of this course. Students shall prepare analytical drawings which explore methods of building integration through appropriate selection, configuration, and combination of architectural technologies within their design studio projects.

Assessment: 100% continuous coursework assessment

### **Disciplinary Elective (6 credits)**

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## **Year 4**

### **Semester 2**

#### **ARCH4075 Design 7 (12 credits) (Capstone Experience)**

Design 7, a capstone experience in the BAAS program, is the second in a two-course sequence that places emphasis on the development of a design ability to organize building processes of medium complexity within a social and economic framework and in the environmental context of Hong Kong. The course culminates with an integrated design project and is assessed by an oral examination. Other design projects, measured drawings and sketch designs supplement the main coursework. Field trips form an integral part of the course.

Assessment: 100% continuous coursework assessment

Pre-requisite: ARCH4074 Design 6 (Capstone Experience)

#### **ARCH4602 Building Technology 4 (6 credits) Building Construction and Practice**

This course has its focus on the connection of building technology with architectural design and practices. From the perspective of technology, it covers an overview of historical buildings, modern architecture, sustainability and professional practices such as stages of work, design drawings for contract documentation and control of details through building code. Various design principles as reflected in general conceptual design and detailing are explained with various reference to local and international examples.

Assessment: 100% continuous coursework assessment

#### **ARCH4606 Architectural History and Theory 5 (6 credits) Contemporary Issues in Architecture**

This course examines key discursive issues that impact architecture and the built environment today. Emphasis will be placed on understanding contemporary challenges in architectural practice and theory and their origins vis-à-vis the continuation, diversification, and transformation of the modernist tradition over the course of the last century leading up to the millennium. Major issues to be addressed include the inextricable relationship between architecture and the global-local context, the digital revolution, the conservation of urban and cultural heritage, public housing, sustainability and the impact of the impending energy crisis upon future urban development, and the interconnectedness of architecture and other disciplines. Multidisciplinary discourses on mass culture, globalization, place-making, identity and post-colonialism will also be introduced.

Assessment: 100% continuous coursework assessment

### **Disciplinary Elective (6 credits)**

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#### **Disciplinary Elective Courses List**

**Students can choose to take the disciplinary elective courses from this approved list only.**

#### **CATEGORY I: HISTORY AND THEORY**

##### **ARCH7160 The Modern Movement and Beyond (6 credits)**

The course is concerned with theoretical aspects of design activities in architecture. It attempts to trace the evolution of spatial concepts significant to the modern movement and beyond. The course consists of two parts: analytical and synthetic. The analytical part is to develop the students' skill for deeper understanding of the complexity of the built form. The synthetic part attempts to follow the vicissitudes of architectural design through the examination of the works of significant architects.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

##### **ARCH7161 Vernacular Architecture of Asia (6 credits)**

Vernacular built-form is the most obvious and direct means of expression of a people and their culture. Through the examination of different indigenous building types in different parts of Asia, viz. China, Japan, Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand, students are able to develop a broader sense of understanding of the relationship between architecture, climate and culture.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

##### **ARCH7162 Architecture and Memory (6 credits)**

This elective course takes a closer look at the art of motion pictures. Through various theoretical lenses, films are used to create new grounds for architectural discussions while enhancing our understanding of existing ones. Therefore, we will explore the productive interplay between cinematic productions and architectural discourses. The

aim is to focus attention on works of quality in order to discuss the evolution of motion pictures in the architectural realm.

Driven by a broad range of films, this elective course will focus on particular architectural terms such as mapping, observation, narrative and memory. These terms are known in architectural studies, but rarely discussed through the lenses of various filmmakers, seen not in a static but a procedural mode of engagement. In order to examine these theoretical frames, we will promote the discipline of film making as a potential field of architectural engagement, thus giving students a relevant film repertoire in the course of their architectural studies.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

### **ARCH7163 Architectural Histories (6 credits)**

This reading seminar offers an introduction to the historiography of architectural history and its predominant methodologies. Over the course of the semester, and proceeding in a roughly chronological manner, we will examine some of the key texts in architectural history, their authors, and their respective foci upon fundamental questions of structure, style, materials, and the historical origins of architecture itself.

The course's main objective is to teach students how to think critically about how different histories of architecture have been constructed over time in a variety of particular political, social, as well as cultural contexts. Through these texts, students will also learn about the architects, buildings, and ideas that comprise them. More generally, this course provides students with a variety of theoretical and analytical tools necessary to develop a critical and comparative perspective with respect to the reading and writing of architectural history and theory today.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

### **ARCH7164 ReBuilding Utopia: Visions of Architecture in the Post-war World (6 credits)**

This course examines the occurrences of the utopian tendency within the production of architecture in the aftermath of World War II – an event of global magnitude that triggered a series of political, social, economic and cultural consequences in its wake. The bipolar struggle that characterized most of the latter half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century implicated architecture in many ways and at many levels. Amidst postwar reconstruction in Europe and Japan, the continuation of war via the Cold War, widespread decolonization and the territorial divisions of the globe into First, Second and Third Worlds, the rise of America as the dominant superpower, and the internationalization of American popular culture, visions of the future were conceived. Within these post-war contexts and post-colonial realities, the promise of utopia was not simply proclaimed by the avant-gardes. Under the rubric of democracy and modernization, the United Nations, governments of nations, non-governmental organizations, academic institutions and multi-disciplinary groups, took on the task of vision building. At the same time, there emerged those who conceived of counter-utopias and dystopias as responses to the experiences of global homogenization and

upheavals occurring at local and regional levels. How was architecture instrumental in forwarding the objectives of the visionaries? How did technologies, methodologies and mindsets find their way into architecture and their corresponding discourses? In what ways did the multiple trajectories of utopia and utopian building inform the history of the discipline as it is understood today? Class discussions are based on assigned readings and individual presentations. Readings are primarily architectural texts but also include definitive texts from other disciplines including cultural studies, geography, sociology, and philosophy that are important in framing pertinent issues or events.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

**ARCH7165 Modern Architecture and the Visual Realm (6 credits)**

The objective of this seminar is to investigate the relationship of modern architectural work and the visual realm. The development of architectural theory, publication and/or detailing which simultaneously accept and deny the perception on modern architecture as a retinal art form will be the subject of discussion and investigation. In-depth analysis conducted on selected modern buildings form the basis of argument for students to develop their own critical thinking towards architectural theory and building appreciations.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

**ARCH7166 Research Seminar in Visual Cultures) (6 credits)**

This course is a visual research seminar with a serious interest in self-directed investigation into urgent spatial, social, cultural, political and economic issues in the world of visual culture today. The aim of this seminar course is to provide a theoretical knowledge, independent visual research issues of cultural difference, performativity, visual display, aurality, encounters with audiences and the production of subjectivities. The seminar with collaborate art institution develop activism towards issues of visual cultures, emphasis will be put on visual research and its production.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

**ARCH7167 Topics in Modernism (6 credits)**

This seminar investigates the multitude of theories and practices made manifest in architectural and urban form over the course of the late 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. Building upon the fundamental question of what constitutes modernity, modernization, and modernism, we will situate architecture, urbanism, and the architect within a series of broader epistemologies and theoretical concepts, including the diaspora, cross-cultural interaction, globalization, memory, nationalism, Orientalism, the nature of dissent, regionalism, technology, and the problem of translation. Through intensive reading, in-class discussion, and students' individual research projects, the course will also provide a forum for students to discuss these issues with each other and explore new lines of critical inquiry as they pertain to the nature of design research.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

**ARCH7175 Architectural Studies Field Workshop (6 credits)**

This course is an intensive workshop involving in depth field research in the topic of architectural studies.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

**ARCH7177 Critical Readings in Modernism (6 credits)**

The course takes Walter Benjamin's The Arcades Project as a model for reading urban experience. Through an assemblage of fragmentary notes — from philosophy, journalism, publicity and poetry — Benjamin left behind a record of 19th century Paris and a template for the material history of cities. Students will look closely at The Arcades Project (including sources such as Baudelaire, Bergson, Proust, Corbusier and Giedion), while at the same time compiling a collective reading of contemporary Hong Kong.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

**ARCH7178 Buddhist Architecture (6 credits)**

This course provides students the overview of Buddhist Architecture including the historical origin, meaning and cultural background of different building typologies of Buddhism in various regions including India, Sri Lanka, Han China, Japan and Tibet etc. This is also an introduction to the understanding of Oriental culture where Buddhism is an important basis. The course will cover the basic forms and symbolic meaning of Buddhist Architecture in the Theravada, Mahayana, Vajrayana and Zen schools of Buddhism with reference to the architectural examples in the appropriate regions. The architecture of Buddhism will cover monasteries, rock-hewn caves, stupas, temples as well as the Asoka pillar. Important architectural icons will be the four holiest sites in India, Samye monastery in Tibet, Ryoanji Temple, Horyuji and Kenninji Temples in Japan, Famen Temple in China, Borobudur in Indonesia, Cave temples of Dambulla in Sri Lanka etc... Finally, the influence of Buddhist philosophy on some Modern Architecture will also be explained.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

**ARCH7179 Architects and Politics: Exhibiting Politics (6 credits)**

This course will examine architectural exhibitions as an important tool for architects practicing politics, where architecture and politics are considered to be two separated worlds. The research seminar will introduce the internationally recognized exhibition platform from Biennales, World Expo, and other large site-specific cultural events enable to produce for those interested in understanding architecture beside building alone.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

**ARCH7180 Topics in Architectural History and Theory (6 credits)**

This course gives students the opportunity to further explore specific issues and topics in architectural history and theory. Topics change from year to year based on course contents.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

**ARCH7183 Topics in Architectural History, Theory and Criticism (6 credits)**

This course gives students the opportunity to further explore specific issues and topics in architectural history and theory. Topics change from year to year based on course contents.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

**ARCH7184 Beyond the Border: Early Modernist Chinese architects in the South (6 credits)**

The contemporary city of Hong Kong has been built over the last century by both Architects and Non-architects. As there are criticism on the architectural scene of Hong Kong as monolithic and repetitive, the saying always goes like "there are fantastic urban scenes but no architecture". However, when we begin to look deeper in the cultural roots of modernist architectural development in cities and regions of Southern China [including Shanghai, Hong Kong, Taiwan], there was an early generation of modernist architects educated abroad exploring an independent architecture that spoke for ourselves in context. These attempts were made in respond to our particular cultural preferences, climatic conditions and local materials. By examining these modernist architects who took different perspectives in their interpretation of modernism [e.g. C.K. Chang, Luke Him Sau, Eric Cumine, Wang Da-hong, etc], we can understand how their architecture converges towards a common vision of 'Chinese Modernism'.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

**ARCH7269 Architecture and the City (6 credits)  
(cross-listed under Category II: Urbanisation and Habitation)**

This contemporary urbanism seminar will investigate urban spatial production processes through selected case studies of 'culture-led urban developments' in the cities of Hong Kong and Singapore. Weekly sessions will thematically introduce the issues of urbanism, from land ownership, public-private partnerships, governance structures, gentrification, etc. that have direct impact on architecture and the built environment in the city. Guest experts from Hong Kong and the region will also give input lectures on selected themes throughout the semester. Students, working in teams, will analyze the case studies using the tools learned in these sessions. Each team will produce a clearly narrated compendium of analytic drawings and diagrams that assesses each of the case studies, which together highlight the comparative analysis built into the duo-city multiple case study.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

**ARCH7380 Republic of Excess: Korea and Contradiction (6 credits)**

There is an on-going proliferation of diverse architectural works taking place in Korea that is distinct from the rest of Asia in terms of evolutionary logic and physiognomy. However, at large, we lack a system of understanding this process of evolution in Korea. This course will examine the origin of the current cultural production in Korea and its relation to the field of architecture, city and history. The philosophical concept of

Simulacra: Copies without originals will be the overarching principle behind our attempt to identify and analyze the significance of new and old architecture in Korea. The findings from the course will be shared to engage in further dialogue with Korean counterparts and beyond.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

**ARCH7401 Real Utopias (6 credits)**  
**(cross-listed under Category II: Urbanisation and Habitation)**

In Architecture, urbanism and all disciplines of design, ideas are mainly written, analysed, described and publicised through drawings. Such was the case with the drawings of, Hilberseimer (sectional), as well as Superstudio (3-dimensional speculative collage) and many others... Drawings are processes of understating, informing, speculating and projecting. They are a precise code to what they describe and what they propose. The city has been described through both very speculative (fictional) as well as very definitive (real) drawings throughout centuries. Oswald Matthias Ungers used the capacity of speculative drawings as a unique type of description and projection of the realities of the city and not the city Utopia. This seminar will explore, investigate and cross-examine the modern history of representation of the city and its infrastructures through their projective potentials leading to better realities influencing the social/ political, the cultural and the economic structures of our societies.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

**ARCH7404 Japan, Architecture, Myth: Unmasking Its Form and Content (6 credits)**

Architecture is a part of society: no more, no less. This course will examine how architecture functions as a form of cultural production within society using Japan as a case study. In the process, we will uncover how various cultural components such as history, literature, and architecture work closely together to form a self-conscious construct that facilitates and maintains an idealized collective identity.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

**CATEGORY II: URBANISATION AND HABITATION**

**ARCH7260 Housing in Urban Development (6 credits)**

The course investigates the production of housing within the social, political and spatial conditions in urban development. Topics include social and economic determinants of housing location, standards and quality of design; impact on urban development; analysis of housing production including site and infrastructure, provisions; constraints and innovations in the housing industry; and case studies by field trip.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

**ARCH7264 Contemporary Urbanism (6 credits)**

This course integrates urban analysis research and architectural design methodologies to examine relationships between architecture and urbanism through the development

of a working understanding of urban and architectural form in the context of the Contemporary City. The course examines the contemporary urban condition through readings of critical theories, analysis of developmental models, as well as empirical investigation of urban sites. In conjunction with physical, historical, social and economic research, alternative design strategies are explored to challenge existing presumptions and models of the contemporary urbanism.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

**ARCH7265 Inter Cities (6 credits)**

Inter Cities will explore transitional areas that are about to undergo significant urban transformation either in terms of massive growth or shrinkage. Usually occupying peripheral territories on the edge of cities these areas display unique characteristics – they are anomalies, estranged and contradictory to normative planning methods. Their condition is patchy and often incoherent mixing landscapes, industrial wastelands, and pockets of residential enclaves. Their governance and control is often contested involving overlapping political and individual desires. As they are emergent they display conditions of urbanism that are un-tested and somehow prototypical providing clues to how the future of our cities may evolve. To this extent Inter Cities are at the forefront of contemporary urbanism. The course will examine the conflicting forces that shape these unique urban landscapes including economy, politics, globalisation, industry, environmental conditions and shifting cultural values. Classes will discuss theoretical texts, examine case study examples, debate key issues and introduce methodological research tools.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

**ARCH7266 Globalization and Resistance in Architecture (6 credits)**

This course aims to examine how the condition of globalization reveals itself in architecture and the urban environment. With an improved understanding of the various forces at play, students are encouraged to think of ways to support a citizenry participation and critique in the making of our buildings and cities in the era of globalization. Paul Ricoeur described a condition of “universal civilization” that encapsulates a scientific spirit and a consumer culture. Today, we are perhaps operating universally under the effects of globalization, aided in no small part by the advent of the information age as well as a more liberal flow of capital and labor. This course will seek architecture as a barometer that measures these effects – appraising specifically the qualities and identities of buildings and districts built or transformed as a result of globalization. Through ten specific readings and building types, the course will examine the co-operative and resistant practices and forms at play.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

**ARCH7268 Urbanism Field Workshop (6 credits)**

This course is an intensive workshop involving in depth field research in the topic of urbanism.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

**ARCH7269 Architecture and the City (6 credits)**

This contemporary urbanism seminar will investigate urban spatial production processes through selected case studies of ‘culture-led urban developments’ in the cities of Hong Kong and Singapore. Weekly sessions will thematically introduce the issues of urbanism, from land ownership, public-private partnerships, governance structures, gentrification, etc. that have direct impact on architecture and the built environment in the city. Guest experts from Hong Kong and the region will also give input lectures on selected themes throughout the semester. Students, working in teams, will analyze the case studies using the tools learned in these sessions. Each team will produce a clearly narrated compendium of analytic drawings and diagrams that assesses each of the case studies, which together highlight the comparative analysis built into the duo-city multiple case study.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

**ARCH7270 The “Navel” of the Earth (6 credits)**

This course looks at the Ancient Greek sites, their history, their topography and their mythological connections both with the old world and the contemporary one. These sites constitute a cultural infrastructure that has forever marked our public lives, as much as the physical ones have. Like the great railways and the electric networks, which crisscross our countries, these places reveal themselves through our multiple readings, artistic, natural, linguistic, each one to suit our ever more heterogeneous and globalized collective.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

**ARCH7271 Composed Grounds (6 credits)**

The ground is the primary surface of human contact and navigation. Whatever the ground is or does, it affects our ability to divide, connect and interact with each other. When tasked with designing grounds, lines need be drawn, zones identified, routes and destinations established; all inevitably leading to a final composition. If composition is understood as the arrangement of elements according to certain principles, what are these principles? What kind of intelligence is embedded within them? What do they contribute in the context of ground? Composed Grounds will provide, through comparative analysis, an overview of composition-driven outdoor spaces. The objective will be to identify (beyond style) constituent elements as well as prevalent means of organization. We will be looking to reveal each work’s design intent through their layers, zones, routes, patterns, connections and (where applicable) programs. As types, Gardens and Parks will take precedence, but these will be loosely interpreted to allow for the inclusion of outdoor spaces with comparable qualities. Furthermore, subjects of investigation may be integrated with or disassociated from Architecture. All selections, however, will exhibit carefully orchestrated compositions.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

**ARCH7272 Together: Communes, Collectives, and Communities - Studying Socio Political Ecologies (6 credits)**

This course offers insights into concepts within the disciplines of philosophy and social political theory, that help in the understanding of living and architecture in relationship

to its politics, ecologies and economies. The course proposes a mixed method in teaching, including seminars, tutorials and one lecture. The seminar sessions will be taught in a predominantly flipped classroom-teaching environment, to enhance discussions on, and engagement with, the materials of the course.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

**ARCH7273 Topics in Urban/Rural Studies (6 credits)**

This course gives students the opportunity to further explore specific issues and topics in urban design and planning. Topics change from year to year based on course contents.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

**ARCH7274 Topics in Urban Studies (6 credits)**

This course gives students the opportunity to further explore specific issues and topics in urban design and planning. Topics change from year to year based on course contents.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

**ARCH7275 A Visual Diary of Paris: Observe, Read, Collect, Draw, Record (6 credits)**

This course will explore and understand the dense urban fabric of the city of Paris. Through walking, observing, collecting, recording and drawing we shall understand the city's relationship to its geography, landscape and infrastructure and how its architecture and landscape are a "synthesis" and not a "juxtaposition". We will learn how the politics and the governance of the city has ruled the city's development and its environs since the 12th century. Students will be guided through centuries of urban and architectural sedimentation, the landscapes and geographies that are displaced and created will be at the core of our discussions. Each student is required to carefully record every possible observation through photographs, drawings, postcards, objects, or extracts from books, newspapers or writings on the city.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

**ARCH7276 City Metamorphosis: Urban Residual Space (6 credits)**

As a direct result of massive rural-urban migration, we are faced with distinctive city transformation issues in China. This course will cover urban renewal issues in selected local districts from and around the Yangtze River Delta (YRD) region. Historical, Cultural, Socio-economic issues that led to the formation of urban residual space in the inner cities will be identified. The renewal potentials of these spaces will be critically examined and researched upon on. A new set of design parameters would be generated from the research findings. The parameters act as catalyst for plausible design proposals.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

**ARCH7401 Real Utopias (6 credits)**

**(cross-listed under Category I: History and Theory)**

In Architecture, urbanism and all disciplines of design, ideas are mainly written, analysed, described and publicised through drawings. Such was the case with the drawings of, Hilberseimer (sectional), as well as Superstudio (3-dimensional speculative collage) and many others... Drawings are processes of understating, informing, speculating and projecting. They are a precise code to what they describe and what they propose. The city has been described through both very speculative (fictional) as well as very definitive (real) drawings throughout centuries. Oswald Matthais Ungers used the capacity of speculative drawings as a unique type of description and projection of the realities of the city and not the city Utopia. This seminar will explore, investigate and cross-examine the modern history of representation of the city and its infrastructures through their projective potentials leading to better realities influencing the social/ political, the cultural and the economic structures of our societies.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

**ARCH7402 Propositions for Planetary Living-II (6 credits)**

Propositions for Planetary Living is an advanced seminar that aims to develop new approaches for cohabitating Hong Kong, based on the assumption that an affluent society knows how to live with/in its environment, and how to be sustainable both socially and environmentally.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

**CATEGORY III: TECHNOLOGY AND SUSTAINABILITY**

**ARCH7360 Building Structures and Systems (6 credits)**

The course is designed to close the gap between structural theory and design. The subject is divided into two parts. The first part highlights the more important aspects of the structural planning process from architects' point of view. The second, analytical part, develops candidates' skills through case studies of actual projects leading to a deeper understanding of the complexities of the structural problem. Topics such as building failures, structural alteration and additions, building regulations, geotechnics, foundations on difficult grounds and computer-aided structural design/analysis will be discussed.

The course provides an understanding of the realities of designing and manufacturing components of buildings within aesthetic, economic and time frameworks. Design construction communication is studied through production and technical drawings, manufacturer's shop drawings with special emphasis on the use of materials and manufacturing technology. Direct studies of manufacturing techniques both traditional and new are undertaken by field trips to factories and construction sites. Construction systems including the systems approach, standardized buildings, contractual strategies and their impact on the evolution of building production are investigated.

Field trips to construction sites and design offices form an integral part of the course.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

**ARCH7361 Sustainable Building Systems (6 credits)**

Advanced studies in innovative technologies are undertaken. Energy efficient and intelligent buildings are analyzed and advances in parallel industries such as aerospace, shipbuilding and the transportation industries are studied for applicability in the building industry. Computer modeling is used extensively in this option. Total energy systems are investigated as are low environmental impact techniques.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

**ARCH7363 Materials, Services and Structure (6 credits)**

This course concentrates on understanding and applying the principles of building structures, building materials and construction technology, environmental controls and building services, in an advanced level of integrated architectural design, geared to the local context. For building materials and construction technology, the emphasis is on the performance criteria and applications of building materials, components and systems of construction. For building structures, the emphasis is on structural schemes systems relating to local building regulations and codes. For environmental controls and building services, the emphasis is on local regulations and codes, and coordination of services for heating, ventilation, air-conditioning, fire safety, plumbing and drainage, electrical, lift and escalators, etc.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

**ARCH7364 Nonspace: Materials, Processes, and Constructions (6 credits)**

While space is the most distinguished objective of architecture, the boundaries and character of space are defined by elements of non-space: materials, processes, and constructions. This is the paradox of architecture. This course explores a conceptual framework for the environmentally responsive design of building assemblies, based upon a clear understanding of materials and their inherent processes and construction technologies. Building materials will be analyzed and carefully drawn with emphasis on their physical and architectural properties, functions, and behavior in manufactured and installed constructions. The design of building assemblies made from concrete, masonry, timber, steel, and glass will be examined in relation to the forces that shape their composition and performance.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

**ARCH7365 Design Research on Architecture and the Environment (6 credits)**

This course focuses on case studies and design experiments related to architecture and the environment. It foregrounds an understanding of the effects of architecture on its immediate environment, literally the environments that buildings create. This course will be conducted as a research seminar, the predominate mode of thinking, intellectual development and idea formation for the course is physical modeling and diagramming. Each week students will be required to do a series of readings and will work in teams to analyze two precedents through sectional models, drawings and diagrams. Students will study two precedents over the course of the entire semester devoting

approximately a half a semester to each. Students will be asked to cull out specific design ideas from readings and associate them with sectional models and drawings for in class discussions and pin ups. Case studies, model making and prototypical modes of research will be used as a vehicle to discern specific disciplinary design techniques and strategies.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

**ARCH7375 Design after Nature (6 credits)**

Our spatial and sensorial experiences are formed by design through cycles of environmental, material, cultural, political, and economic ecologies. Our “natural“ environment is continuously being designed and defined by our engagement with Hyperobjects resulting a series of Subnatures and new conditions. This seminar will explore the theoretical propositions between architecture, landscape, art, and contemporary ecological theory. Students in this course will critique a series of texts, research, develop a catalogue of sites, and examine a number of different works by various designers and artists. At the end of the course each student shall be responsible for a graphic essay dedicated to a specific site or theoretical position.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

**ARCH7376 Inhabitable Territories (6 credits)**

Located on the ambiguous limits between the artificial and natural world, ski resorts and beaches inform us about human’s contemporary relationships to the environment. With a series of territorial installations, a wide range of specialists has been articulating natural spaces in order to enable sensorial experience for the sake of leisure and fun. They have deeply modified the original settings and produced new forms of geography and landscape. The aim of this course is to reveal the underlying system at work by highlighting experiential, programmatic and infrastructural continuities. From an architectural point of view, we will interrogate the way these spaces are generated and the behavior they produce.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

**ARCH7377 Concrete Approximations (6 credits)**

This course exposes students to the physical act of making in architecture through dynamic structural logics and material testing, at scales of intervention larger than possible in the classroom. The objective is to prototype new types of structures, mostly using concrete as casting material, and engaging more closely with the material’s unique properties: fluidity, pressure and weight. Students will be tooled up with a variety of form finding techniques and analogue formwork devices, through trial and error experiments. The initial research findings will be synthesized towards the construction of a full-scale and site-specific project exploring inventive fabrication processes of translating complex geometries to local building techniques.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

**ARCH7378 Topics in Architectural Technologies (6 credits)**

This course gives students the opportunity to further explore specific issues and topics in architectural technologies. Topics change from year to year based on course contents.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

### **ARCH7379 Performative Envelopes (6 credits)**

This course explores the history of membrane use in forms and architecture with a focus on the most recent developments being explored by architects, manufacturers, and scientists. While building on the canon of work that has been done with membranes in the past, students will explore the membrane as a medium, formwork, and environmental interface. Emphasis will be placed on the performative characteristics of membrane technology and architectural layering of various membrane technologies with respect to structural design methods. Membrane materials, PTFE, ETFE, plastics, foils, meshes, printing, laminating, and vacuum forming technologies will be explored relative to new potentials for spatial, structural, and environmental performance. Each student will design a membrane structure and build a prototype of a detail of their membrane.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

### **ARCH7382 Floating Marine Laboratory (6 credits)**

In this course, we will design innovative ocean science and entrepreneurship infrastructures. A floating laboratory for research and development to study the ocean and develop sustainable solutions for Hong Kong waters and the world.

The ocean is where all life comes from and our future depends on it. The ocean covers more than 70% of our planet's surface and absorbs most of the heat from the sun, therefore controlling earth's climate. But our oceans are mostly unexplored while being overfished, polluted with plastic, industrial and agricultural run-offs and radioactive substances. The ocean is suffering a rapid biodiversity decline without much general public awareness and more so lacking significant action to reverse this deadly trend.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

### **ARCH7383 Deep drawing: The narrative of steel through the industrial act of making (6 credits)**

How does coal – a key element to the process of steel fabrication – metamorphose: crushed, ground, heated, melted and cooked into coke? What is the difference between the ancient blast furnace technique and its electric arc modern counterpart? What landscapes, geographies and wastes are created during this industrial process in relation to materials source, extraction, transformation, production and distribution?

The aim of this seminar is to document the long causal chain of steel production through drawing. From the iron ore extracted through opencast mines, the smooth edges of the final construction component, to the ordering of an element and its delivery to HKU, we will explore the impact and the complex ramifications of steel manufacturing. We will demystify each step of its processing by unveiling at various

scales the narrative of steel through the industrial act of making and the material flows between humankind and the environment.

Survey drawing is our primary tool of investigation and the relationships between representational techniques, technology and the reading of the built environment are at the heart of our discussions. The survey encompasses many forms of drawing, from the technical to the speculative or the imaginary. The survey is not an illustration but a construct. The drawer builds on the knowledge gleaned from the survey to reveal what is hitherto unseen to the curious eye. To survey a condition is to reveal its essence, provoking a transformation that renders the first act of design.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

### **ARCH7403 Material History (6 credits)**

This is a seminar about materials, their properties and embedded structural concepts. The seminar seeks to offer a space to reflect on the physical life of building matter and the invisible forces that govern us. Looking back at the evolution of material invention in the construction practice, we will see to understand the basic principles that define and characterize the behavior of objects (or systems) subjected to forces and what those forces themselves are.

Through short exercises and the analysis of several case studies, we will dive into the world of material science, exploring materials, not only as constructive matter, but as a generator of precise architectural thought.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

## **CATEGORY IV: DIGITAL MEDIA AND FABRICATION**

### **ARCH7460 Computer Graphics for Architects (6 credits)**

Through a series of exercises, presentations, and discussions, the course will investigate the evolving relationship between architecture and its means of representation, as well as broader issues of technology, information, and culture. While the course will explore the impact of computing technology on the representation of architecture, it will also provide a firm understanding of some of the software required to do so.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

### **ARCH7462 Computer-aided Architectural Design Methods (CAAD Methods) (6 credits)**

A study of current computer techniques and technologies which can be used by architects to develop design methods that fully exploit contemporary computers as design aids.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

**ARCH7466 Parametric Structures (6 credits)**

This research seminar will examine the concept of parametric systems and their applications in and implication on architecture. Through a series of lectures and guided design exercises students will be introduced to the theoretical background and logic of parametric systems and the generation of them in the digital environment. Historical building precedents of specific architectural typologies will be examined to open up a critical dialogue between existing physical constraints and the digital realm. Different design techniques will be studied and deployed in order to generate several parametrically driven prototypes that have the capacity to form innovative architectural structures.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

**ARCH7467 Making Ways and Ways of Making (6 credits)**

One to one design is not an issue of how large a physical output becomes but rather how the properties of real materials are vigorously experimented with at any particular scale. The seminar will strive to bring forward inventive means of making that engage material behaviours in response to external forces at work while remaining receptive to its investigated scale. Making ways for such prototypes will address the necessity to construct intermediary frameworks which will become an integral part of the making process. This workshop based seminar, supported by a series of lectures, will encourage students to explore procedural logics of making that expand on and revisit initial design premises from a series of physical explorations at incrementing scales. Each scale of investigation will have its own design focus and will inform the overall conception of a collective design-built project realized by the students near the end of the course. The core ideology is to influence the process of architectural design in reverse; that is by synthesizing an architectural proposal from the findings emerging out of a succession of well crafted experiments.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

**ARCH7469 Explorative Architecture Techniques (6 credits)**

The profound embedding of advanced digital and information-based tools in all aspects of explorative architectural practices has caused a radical revolution in contemporary design techniques. By combining case studies of today's leading architects with tutorials on advanced 3D modeling, parametric and algorithmic design methods (scripting), this course investigates the use of digital design techniques in the translation of geometries into built form. The aim is to gain an understanding of the geometric challenges, material possibilities and limitations faced with when working within this new paradigm.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

**ARCH7470 Architecture by Nature (6 credits)**

Architecture by nature evolves autonomously from its users and engages with the dynamic complicity between built projects and processes in nature. It is less concerned with environmental compliance and more with the productive collision between architecture and nature: landward, seaward and skyward. We will study intentions from

ideal and elementary architectural precedents throughout history. These case studies are grafted in and wrought by extreme environments and will offer a platform from which students will develop their own project. Time based procedures will be introduced as a mean to register physical transformations in the natural environment. We will seek to create specific architectural prototypes that without dependence on nature would simply become generic; instruments taking on the active and physical role of measuring spatially the changing nature of environmental force, otherwise intangible. The essential question for the seminar is: “How does the architect project adaptively and in complicity with such evolving physical and spatial environments?”

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

#### **ARCH7471 Material Fabrications (6 credits)**

This course is an intensive workshop involving in depth field research in the topic of fabrication.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

#### **ARCH7472 Topics in Advanced Technology (6 credits)**

In Site of Erasure students will create short films in order to specifically persuade an audience of a precise architectural position. Through a series of lectures, discussions, presentations, and filmic exercises, the course will investigate the relationship between architecture and film, as well as broader issues that arise when information and socio-political concerns intertwine.

Topics change from year to year based on course contents.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

#### **ARCH7474 Structural Research – Gridshells (6 credits)**

This course specialises in the design and construction of doubly curved grid structures. Through analysis of existing structures and innovative research of independent hypothesis, students will become experts in the field of strained gridshells, discovering new potentials for digital design and fabrication.

The course aims to install a methodology of research-by-design, fostering self-responsible, creative research based on well-founded scientific principles. These principles will be taught through theoretical inputs, hands on workshops, model making and digital modelling of reference structures. The class will acquire the ability to use Rhinoceros, Grasshopper as a digital 3D environment to explore and design complex structures, and Kangaroo and Karamba, to conduct form finding and structural analysis tasks, and digital manufacturing to fabricate and construct meaningful prototypes.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

#### **ARCH7475 Visual Practices (6 credits)**

The course will explore the use of drawing and visualization as a critical tool for design. Students will experiment with a range of illustrative media and techniques

representative of both traditional and emerging design approaches and expand on their ability to work across digital and analogue media. Tutorials will be given in a range of techniques and applications. In-class lectures and tutorials will be supplemented by discussions inspecting relevant drawings and visualizations, their authors and if applicable, the issues that defined their work. A series of iterative drawing and visualization exercises will structure the course. These will be shared and discussed during class. Students are expected to have basic drawing and visualization skills, be able to undertake visual research and produce visual narratives.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

## **CATEGORY V: PRACTICE AND MANAGEMENT**

### **ARCH7405 Research on Participatory Design in Architecture (6 credits)**

Although “Participatory Design” and “Public Engagement” are terms which appear more and more often in contemporary architectural discourse, little research has been done regarding to this methodology. While related fields like urban planning and social studies have substantial literature and theories on wider social participation. This course is an action-research on the topic of participatory design in architecture. By collaborating with a local NGO, students are invited to design a mobile street kiosk in Kowloon City with the engagement of local communities. The methodology and effectiveness of participatory design will be the main focus and how architects can use different engagement tools to achieve a more comprehensive design outcome will be explored in this course.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

### **ARCH7563 Community Building Workshop (6 credits)**

The course intends to investigate issues in design and construction through hand-on experiences and involvements in an actual building process. By participating in the design and construction of various types of community projects including temporary or permanent installations, shelters or buildings, students are to explore the nature of materials and structure, methods in construction, as well as modes of fabrication and design media. The process also provides opportunities for students to interact and exchange knowledge with different stakeholders involving in the building process: users, contractors, managers and sponsors. The focus of task for each year may vary pending on the nature of project and resources available, but a commitment to the community and a team work spirit, as well as the appreciation of the tactile and tectonic quality in design will always be essential part for the course.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

### **ARCH7564 Building Information Modeling in Architectural Practice (6 credits)**

BIM technology is more and more often adopted in architectural practices throughout the world as the main tool for design, managing and documenting projects. Successful implementation of BIM for day to day work in an office and taking most advantage of the technology requires proper configurations, methodologies and standards. Without

such structured approach and without applying best practices developed by the industry, BIM may easily become more of a problem than a solution. BIM technology allows integration within one project database of Architecture, Structure, MEP (Mechanical, Electrical, Plumbing) and others to create a complete virtual model of a future building. Such a model is like a living entity, constantly updated throughout the design process and later during the building lifetime. In various stages of this lifetime a BIM model can be used for many purposes from scheduling and calculating areas, curtain wall costing, outputting documentation, performing thermal analysis to managing tenants and security issues in the field of building maintenance. Achieving those goals requires understanding of capabilities and limitations of the technology in very practical aspects, but also orientation in prospects and future opportunities for BIM.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

### **ARCH7565 Introduction to Building Information Modeling and Management (6 credits)**

BIM technology is changing and will continue to change the face of architectural profession. It influences all stages of design and project management and aims to integrate within one database Architecture, Structural Design, MEP (Mechanical, Electrical, Plumbing) and others. This database, which contains a 3D model of a building, formal project documentation and other information is a dynamic object, constantly updated throughout the whole design process and building lifetime. In any stage of the project it may be a source of invaluable, up-to-date information about building parameters and physical performance, which would be difficult or expensive to obtain using traditional methods. Such data can help the architect to make more informed decisions at earlier stages of design, which greatly reduces costly changes and errors. The objective of this course is to familiarize students with basic ideas and applications of BIM technology using the most widely adopted BIM software package, Revit Architecture. Examples used for this purpose during the course will be based on real projects and case studies, which count themselves among the most complex and innovative in terms of design, modeling approach and project management.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

### **ARCH7566 & ARCH7567 Topics in practice and management I & II (6 credits each)**

*Architects & Money* takes on an often controversial and frequently shunned topic in the architectural profession – money – and all the messy baggage that accompanies it. Purposefully positioned to bridge the divide between architecture and development, this course will offer practical knowledge on how the world of real estate investment and development really works, and simultaneously question the definition of the value of design. The course will also look deeper into the role of the architect in today's global cities and why understanding the financial risks of development – indeed being able to manipulate and mitigate such risks – positions the architect to play a more determinate role in the game and at long last, *grab a piece of the action*. Sessions are envisioned to alternate between seminar-style presentations and more interactive workshops/case studies. A working knowledge of Excel is a course requirement.

Topics change from year to year based on course contents.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

**ARCH7568 Design Practice Field Workshop (6 credits)**

This course is an intensive workshop involving in depth field research in the topic of design practice.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment