

# CA5148: ARCHITECTURE AND URBANISM

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## Effective Term

Semester A 2025/26

## Part I Course Overview

### Course Title

Architecture and Urbanism

### Subject Code

CA - Civil and Architectural Engineering

### Course Number

5148

### Academic Unit

Architecture and Civil Engineering (CA)

### College/School

College of Engineering (EG)

### Course Duration

One Semester

### Credit Units

3

### Level

P5, P6 - Postgraduate Degree

### Medium of Instruction

English

### Medium of Assessment

English

### Prerequisites

Nil

### Precursors

Nil

### Equivalent Courses

Nil

### Exclusive Courses

Nil

## Part II Course Details

### Abstract

Cities are human socio-spatial constructions that enable proximate living, working, and playing, in a shared spatial sphere. Students learn how architectural and urban theories are inter-related today, and in history, and how this will change in

the future, from various perspectives including those of geography, anthropology, economics and ecology. The lenses of urban planning, development and design will frame these perspectives to ensure relevance to architects and the making of spatial form. These are the key operational spheres through which sharing space use in cities happen; designers in and for the city must be able to work with these. Tools and techniques useful for making urban opportunities and constraints both inspirational and informative to architectural design are introduced. Issues that will be explored include spatial design at different spatial scales, the changing role of architects in the city, and concepts of space and place.

### Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

CILOs	Weighting (if app.)	DEC-A1	DEC-A2	DEC-A3
1	Demonstrate knowledge of how urban and architectural theories inter-relate, in the past, present and future, from various disciplinary viewpoints.	x		
2	Conduct urban analysis using selected tools and techniques.	x	x	
3	Apply theory and analysis to address architectural design challenges.	x	x	x

#### A1: Attitude

Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.

#### A2: Ability

Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to real-life problems.

#### A3: Accomplishments

Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.

### Learning and Teaching Activities (LTAs)

LTAs	Brief Description	CILO No.	Hours/week (if applicable)
1	Lectures	Students will engage in lectures to acquire knowledge related to urban and architectural theories.	1, 2, 3
2	Tutorial	Students will engage in tutorials to develop skills of analysis and design.	1, 2, 3

#### Additional Information for LTAs

Semester Hours: 3 hours per week

Lecture/Tutorial/Laboratory Mix: Lecture (Mix); Tutorial (Mix); Laboratory (-)

Mixed lecture and tutorial sessions, with flipped classrooms.

#### Assessment Tasks / Activities (ATs)

	ATs	CILO No.	Weighting (%)	Remarks ("-" for nil entry)	Allow Use of GenAI?
1	Assignments	1, 2, 3	100		No

**Continuous Assessment (%)**

100

**Examination (%)**

0

**Minimum Continuous Assessment Passing Requirement (%)**

40

**Minimum Examination Passing Requirement (%)**

0

**Assessment Rubrics (AR)****Assessment Task**

Assignments (Applicable to students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

**Criterion**

Knowledge of how urban and architectural theories inter-relate, in the past, present and future, from various disciplinary viewpoints.

Ability to conduct urban analysis using selected tools and techniques.

Ability to apply theory and analysis to address architectural design challenges.

**Excellent**

(A+, A, A-) High

**Good**

(B+, B, B-) Significant

**Fair**

(C+, C, C-) Moderate

**Marginal**

(D) Basic

**Failure**

(F) Not even reaching marginal levels

**Assessment Task**

Assignments (Applicable to students admitted from Semester A 2022/23 to Summer Term 2024)

**Criterion**

Knowledge of how urban and architectural theories inter-relate, in the past, present and future, from various disciplinary viewpoints.

Ability to conduct urban analysis using selected tools and techniques.

Ability to apply theory and analysis to address architectural design challenges.

**Excellent**

(A+, A, A-) High

**Good**

(B+, B) Significant

**Marginal**

(B-, C+, C) Basic

**Failure**

(F) Not even reaching marginal levels

## Part III Other Information

**Keyword Syllabus**

Urban design; public good; urban planning; real estate development; architecture; urbanism; spatial design; role of architect; space and place.

**Reading List**

**Compulsory Readings**

Title	
1	Mumford, E.P. & ProQuest, 2018. Designing the modern city : urbanism since 1850, New Haven, CT: Yale University Press.
2	Carmona, M., Heath, T., Oc, T. and Tiesdell, S., 2012. Public places-Urban spaces. Routledge.

**Additional Readings**

Title	
1	Chiaradia, A.J., Sieh, L. and Plimmer, F., 2017. Values in urban design: A design studio teaching approach. Design Studies, 49, pp.66-100.
2	Webster, Chris (2007), Property rights, public space and urban design, in Town Planning Review, Vol. 78, Issue 1, pp. 81-101
3	Marshall, S., 2012. Science, pseudo-science and urban design. Urban Design International, 17(4), pp.257-271. (this is a critique of some of the seminal texts).
4	Larice, Michael and Macdonald, Elizabeth (2006) "The Urban Design Reader" New York: Routledge.