

ARCH and CAP Elective Options- Fall 2025

Most ARCH and CAP electives require sophomore-standing or higher. Some courses may have additional pre-requisites; see description for pre-requisite information. All meeting days/times, as well as course format information, are listed in UCDAccess.

Classes offered by *Historic Preservation (HIPR)*, *Interior Design (INTD)* and *Landscape Architecture (LDAR)* contained in this guide may apply only as “CAP Electives” (not ARCH Electives) for students declared in the Arch. Design or Arch. Studies tracks (Fall 2021 or later). INTD and LDAR courses may count toward “ARCH Electives” *only* for students declared in the pre-Fall 2021 degree requirements and who do NOT have “CAP Elective” requirements. Please check with your CAP academic advisor if you are unsure how these courses will apply for you.

- **ARCH 3330 Building Systems I** (*only applies as an ARCH or CAP elective in the Arch. Studies or Arch. Design tracks; does NOT apply as an ARCH or CAP elective if this course is already specified as a required course in the pre-Fall 2021 curriculum*)
 - o Focuses on the environmental systems in commercial and other nonresidential buildings. Discusses natural and artificial lighting, HVAC systems, acoustics, vertical transportation and fire protection.
 - **Pre-req: ARCH 3110 or 2121**
 - **Recommended pre-req: Pre-Calc equivalent and PHYS 2010/2321**
- **ARCH 3340 Theory of Structures I** (*only applies as an ARCH or CAP elective in the Arch. Studies or Arch. Design tracks; does NOT apply as an ARCH or CAP elective if this course is already specified as a required course in the pre-Fall 2021 curriculum*)
 - o Focuses on the relationship between architectural concepts and the selection of structural systems. Addresses the qualitative and quantitative analysis of reinforced concrete, steel, and wood structural systems and members.
 - **Recommended pre-req: Pre-Calc equivalent and PHYS 2010/2321**
- **ARCH 3600.001- Special Topics Cultural: Memory in Built Form**
 - o In Memory in Built Form, we will explore a history and theory of memory in monuments and memorials. This will not be a traditional history class. We will break down existing monuments and memorials into their component parts and learn how they create meaning. Whose lives are represented in memorials, and whose are not? How should monuments such as those dedicated to Confederate leaders in the American South be addressed? How do designers embed memory into their work? We will examine these critical questions and more.
 - **NOTE: This course was previously titled “Embodying Memory.” If you completed Embodying Memory previously, do not enroll in this course; you cannot earn credit for both.**
- **ARCH 3600.002- Special Topics Cultural: The Classical Elements**
 - o This course covers ancient and contemporary studies in the practice of proportional systems expressed by the timelessness and traditions of Classical Architecture.

Students gain an understanding for the Canon of Classical Orders and rules of Architectonic grammar through graphic exercises and compositions.

 - **Pre-req: ARCH 2121 or 3110**

- **ARCH 3800.001- Special Topics Technical: Advanced Digital Techniques**
 - The course will build technical literacy through the material investigation of points, lines, vectors, pixels, meshes, voxels, classes, targets and more. Through weekly workshops and tutorials, students will be guided through a series of digital methods and representation tools including rendering, 3D photogrammetry, augmented reality (AR), 360 imagining, Grasshopper plug-ins, AI-machine learning, and object detection programming.

- **ARCH 3800.002- Special Topics Technical: Modelmaking in Design**
 - Architectural Model Building will be taught as a critical tool for expressing building design, tectonics, and beauty. Students will learn to articulate overall architectural composition, materiality, structural systems and assembly, details, connections, and aesthetics through their own emerging design voice. Model making will be taught from quick conceptual expressions to finished presentation assemblies.

Hand and digital tools will be applied separately, and as hybrid methodologies. Modeling materials will range from the classics—wood, steel, bio-growth—to experimental sources such as case metal, wax, ceramics, fabric, recycled waste, and others. Eco-modeling methods will support student- and environmental health, and sustainable architectural design.

Effective model building is a valuable skill that can be applied to future courses and further reinforce visual presentation methods. Model building is developed to reinforce Studio, Structures, Sustainability, History, and other courses.

- **ARCH 3805.001 - Beginning Revit**
 - Introduction to Building Information Modeling through Autodesk's Revit Architecture software. The course explores fundamental architectural concepts as they are developed and expressed in Revit. Appropriate program use and team learning experiences are emphasized.
 - ***Pre-req: ARCH 2121 or 3110 (ARCH 3430 recommended)***

- **HIPR 3210.001 Historic Buildings in Context**
 - This course covers the concept of "historic significance" and develops skills in understanding and professionally utilizing this concept. Procedures and skills are introduced.
 - ***Pre-req: Junior-standing or higher***

- **INTD 1005.001- Introduction to Interior Design**
 - This course is an introduction to the practice and principles of Interior Design. Providing an overview of design theory and process while exploring key elements such as furniture, texture, color, lighting, sustainability, and materiality shaping the built environment.

- **INTD 2000.001- Global History & Theory of Interior Design**
 - Students will gain knowledge about the history of interiors in relation to architecture, art history, decorative arts, furniture, and material culture from western and non-western perspectives. Students will gain knowledge of technologies affecting interior design and gain an awareness of human and environmental behavior theories that inform design.

- **INTD 3100.001- Drawing Out the Interiors**
 - In this course, students gain an understanding of elements and principles of design, including spatial definition, organization, and human-centered design through precedence studies and on-site spatial analysis. Students develop 2d and 3d visualization skills, and gain knowledge of analog and digital tools to effectively communicate design ideas from conceptualization and design development integrating furnishings, products, materials, and finishes.
- **INTD 3686.001- Special Topics in Interior Design: Interiors Visualization**
 - This course introduces students to Building Information Modeling (BIM) using Revit, focusing on workflow, three-dimensional modeling, rendering, and the production of construction drawings. Students will develop skills in design development, presentation, and documentation, learning best practices for efficiently modeling interiors and coordinating with project teams.

Through hands-on exercises and real-world applications, students will:

- Navigate the Revit interface and workspace efficiently.
- Develop floor plans, elevations, and sections
- Apply materials, lighting, and rendering techniques to enhance presentations.
- Utilize Revit's tools for collaboration and design analysis in the built environment.

Emphasizing the strategic use of commands, settings, and workflows, this course equips future designers with essential BIM skills to bring their concepts to life in a professional setting.

- **INTD 4200.001 and 002- Interior Design Workshop**
 - This workshop introduces a design studio-style course with a hands-on approach. Exploring two and three-dimensional design. Emphasis on fundamental skills and ideas shared across design disciplines, JEDI, and sustainability. Creative processes, visual order, materials, and critical thinking are investigated through applied projects. Students will apply design processes and theories to basic interior design projects, as they learn additional graphic tools, techniques, and standards for effective design communication.
 - **Pre-req: INTD 3100 and declared Interior Design minor**
 - **Section 002:**
 - A hands-on, studio-style workshop exploring human factors in design through the lens of furniture design and construction. Students will investigate ergonomics, anthropometrics, materiality, and user experience while designing and modeling furniture pieces to be incorporated into a final project.
 - **Location:** Slate
 - 1445 Market St, Denver, CO 80202
 - **Note: These sections are classified as “Extended Studies,” which means they are not COF eligible, and you must follow the steps below to register:**
 - 1) In the registration section of UCD Access, use the “Advanced Search” option.
 - 2) Select the following search criteria:
 - a. **Institution:** CU Denver
 - b. **Term:** Fall 2025
 - c. **Campus:** Extended Studies
 - d. **Subject:** INTD
 - e. **Course Number:** 4200

- **LDAR 4421.001 – History of Landscape Architecture**
 - Intro survey course fosters workable understanding of landscape architecture design history and theory and offers a base for understanding trends and ideas influencing contemporary practice. Emphasizes Western Europe and the United States from antiquity to early twentieth century.

- **LDAR 4470.500- Plants in Design**
 - Explores the challenges, opportunities and responsibilities of designing with living, growing, and ever-changing organisms. Students learn to identify plants that are commonly used in the Colorado region and the principles, theories, methods, and techniques for planting design. ***This course takes place at the Denver Botanical Gardens. Students will need to secure transportation to the location.***
 - **Note: This course is classified as an “Extended Studies” course, which means it is not COF eligible, and you must follow the steps below to register:**
 - 3) In the registration section of UCD Access, use the “Advanced Search” option.
 - 4) Select the following search criteria:
 - a. Institution: CU Denver
 - b. Term: Fall 2025
 - c. Campus: Extended Studies
 - d. Subject: LDAR
 - e. Course Number: 4470

- **LDAR 4472.001 – Landscape Ecology**
 - Course emphasizes continuity and change in an ecology of the natural and man-made landscape. Focuses on biological, geophysical, cultural, and perceptual factors involved in landscape, spatial organization, and regional structure. Introduces field ecology for landscape architecture.

- **LDAR 4486.001- Special Topics in Landscape Architecture: Urban Imagination: Landscapes, Cities, Power and Resistance**
 - This seminar will explore relationships and interdependencies between the built environment and systems of power and resistance, with a particular emphasis on heterogenous societies and competing cultural-political orders and processes. How space is shaped by human agendas and influences, both from a top-down and bottom-up perspective, and conversely informs and impacts collective and individual identities and behaviors in the context of contested power and forms of resistance against dominant authority is a question central to a wide range of fields and disciplines. This question will be investigated through readings, discussions, films, guest lectures, workshops and short local field trips covering various lenses and perspectives.