



**UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY**  
SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE, PLANNING AND LANDSCAPE

**Master of Architecture Program**

**Arch 606: Intermediate Architectural Design Studio**

Fall 2020 (Full course)

Tuesdays and Fridays, 14:00-18:00 hrs. [also Monday and Thursday afternoons]

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Rooms: The course will be delivered online due to the continuing COVID-19 situation.

**Title: Wellness, Creativity, and Urban Architecture**

**INTRODUCTION**

This course is the third studio in the Master of Architecture Program sequence and examines scalar, systemic, and material aspects of urban and architectural ecosystems. The studio will address the design of a mid-sized, moderately complex, urban facility (4,000-5,000 m<sup>2</sup> and associated public space), which will be developed with the explicit intention to affectively connect the design of urban space and architecture to the improved wellness and creative potential of building users. Further, the impact that human constructions and infrastructures have had on global ecosystems (and vice versa) requires a comprehensive understanding of the material and technical complexity of built environments in order to reduce the consumption of vital resources and to respond to various environmental challenges.

Over recent decades we have come to realize the demonstrable relationship between the planning of cities and population health. We have also gained insights into detrimental impacts of buildings on individuals, including physiologically. More recently, the global COVID-19 pandemic has seen societal disruption in dramatic and unforeseen ways, with serious implications on the ways we view, inhabit, and utilize space. This studio critically considers the re-imagination and re-design of cities and buildings in light of a rapidly changing and at times highly uncertain world. Observed through a primary lens of health and wellness, the studio explores connections between the ways we build and the implications to our well-being. The studio challenges us to understand the ways in which architecture can foster public health and promote individual well-being, including from physical, mental, spiritual, creative, and other perspectives. The design challenge will investigate the potential for a hybrid building typology, whereby overarching focus and function on health is coupled with programmatic aspects pertaining to art and creativity. Research confirms the potential and power of art and creativity to enrich our lives and to cultivate our contentment.

The project sites in Calgary will be determined by individual instructors, these will be veritable laboratories of urban issues as they include dense urban fabric, brown field residual spaces, recreational landscapes, street wall residential and mixed-use fabric, and large infrastructural constructs. Each studio section will analyze and interpret their portions of Calgary.

The relative mix, size and delineation of programs (including deliverables) will be determined by instructors and through the site analysis and interpretation phase of the project; the program understood as a critical catalyst for the site. The following topics will be introduced conceptually during the semester: materials and assemblies, urban structure, public space design, small/medium-sized building typologies, and environmental systems. This course operates with other courses during the semester including ARCH 600: Structures for Architects I and ARCH 602: Introduction to Design Theories. All studio sections will coordinate graphic conventions at the end of term to create a studio booklet to be understood as a single document.

The following CACB Student Performance Criteria will be covered in this course:

Primary Level: A1: Design Theories, Precedents, and Methods; A2: Design Skills; A3: Design Tools; A5: Site Context and Design; A8: Design Documentation

Secondary Level: A4: Program Analysis; A6: Urban Design; B1: Critical Thinking and Communication; B5: Ecological Systems; C2: Materials; C3: Structural Systems

Note: students entering M1 from other institutions are required to take the Workshop Skills course.

## OBJECTIVES

1. To develop design skills through the design of a mid-sized project, based on a critical understanding of an urban condition, complex program, and contemporary architectural processes.
2. To develop introductory knowledge of programming, materials and assemblies, building systems, and structural concepts.
3. To develop skills and awareness of urban contexts through research, analysis, and interpretation, leading to an appropriate architectural project.
4. To develop site design, graphic, concept design, and design development skills.
5. To understand the concept that buildings are ecologies that participate in larger ecologies (flow systems), and to understand the role that technology plays in this interface.

## TEACHING APPROACH

In this studio there will be five sections, each covering the same basic material and employing the same schedule, but through different projects, sites, and pedagogical approaches (students will have the opportunity to express preferences for their section prior to the beginning of the semester). Each instructor will provide detailed project descriptions throughout the semester. Guidance and feedback will be provided during informal 1:1 discussions and formal reviews. The work will be done individually (with some research work potentially done in small groups). The studio will be process-oriented, allowing students some latitude to develop their own design methodologies.

Due to current restrictions imposed by the COVID-19 situation, the course will be delivered primarily online, using various formats such as Zoom. Instructors will provide guidelines for individual and group instruction.

## COURSE EXPECTATIONS, MEANS OF EVALUATION AND SCHEDULE

Students will be expected to follow all assignments, to be present for studio on Tuesdays and Fridays (and as otherwise required by the instructor/schedule) and attend all lectures and reviews. Students will also be expected to read any assigned readings. Detailed project descriptions will be provided throughout the term by the various instructors. The following is the general breakdown of assignments:

Phase 1	Project Iteration 1 Tuesday, September 8 – Friday, October 2, 2020 (4 weeks) Phase 1 Review: Friday, October 2	30%
Block Week	Monday, October 5 – Friday, October 9	
Phase 2	Research, Analysis, Programming, Making Tuesday, October 13 – Friday, November 6 (4 weeks) Phase 2 Review – Friday, November 6	30%
Term Break	Monday, November 9 – Friday, November 13	

Phase 3	Project Iteration 2 Tuesday, November 17 – Wednesday, December 9 (3.5 weeks) Final Phase 3 Review: December 15-17 (Final dates and deadlines to be determined)	30%
Phase 4	Final Digital Portfolio/Publication	10%

## READINGS

Refer to detailed project handouts and Arch 602 Course Reader.

## SPECIAL BUDGETARY REQUIREMENTS

Special budgetary requirements are limited to the optional purchase of course readings and, in specific courses, mandatory supplementary fees to cover certain expenditures, such as field trips. Mandatory supplementary fees must be approved by the University prior to implementation. The University has approved supplemental fee for this course of \$150.00.

## GRADING SCALE

Grade	Grade Point Value	4-Point Range	Percent	Description
A+	4.00	4.00	95-100	Outstanding - evaluated by instructor
A	4.00	3.85-4.00	90-94.99	Excellent - superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of the subject matter
A-	3.70	3.50-3.84	85-89.99	Very good performance
B+	3.30	3.15-3.49	80-84.99	Good performance
B	3.00	2.85-3.14	75-79.99	Satisfactory performance
B-	2.70	2.50-2.84	70-74.99	Minimum pass for students in the Faculty of Graduate Studies
C+	2.30	2.15-2.49	65-69.99	All final grades below B- are indicative of failure at the graduate level and cannot be counted toward Faculty of Graduate Studies course requirements.
C	2.00	1.85-2.14	60-64.99	
C-	1.70	1.50-1.84	55-59.99	
D+	1.30	1.15-1.49	50-54.99	
D	1.00	0.50-1.14	45-49.99	
F	0.00	0-0.49	0-44.99	

A student who receives a "C+" or lower in any one course will be required to withdraw regardless of their grade point average (GPA) unless the program recommends otherwise. If the program permits the student to retake a failed course, the second grade will replace the initial grade in the calculation of the GPA, and both grades will appear on the transcript.

Students will be required to complete each of the course assignments. There will be no final exam. Students must obtain an overall passing grade to pass this course, however, if a student fails any phase of the course worth 30% or more they will fail the course.

## UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY POLICIES AND SUPPORTS

**ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION:** Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit [www.ucalgary.ca/access/](http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/). Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor. The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf>.

**ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT:** Plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done expressly for that particular course when, in fact, it is not. Most commonly plagiarism exists when: (a) the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work, (b) parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author, (c) the whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source, and/or, (d) a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved. While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted. Plagiarism is an extremely serious academic offence. Any suspicion of plagiarism will be reported to the Dean, and dealt with as per the regulations in the University of Calgary Graduate Calendar. For information on academic misconduct and its consequences, please see the University of Calgary Calendar at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

**COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION:** All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright ([www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf](http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf)) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY:** Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary.

**UNIVERSITY STUDENT APPEALS OFFICE:** If a student has a concern about the course, academic matter, or a grade that they have been assigned, they must first communicate this concern with the instructor. If the concern cannot be resolved with the instructor, the student can proceed with an academic appeal, which normally begins with the Faculty. <https://ucalgary.ca/student-appeals/>

**MEDIA AND RECORDING:** University Calendar: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-6.html>  
Recording of lectures (other than audio recordings that are pre-arranged as part of an authorized accommodation) is not permitted. Students may not record any portion of a lecture, class discussion or course-related learning activity without the prior and explicit written permission of the course instructor or authorization from Student Accessibility Services. For any other use, whether by duplication, transcription, publication, sale or transfer of recordings, written approval must be obtained from the instructor for the specific use proposed. Any use other than that described above constitutes academic misconduct and may result in suspension or expulsion.

**More student support and resources (e.g. safety and wellness) can be found here:**  
<https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines>