

Fall 2024 Elective Courses for Master of Architecture Program

The Master of Architecture degree program requires a total of eight (8) elective courses, distributed across five distinct categories:

- 1x Representational Studies Required Elective: select *any* 65__ level course
- 1x Historical/Cultural Studies Required Elective: select *any* 62__ level course
- 1x Technical Studies Required Elective: select *any* 63__ level course
- 3x Architecture Elective: select *any* ARCH-designated elective not already used for a different requirement; three total classes (9 credits) required
- 2x Open Elective: select any graduate-level (e.g. 5000+) course; see below.

Open Electives: The M. ARCH degree requires the completion of two *Open Elective* classes; this represents the most flexible type of elective in the degree program. An *Open Elective* can be fulfilled by completing any graduate level course of the student's choosing that is not already in use for a different requirement; B- or higher grade required. Please consider searching for other content in CAP programs: Architecture (ARCH), Historic Preservation (HIPR), Interior Design (INTD), Landscape Architecture (LDAR), and Urban and Regional Planning (URPL), or other graduate level coursework at the university.

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- **ARCH 6190 – Special Topics in Design Studies: Beyond Interior**
 - Amidst social uncertainties, social complexities, and environmental changes, the discipline of interior design is facing unprecedented challenges. Historically treated as a separate discipline as the extension of fine arts, the realm of interior, nowadays, is highly intertwined with architecture and urbanism, given its increasing entanglements with everyday activities informed by waves of ecological thinking, and technological updates.
 - In-person: Wednesday 11 am – 1:45 pm
 - *This course is eligible for use toward the ARCH Elective OR Open Elective category*
- **ARCH 6205 Urban Housing**
 - This course examines housing trends and patterns; supply and demand factors; housing policies; housing challenges (e.g., inequitable distribution, special needs, segregation/discrimination, and homelessness); sociological, demographic, and economic considerations; and the roles of planners and the public and private sectors.
 - In-person: Wednesday 2 pm – 4:45 pm
 - *This course is eligible for use toward the Cultural Studies Required Elective OR ARCH Elective OR Open Elective category*
- **ARCH 6231 Regionalisms & the Vernacular**

- This course explores the built environment of vernacular architecture and cultural landscapes as a lens for understanding sustainable design practices and the growing tension between human needs and the natural environment. Course content focuses on evolutionary change, meeting utilitarian needs, responding to environmental forces, and aesthetic inspirations in the region's historic architecture and rural landscapes.
- In-person: Tuesday 9:30 am – 12:15 pm
- *This course is eligible for use toward the Cultural Studies Required Elective OR ARCH Elective OR Open Elective category.*

- **ARCH 6233-001 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.
 - In-person: Thursday, 6:15 pm – 9:00 pm
 - *This course is eligible for use toward the Cultural Studies Required Elective OR ARCH Elective OR Open Elective category.*

- **ARCH 6290-001 Special Topics in Cultural Studies: Reassess Bauhaus**
 - This course will examine the ideals and political context of the school’s origins during World War I through to its contentious development during the Weimar republic culminating in its eventual demise at the hands of the Nazis. The conceptual ideals and fundamental rationale behind its innovative and integrative curriculum will be investigated as will a cross section of its most influential architects such as Walter Gropius, Hannes Meyer, and Mies Van de Rohe. The work of artists and designers such as Paul Klee, Moholy-Nagy, Herbert Bayer, and Oskar Schlemmer will also be explored to comprehend how their aesthetics, social ideas and personalities contributed to its highly charged multidisciplinary atmosphere. Within this context, the course will also lay bare the external and internal conflicts that plagued its existence and infected its legacy. Finally, the course will conclude by speculating upon the legacy of the Bauhaus and its role in shaping the processes of rapid globalization that exemplified the latter half of the twentieth century and still transform our lives to this day.
 - Mixed modality: Tuesday ZOOM, 11 – 12:15 pm; Thursday IN-PERSON 11 – 12:15 pm
 - *This course is eligible for use toward the Cultural Studies Required Elective OR ARCH Elective OR Open Elective category.*

- **ARCH 6290-001 City Design Fundamentals**
 - City Design Fundamentals is a core course in the Master of Urban Design program and a recommended elective for all graduate students at CAP. This interdisciplinary course explores the formation and design of cities, the urban

form and its transformation over time, and the common perspectives shared by planners and designers in contemporary city-building.

- In-person: Wednesday, 2:00 pm – 4:45 pm
- *This course is eligible for use toward the Cultural Studies Required Elective OR ARCH Elective OR Open Elective category.*

- **ARCH 6390-001 Special Topics in Technology: Redefining Green**
 - This course provides an exploration of sustainability in the built environment. It delves into the historical evolution of sustainability concepts, critically examining current metrics and methodologies, particularly the whole-building Life Cycle Assessment (wbLCA) process. Students will develop a deep understanding of the environmental impacts of architecture and the tools available to measure and mitigate them. Moreover, the course will foster critical thinking about the limitations of existing sustainability frameworks and explore emerging technologies, including AI, to redefine and advance sustainable architectural practices.
 - REMOTE: Wednesday, 2:00 pm – 3:15 pm; asynchronous work to be assigned
 - *This course is eligible for use toward the Technological Studies Required Elective OR ARCH Elective OR Open Elective category.*

- **ARCH 6373-500 Introduction to Design Build**
 - Introduces the student to the project delivery methods and the history of these methods both in the United States and the world.
 - Compares Design-Build and integrated project delivery methods with other traditional delivery methods, including Design-Bid-Build, Construction Manager at Risk, and Owner's Agent as Construction Manager.
 - Examines the traditional and current roles of Owner, Architect, Consultants, General Contractor and Subcontractors.
 - Examines previous Architect/Contractor relations and the code of ethics required for emerging trends in Design-Build and Integrated Project Delivery.
 - Examines successful project management and the qualities of leadership, including confidence, vision, knowledge and empowerment.
 - In-Person: Thursday 9:30 am – 12:15 pm
 - *This course is required for the Design Build Certificate; this course is also eligible for use toward the Technological Studies Required Elective OR ARCH Elective OR Open Elective category.*
 - *Please search for this class using "Extended Studies" as the Campus Designation (as opposed to "Denver Campus).*

- **ARCH 6375-001 Green Tech Eco Fab**
 - Green Tech I is a "real build" course.
 - The Project:

- Using salvage and found materials, students produce an object of beauty and utility, small or large such as:
 - an architectural element
 - furnishing, home or body accessory
 - outdoor element
 - clothing
 - or whatever their mind imagines.
 - Design and fabrication are taught through hands-on learning in the classroom, fab-labs, and re-used material site field trips.
 - The course advances each student’s design and construction capabilities based on their individual desires, values, and academic career path.
 - This no-fear course is taught with the professor’s dedicated support and encouragement so that each student excels.
 - Enjoyment and experimentation in design and learning + success and failure are critical elements of the course processes.
 - In-Person: Monday & Wednesday 11 – 12:15 pm
 - *This course is eligible for use toward the Technological Studies Required Elective OR ARCH Elective OR Open Elective category.*
- **ARCH 6530-001 The Classical Elements**
 - 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 of the Canon of Classical Orders and rules of Architectonic grammar through graphic exercises and compositions.
 - In-person: Wednesday 3:30 pm – 6:15 pm
 - *This course is eligible for use toward the Representational Studies Required Elective OR ARCH Elective OR Open Elective category.*
- **ARCH 6590-H01 Special Topics: Architecture, Building, Community**
 - This seminar course is intended to support students in developing a critically informed ethical stance on the status and role of professional expertise in the design of participatory and inclusive built environments. The class will inquire into and through case studies of historic, contemporary, and emergent design practices and projects. Each week there will be required readings (15-30 pages per week) followed by written, one-page synopses, and *engaged* in-class discussion. Students will also be expected to co-lead one class discussion of the readings.
 - Themes will include:
 - Social Housing and Equity
 - The Right to the City
 - Grassroots Community Design
 - Environmental Degradation and Social Justice

- Diversity of Cultural Norms and Civic Life

The final project will be a personal design ethics manifesto (with options as to textual/graphic format), that will be shared with the class.

- Hybrid: Monday in-person 9:30 am – 10:45 am, Wednesday Remote/Zoom 9:30 – 10:45 am
- *This course is eligible for use toward the Representational Studies Required Elective OR ARCH Elective OR Open Elective category.*
- **ARCH 6930 / 6931 Internship I / II**
 - Students who have successfully been hired for internships during the academic term may receive academic credit by enrolling in a for-credit internship course. Please reach out to Jen Skidmore (Jen.Skidmore@ucdenver.edu; they/them/theirs pronouns) CAP Director of Professional Development for more information. Please note: regular tuition charges apply for this course.