

ARCH and CAP Elective Options- Fall 2026

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*)
 - 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*)
 - 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: Untitled**
 - This will be a history of representation type of class. More information to come!

- **ARCH 3600.002- Special Topics Cultural: Architectural Research Seminar**
 - This course will explore various methods for architectural research, developing critical inquiry into forms of pedagogy and practice. The course will follow a seminar format known in Latin as ‘colloquium’ (*to talk together*) – where case studies will be presented, read about, and discussed in class. Through collective and independent forms of research, students will establish a set of ‘values’ to help organize, filter, and expand their own critical practice. Supported by a series of academic skill-building workshops, students will complete a semester long research, writing, and presentation project.

- **ARCH 3602.950- Architectural Photography**
 - Architecture elective in photography of space, interior, and exterior with an emphasis on design composition of architecture.
 - The class will travel to multiple sites in Denver, with one longer trip within approximately 30 miles of Denver. Students are responsible for travel to and from class locations. Details and more comprehensive travel plans will be discussed on the first day of class. Please contact the instructor for more information.
 - This course requires Forty to fifty percent of class meetings will take place remotely, via Zoom. The remaining fifty to sixty percent of classes will take place in the field—at iconic Colorado Buildings, museums, parks, etc., where students will learn in a hands-on environment.
 - **Note: This course is classified as an “Extended Studies” course, which means it is not COF eligible**

- **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 4200.500- 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.
 - 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
 - **Pre-req: INTD 3100 and declared Interior Design minor**
 - **Note: This course is classified as "Extended Studies," which means it is not COF eligible.**

- **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.**

- **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: Deconstructing Place: Cities, Landscape, Power and Resistance**
 - Who we are depends on where we are. Architects, landscape architects, planners and designers only have a small amount of influence on how “where we live” looks and works. The design and planning of our physical environment is influenced by many other forces, actors and “intellectual infrastructures” – from global to local, from overt to invisible, from political to ecological to economic – forces that wield a far greater influence and dictate what happens in the spaces architecture, landscape architecture, design and planning eventually get to shape.

This seminar will explore, looking through the lens of power, what those forces and actors are, what their decisions are based on, how they work, and how design and planning fields can understand them better and increase their involvement in decisions about the future of neighborhoods, landscapes, and cities that are made without their input.

Looking at cities, we will investigate how people over time have responded to spaces that were delineated and designed for them, how they have been able to gain power and influence over the future of where they are, and what lessons spatial design and planning fields can learn.

Readings, discussions, films, guest lectures and short local field trips will provide multiple perspectives on the larger themes of social, spatial and environmental justice and how the cities we live in are shaped by the interplay of everyday life of people and political and economic power.