



Land Acknowledgement: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/indigenous/cultural-teachings/territorial-land-acknowledgement>

Course Number	ARCH 400	Classroom	Web-based instruction
Course Name	Introduction to Architecture, Planning and Landscape Architecture		
Pre/Co-Requisites	None		
Instructor	Dr. T.P. Keenan	Office Hours/Location	Office hours by appointment, via email or Zoom
	Email: keenan@ucalgary.ca		Phone: [REDACTED]
Class Dates	Sept. 2-Dec. 5, 2025. Completely online and asynchronous.		
Instructor Email Policy	Please note that all course communications must occur through your @ucalgary email. We will respond to emails sent via student's @ucalgary emails within 48 hours.		
Name and Email of Teaching Assistant(s)	Yaser Rahmaniani yaser.rahmaniani@ucalgary.ca Sneha Maliat Haque snehamaliat.haque@ucalgary.ca		

Course Description

An examination of the central concepts of architecture, planning, and landscape architecture delivered in an online format.

<https://calendar.ucalgary.ca/courses/1651601>

Design is everywhere. It is part of your everyday communication, your household, and your workplace. Design is also a complex concept. It is both a process and the result of that process—the shape, style, and meaning of environments that have been designed. Many factors influence the design process: the location, the environmental issues, the relationship with its surroundings, the ideas of the designer, technological determinants, the cultural context that gave rise to the need for the project in the first place, and finally, the social, economic, political and the legislative context that will frame the design.

New tools, such as augmented reality, are continually being developed that will change the nature of our practice. This course helps you to understand the natural, built, and human environments and focuses on fashioning physical and social interventions informed by human behavior and environmental processes.

It includes fields such as architecture, planning, urban design, environmental science, industrial and product design, technology, and landscape architecture.
Course Hours: 3 units (3-0)

Requisites

See [Section 3.3.5](#) of the Academic Calendar for more information regarding School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape courses.

- Prerequisite(s): None
- Corequisite(s): None

Online Delivery and Learning Resources

This course is completely online and asynchronous, with no face-to-face meetings or Zoom sessions. Each week, *usually* on Wednesday, a new topic's material will be released, consisting of at least one video lecture, related readings, and an assignment. The assignments are to be completed and placed in the appropriate D2L dropbox by the due date, as shown on the course outline.

Evaluations are also returned via the D2L dropbox. Discussion group posts should be made in the appropriate topical discussion group.

Course Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students will know and be able to:

1. Have an evidence-based, holistic understanding of the issues relevant to architecture, urban planning, landscape architecture, and related disciplines.
2. Acquire basic skills in each of these disciplines.
3. Understand how an interdisciplinary approach can be used to solve complex problems.
4. Apply "design thinking" to small but important examples of personal interest.
5. Be familiar with the various career paths and educational options relevant to the fields covered in the course.

Special Budgetary Requirements

None

The University policy on grading and related matters is described in [F.1](#) and [F.2](#) of the Academic Calendar. In determining the overall grade in the course, the following weights will be used:

Assessment Components			
Assessment Method	Description	Weight	Aligned Course Learning Outcome
12 assignments worth 7.5% each	Submitted to the appropriate dropbox by the due date	90%	All
Class participation	Evaluated by quality and quantity of discussion board postings. At least one good, non-trivial post for each topic is required for full marks.	10%	All

Assessment and Evaluation Information

- **Attendance and Participation Expectations:** While there is no synchronous component, students are expected to study each topic during the week it is assigned. This involves watching the video(s), reading the materials provided, making discussion posts, and completing the associated assignment by the due date. It is **very highly recommended** that you keep up with the weekly rhythm of the course, submit assignments by the due date specified and make discussion posts during the week you are studying the material. That way you will avoid losing marks for late penalties and learn the material most effectively. Attempting to do all the assignments at the end of the course is a proven recipe for disaster. Trust me on this, and please do not take this as a challenge!
- **Guidelines for Submitting Assignments:** Please submit to the appropriate dropbox. Evaluations will be returned there. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that the assignment is correctly submitted.
- **Final Examinations:** There is no final examination.
- **Expectations for Writing:**
(<https://calendar.ucalgary.ca/pages/2c2d1ce47b8c4d008aec9cc3da49876e>):
- **Late Assignments:** Assignment submissions made after the deadlines shown on the course outline will be accepted up until the Final Deadline. They may be penalized up to one full grade (e.g., A to B) for lateness. There is a single "day of grace" available to you, which can be used to extend the deadline for ONE assignment submission by 24 hours. Please note "day of grace" in the dropbox submission comment field if you choose to use this.
- **Discussion board postings** *should be made as you do each topic* but are accepted until the Final Deadline without a lateness penalty. No work will be accepted for grading after the Final Deadline has passed.
- **Criteria that must be met to pass:** It is not necessary to pass any specific component to pass the course.

Scheduled Out-of-Class Activities: None

Flexible Grade Option (CG Grade):

As per [Section 3.5.1](#) of the Academic Calendar, the School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape will not permit the Flexible Grade Option (CG Grade) for any course offered by the School, with the exception of the following courses:

- Architecture 201
- Landscape Architecture 201
- Planning 201

Grading Scale:

Based on [Section F.1.1](#) of the Academic Calendar

Grade	Grade Point Value	4-Point Range	Percent	Description
A+	4.00	4.00	95-100	Outstanding performance
A	4.00	3.85-4.00	90-94.99	Excellent performance
A-	3.70	3.50-3.84	85-89.99	Approaching excellent performance
B+	3.30	3.15-3.49	80-84.99	Exceeding good performance
B	3.00	2.85-3.14	75-79.99	Good performance
B-	2.70	2.50-2.84	70-74.99	Approaching good performance
C+	2.30	2.15-2.49	65-69.99	Exceeding satisfactory performance
C	2.00	1.85-2.14	60-64.99	Satisfactory performance
C-	1.70	1.50-1.84	55-59.99	Approaching satisfactory performance. Minimum grade requirement for prerequisite courses.
D+	1.30	1.15-1.49	50-54.99	Marginal pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
D	1.00	0.50-1.14	45-49.99	Minimal Pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
F	0.00	0-0.49	0-44.99	Failure. Did not meet course requirements.

Topic Areas & Detailed Class Schedule

In general, a new topic will be opened up each Wednesday, and the corresponding assignment will be due the following Wednesday at 2359. See below for details/exceptions.

Material Released	Topic & Profs	Assignments/Due Dates
Sept 2 (early release)	Topic 1 Intro to Course and to Architecture (Brown & Monteyne)	Asst 1 Sept 10 @2359
Sept 10	Topic 2 E-visit to an Architecture Firm (Boutin)	Asst 2 Sept 17 @2359
Sept 17	Topic 3 Critical Residential Practice (Brown)	Asst 3 Sept 24 @2359
Sept 24	Topic 4 Landscape Architecture (Pollock-Ellwand, de Salvatierra)	Asst 4 Oct 1 @2359
Oct 1	Topic 5 Smart Communities (Keenan)	Asst 5 Oct 8 @2359
Oct 8	Topic 6 Sustainable Cities (Keough, Soto-Rubio)	Asst 6 Oct 15 @2359
Oct 15	Topic 7 Urban Design (Sandalack, Harker)	Asst 7 Oct 22 @2359
Oct 22	Topic 8 Industrial Design (Gadbois)	Asst 8 Oct 29 @2359
Oct 29	Topic 9 Technology (Wylant, Taron)	Asst 9 Nov 5 @2359
Nov 5	Topic 10 Visualization (Levy)	Asst 10 Nov 19 @2359 (due to term break)
Nov 19	Topic 11 Environmental Science (Quinn, Galpern, Tyler)	Asst 11 Nov 26 @2359
Nov 26	Topic 12 Lifecycle Assessment (Assefa)	Asst 12 Dec 3 @2359
Dec 5	End of classes	Final Deadline @ 2359

Additional Classroom Conduct and Related Information:

- **Code of Conduct:** The SAPL Studio spaces and other SAPL/University-provided facilities and equipment are governed by the [University's Student Non-Academic Misconduct Policy](#). Professional and courteous behavior is expected at all times. For more information, please refer to [Appendix 1: Prohibited Conduct](#), including the following categories: 1. Protection of Individuals; 2. Protection of Property; 3. Protection of University Functions, Activities and Services; 4. False Information and Identification; 5. Possession or Use of Dangerous Objects, Drugs or Alcohol; 6. Aiding in the Commission of an Offence; 7. Contravention of Other Laws and University Policies; and 8. Failure to Comply with a Sanction.

University of Calgary Policies and Supports:

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY COVID-19 UPDATES AND PROCEDURES

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/risk/emergency-management/covid-19-response/covidsafe-campus>

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

<https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/access/prospective-students/academic-accommodations>

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures listed below. The student accommodation policy can be found at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-accommodation-policy>

Students needing an accommodation because of a disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Accommodation-for-Students-with-Disabilities-Procedure.pdf>

Students needing an accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfil requirements for a graduate degree, based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to their instructor (contact information on first page above).

[Student Accessibility Services](#) 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/.

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

Academic Misconduct refers to student behavior which compromises proper assessment of a student's academic activities and includes: cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism; unauthorized assistance; failure to comply with an instructor's expectations regarding conduct

required of students completing academic assessments in their courses; and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.

For information on the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedures please visit:

- Student Academic Misconduct Policy: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-academic-misconduct-policy>
- Student Academic Misconduct Procedure: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-academic-misconduct-procedure>

Additional information is available on the Academic Integrity Website at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity>.

Notice to Students Regarding Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) Applications and Tools in Learning Environments

There are many tools available to assist you in research and writing, and it would be foolish to ignore them or try to restrict their use. On the other hand, it is imperative that the work that you submit in the twelve assignments and weekly discussion group postings comes from your own brain and your own lived experience. We want you to learn and understand the material and not simply figure out how to create prompts for an AI program.

Restricted Use: You are allowed to use tools, including ChatGPT, Microsoft CoPilot, Wikipedia, Gemini, Google Search, etc. to help you to understand the course material, and to conduct research for your submissions. However, what you submit **must have come from your own mind and experience and have been written by you**. Many of the assignments are designed to lead you in this direction, e.g. asking you to find good and bad urban design features in your own neighborhood and to take photos of them and discuss them.

The inappropriate or undocumented use of generative AI, including the use of work created by generative AI tools and applications in course assignments and assessments, may be considered in accordance with the university's Student Academic Misconduct Policy.

In summary:

- AI tools can be used for learning course material but not for completing assignments.
- Students must not copy or paraphrase from AI applications for assignments.
- The use of AI tools for assignments may be considered an academic offense.

If you are in doubt as to the use of generative AI tools in this course, please discuss your situation with the course instructor or teaching assistant.

COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/acceptable-use-material-protected-copyright-policy>) 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 (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-non-academic-misconduct-policy>).

INSTRUCTOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

PROTECTION OF PRIVACY ACT

The University of Calgary (University) respects your privacy and is committed to ensuring the privacy of all students, staff, and community members. UCalgary's collection, use, and disclosure of your personal information is authorized under section 4(c) of the Alberta [Protection of Privacy Act](#) (POPA). It will be collected, used and disclosed as permitted under POPA and in accordance with the University's [Privacy Policy](#) and [Notice of Collection, Use and Disclosure of Student Personal Information](#). All student assignments and personal information provided to your course instructor will remain confidential unless otherwise stated before submission. It will not be disclosed to anyone else without your permission unless permitted under POPA.

SEXUAL AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE POLICY

The University recognizes that all members of the University Community should be able to learn, work, teach and live in an environment where they are free from harassment, discrimination, and violence. The University of Calgary's Sexual and Gender-Based Violence Policy guides us in how we respond to incidents of sexual and/or gender-based violence, including supports available to those who have experienced or witnessed sexual/gender-based

violence, or those who are alleged to have committed sexual/gender-based violence. It provides clear response procedures and timelines, defines complex concepts, and addresses incidents that occur off-campus in certain circumstances. Please see the policy available at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/sexual-and-gender-based-violence-policy>.

UNIVERSITY STUDENT APPEALS OFFICE

If a student has a concern about a grade that they have received, they should refer to Section I of the Undergraduate Calendar (<https://calendar.ucalgary.ca/uofcregs/university-regulations/reappraisal-term-work>) which describes how to have a grade reappraised.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Please visit the Registrar's website at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines> for additional important information on the following:

- Wellness and Mental Health Resources
- Student Success
- Student Ombuds Office
- Student Union (SU) Information
- Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Information
- Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points
- Safewalk