

Architectural Association  
School of Architecture

2016–17

GRADUATE  
SCHOOL





The AA Graduate School includes 11 postgraduate programmes offering advanced studies for students with prior academic and professional experience. It is an important part of the larger AA School. Unless otherwise noted, all programmes are full-time courses of study, and all students join the school in September at the outset of a new academic year.

MA/MSc programmes include three academic terms of taught courses that conclude in late June, followed by a dissertation writing period leading up to the submission of final coursework in September. MArch programmes include two phases of study. Phase 1 consists of three academic terms of studio design and taught coursework concluding in late June. Following a summer break, all students return in September and undertake Phase 2 Thesis Design projects, which are submitted and presented the following January. The MPhil course in Projective Cities is similarly organised in two phases, with a longer Phase 2 that concludes the course in May of the second year of studies. The PhD programme normally includes three years of full-time studies and a final year of part-time enrolment during the preparation of the final PhD submission.

# Graduate School Programme List

## Architecture & Urbanism (DRL)

(MArch)

Design Research Laboratory is the AA's innovative team-based programme in experimental architecture and urbanism.

[www.aadrl.net](http://www.aadrl.net)

## Emergent Technologies & Design

(MSc/MArch)

EmTech emphasises forms of architectural design that proceed from innovative technologies.

[emtech.aaschool.ac.uk](http://emtech.aaschool.ac.uk)

## History & Critical Thinking

(MA)

History & Critical Thinking encourages a critical understanding of contemporary architecture and urban culture grounded in a knowledge of histories and forms of practice.

[www.aaschool.ac.uk/ht](http://www.aaschool.ac.uk/ht)

## Housing & Urbanism

(MA/MArch)

Housing & Urbanism rethinks urbanism as a spatial discipline through a combination of design projects and contemporary theory.

[www.aaschool.ac.uk/hu](http://www.aaschool.ac.uk/hu)

## Landscape Urbanism

(MSc/MArch)

Landscape Urbanism investigates the processes, techniques and knowledge related to the practices of contemporary urbanism.

[landscapeurbanism.aaschool.ac.uk](http://landscapeurbanism.aaschool.ac.uk)

## Sustainable Environmental Design (SED)

(MSc/MArch)

SED introduces new forms of architectural practice and design related to the environment and sustainability.

[sed.aaschool.ac.uk](http://sed.aaschool.ac.uk)

## Spatial Performance and Design (AAIS)

(MA/MFA)

AAIS is open to professionals in many creative fields who collectively realise projects between architecture, art and performance.

[www.interprofessionals.net](http://www.interprofessionals.net)

## Design & Make

(MSc/MArch)

Design & Make pursues the design and realisation of alternative, experimental rural architectures, and is based at the AA's Hooke Park campus in Dorset.

[www.aaschool.ac.uk/designandmake](http://www.aaschool.ac.uk/designandmake)

## MPhil in Media Practices\*

The MPhil in Media Practices is a five-term course that explores the possibilities that different media offer in the critical consideration of architecture.

## Taught MPhil in Architecture and Urban Design

(Projective Cities)

Projective Cities is a 20-month course dedicated to the city as a site for projective knowledge, research and design.

[projectivecities.aaschool.ac.uk](http://projectivecities.aaschool.ac.uk)

## PhD Programme

(MPhil/PhD)

The PhD Programme fosters advanced scholarship and innovative research in the fields of architecture and urbanism through full-time doctoral studies. The programme includes the PhD in Architectural Design, a studio-based option for architects with experience in design research, an interest in advancing architectural theory, design practices and scholarship.

[www.aaschool.ac.uk/phd](http://www.aaschool.ac.uk/phd)

Please note: Masters programmes at the AA are specialist research programmes which do not lead to any professional exemptions. If you are interested in gaining ARB/RIBA Part 2, *please review the application details for the Diploma School* (fourth and fifth year).

The Architectural Association School of Architecture (Inc) reserves the right to vary or omit all or any of its facilities, tuition or activities, or amend in any substantial way any of the tuition or activities for which students may have enrolled. Students shall have no claim against the AA in respect of any alteration made to the course.

The AA is an Approved Institution and Affiliated Research Centre of The Open University (OU), UK. All taught graduate degrees at the AA are validated by the OU. The OU is the awarding body for research degrees at the AA.

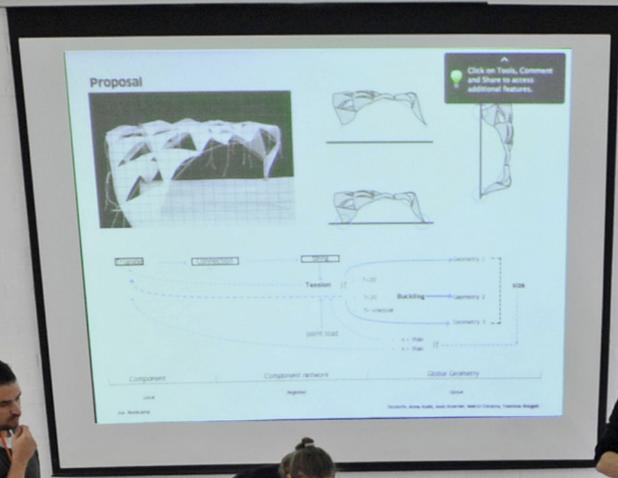
\*Subject to approval and validation by the OU.



DRC preparing for Final Jury

Conforms to ISO 9001  
**PERSPEX**  
Guaranteed for 10 years





A man in a grey sweater and dark pants stands on the left side of the stage, looking towards the projection screen.

A woman in a black top and dark pants is leaning over a table, working on a model or drawing.

A woman in a black top and dark pants is standing at the table, looking at the work.

A man in a dark jacket and dark pants is leaning over the table, looking at the work.

A man in a black t-shirt and dark pants stands on the right side of the stage, looking towards the screen.

A woman in a black dress and glasses stands on the right side of the stage, holding a notebook.

A man in a dark jacket and light-colored pants is sitting on a wooden bench on the right side of the stage, looking towards the screen.

A man in a black t-shirt and dark pants is sitting on a wooden stool, looking towards the stage.

A man in a pink shirt is sitting on a wooden stool, looking towards the stage.

A man in a black t-shirt and dark pants is sitting on a wooden stool, looking towards the stage.

EmTech Masterclass Bootcamp Final Jury



1

STRATEGY

LOGISTICS			
LOCATION	CHARACTER OF THE REGION	LOCAL	REGIONAL
ACCESSIBILITY	ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY	INFRASTRUCTURE	MARKET
GENERAL CONTEXT		POLICY	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>URBAN FORM</li> <li>LAND USE PATTERNS</li> <li>TRANSPORTATION</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PLANNING</li> <li>ACCIDENTS</li> <li>RESOURCES</li> </ul>	
Economic		Social/Policy	

MA RECENT PROJECT

# How to Apply and Entry Requirements

## Graduate

### Institution/School Validation

The AA School achieved the Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) Review for Educational Oversight with full confidence in 2012, plus successful QAA Annual Reports in 2013, 2014 and 2015, and maintains Highly Trusted Sponsor status with the Home Office / UK Visas and Immigration (UKVI).

### Degree Validation

The AA is an Approved Institution and Affiliated Research Centre of the Open University (OU), UK. All taught graduate courses at the AA are validated by the OU. The OU is the awarding body for research degrees at the AA.

### Graduate School Open Days

Prospective students are encouraged to visit the AA. Graduate Open Days are an opportunity to meet current students and staff, tour the AA's facilities, view presentations of student work and get advice on the application process. These events will be held on:

[Thursday 5 November 2015](#)

[Friday 22 January 2016](#)

All prospective graduate students interested in our MArch, MA, MSc, MFA, PhD and MPhil are welcome to attend. Please note, if you are interested in gaining ARB/RIBA Part 2, please attend one of our Undergraduate Open Days. Please see the AA website for full event details and to register your interest in attending the Open Days.

We also invite prospective applicants to attend the [Graduate Open Jury on Thursday 5 November 2015](#). This is an opportunity for prospective students to see the completed portfolios of students presented from 10am to 4pm. The Open Evening will follow this event.

We also invite applicants to attend the [Architecture and Urbanism \(DRL\) Final Jury](#) which will take place on [Friday 22 January 2016](#) from 10am until 6pm.

Individual or group visits for those interested in applying can also be arranged with advance notice. For further details please contact the Graduate Admissions Team on T + 44 (0) 20 7887 4007 / 4067 / 4094 or [graduateadmissions@aa.school.ac.uk](mailto:graduateadmissions@aa.school.ac.uk)

### Application Procedure

The AA School is a private institution. Anyone interested in applying to the AA must:

- Complete the online application form
- Pay the relevant application fee
- Submit a portfolio of design work (all applicants with the exception of History and Critical Thinking) before the deadlines below to be considered for the 2016/17 academic year.

The Graduate School does not insist on an interview as a condition of entry. However, applicants are strongly encouraged to visit the AA for an interview with the programme's academic staff before applying. Appointments can be made through the Graduate Admissions Team.

Upon signing the application form applicants certify that the work submitted is entirely their own. Plagiarism is unacceptable in the academic setting. Students are subject to penalties including dismissal from the course if they commit an act of plagiarism.

### Application Deadlines

[Optional Early Offers close:](#)

[Friday 27 November 2015\\*](#)

[Early \(Winter\) applications close:](#)

[Friday 29 January 2016\\*](#)

[Late \(Spring\) applications close:](#)

[Friday 11 March 2016](#)

Applications made after this date may be accepted at the discretion of the school, space permitting. Application fees are as listed on the AA website.

\* Applicants wishing to be considered for a bursary must submit their online form, English language certificate (if required) and portfolio before either the Optional Early-Offer or the Early (Winter) deadline.

### Graduate Bursaries

The AA is committed to giving as many talented students as possible the opportunity to study. Approximately one in six AA students receives financial assistance through our Scholarship, Bursary and Assistantship programme.

The AA offers [bursaries for new graduate applicants](#) who demonstrate exceptional promise and financial need. Applicants are eligible to apply for a bursary regardless of age, nationality or background. Bursary awards range from one to one-and-a-half terms, covering a proportion of student fees for the year.

In order to be eligible to apply for a bursary, applicants who require an English language examination must have booked and passed one of the approved examinations listed on the website by [Friday 29 January 2016](#), stating their interest in an AA bursary in the 'Finances and Funding' section. Applicants who require an English language examination must also have booked and passed one of the approved English language examinations listed on the AA website by [29 January 2016](#), in order to be eligible to apply for a bursary. The bursary application procedure will be explained once applicants receive an official offer.

### Graduate Programmes Entry Requirements

*Minimum Academic Requirements:*

#### [MArch in Architecture & Urbanism](#)

(Design Research Laboratory) (16 months)

Five-year professional architectural degree (BArch/ Diploma equivalent)

#### [MSc Emergent Technologies & Design](#)

(12 months) Professional degree or diploma in architecture, engineering, industrial/product design or other relevant discipline

#### [MArch Emergent Technologies & Design](#)

(16 months) Five-year professional architectural degree or diploma in architecture, engineering, industrial/product design or other relevant discipline (BArch/Diploma equivalent)

### MA History & Critical Thinking (12 months)

Second Class Honours or above degree in architecture or a related discipline from a British university, or an overseas qualification of equivalent standard (from a course no less than three years in a university or educational institution of university rank)

**MA Housing & Urbanism** (12 months) Second Class Honours or above degree in architecture or a related discipline from a British university, or an overseas qualification of equivalent standard (from a course no less than three years in a university or educational institution of university rank)

**MArch Housing & Urbanism** (16 months) Five-year professional degree in architecture or a related discipline (BArch/ Diploma equivalent)

**MSc Landscape Urbanism** (12 months) Professional degree or diploma in architecture, landscape architecture, urbanism, urban planning, geography or other relevant discipline

**MArch Landscape Urbanism** (16 months) Five-year professional degree or diploma in architecture, landscape architecture, urbanism or other relevant discipline (BArch/Diploma equivalent)

**MSc Sustainable Environmental Design** (12 months) Professional degree or diploma in architecture, engineering or other relevant discipline

**MArch Sustainable Environmental Design (SED)** (16 months) Five-year professional architectural degree (BArch/Diploma equivalent)

**MA/MFA Spatial Performance & Design (AAIS) (SED)** (MA 12 months, MFA 18 months) Second Class Honours or above degree in architecture or a related discipline from a British University or an overseas qualification of equivalent standard (from a course lasting not less than three years)

**MSc Design & Make** (12 months) Professional degree or diploma in architecture, engineering or other relevant discipline

**MArch Design & Make** (16 months) Five-year professional architectural degree (BArch/Diploma equivalent)

**MPhil in Media Practices\*** (five terms) Open to candidates with a four- or five-year degree in architecture or related discipline (BArch/Diploma equivalent)

**Taught MPhil in Architecture and Urban Design (Projective Cities)** (20 months) Open to candidates with a four- or five-year degree in architecture (BArch/Diploma equivalent)

**MPhil or PhD candidates** Candidates for MPhil/PhD research degrees must already hold an appropriate post-professional Masters degree in their proposed area of MPhil/PhD research. Applicants for PhD in Architectural Design must also hold a five-year professional degree in architecture and will be expected to submit a design portfolio.

\* Subject to approval and validation by the Open University.

### References

Applicants must submit two references with the online application form: one related to work experience, the other academic. If the applicant has no work experience two academic references are required. References must be on headed paper and signed. No application will be considered before two references have been received.

### Portfolio Requirements

With the exception of History and Critical Thinking, all applicants are required to submit a portfolio of design work (no larger than A4 format) showing a combination of both academic and professional work (if applicable).

### English Language Requirements

To meet both the AA and the Home Office/UKVI English language requirements you will need to have one of the acceptable language qualifications listed below, unless you are from one of the following groups:

- You are a national of a majority English-speaking country as defined per the list on the UKVI website; or
- You have successfully completed an academic qualification of at least three years' duration, equivalent to a UK Bachelors degree or above, which was taught in a majority English-speaking country as defined by the UKVI; or
- You successfully completed a course in the UK as a Tier 4 (Child) student visa holder. The course must have lasted for at least six months, and must have ended no more than two years prior to your visa application.

If your place is conditional on providing an English language qualification the following qualifications satisfy both the requirements of the Home Office/UKVI and the entry requirements of the AA:

- IELTS (Academic) 6.5 overall with at least 6.0 in each category – two-year validity period: must be within the two years at time of CAS visa application.
- Trinity College (Integrated Skills in English – ISE III / ISE IV) at grade C1 or C2 with a minimum pass in each category.

Please note the English language qualification requirements are subject to frequent change in line with Home Office/UKVI regulations. [Please check the AA website for up-to-date English language requirements prior to submitting your application for the 2016/17 academic year.](#)

Applicants are required to meet the scores in each category and overall – **we cannot accept lower scores**. Applicants must submit their English language examination results by **Friday 27 May 2016**, prior to entry in Term 1. The AA reserves the right to make a place in the school conditional on gaining a further English language qualification if deemed necessary.

It is the student's responsibility to remain up to date with all English language changes, which can be accessed on the Home Office/UKVI website [www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-applying-for-uk-visa-approved-english-language-tests](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-applying-for-uk-visa-approved-english-language-tests)

### Assessment and Offers

Applications and portfolios are assessed by the Programme Director and a second academic member of staff. Academic entry requirements are assessed by the admissions team.

Successful applicants will receive a conditional offer letter from the AA and must send their documents via courier or post to the AA for verification (photocopies will not be accepted). Applicants must send:

Original English language certificates.

Applicants requiring a visa must keep an additional original certificate for the visa application. All other documents should be certified true copies.

Applicants applying for a visa must keep original documents for the visa application.

We will not return these documents to you and you are therefore advised to arrange additional copies should you require them for further use.

Once all the conditions have been met applicants will receive an unconditional offer letter.

### Accepting Your Place

In order to secure a place at the AA the graduate admissions team must receive a signed admission form and a **one-term non-refundable/transferable deposit** by the due date stated on the admissions form.

Upon securing your place a Confirmation of Acceptance of Studies (CAS) can be issued for students who require a Tier 4 (General) Student Visa to study in the UK. This confirmation, together with other documentation, can be used by overseas students to apply for a visa. Please refer to the Home Office/UKVI website for further information: [www.gov.uk/government/organisations/uk-visas-and-immigration](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/uk-visas-and-immigration)

### Fees

*Fees for 2015/16\* academic year:*

MA/MSc: £23,727

MFA: £32,236

MArch (16 months): £31,636

MPhil/PhD Research Degrees: £21,369

Taught MPhil in Architecture (Projective Cities) programme (20 months): £35,615

All graduate students are required to pay an additional £95 AA Membership and Student Forum fee per year. This amount will be added to the Term 1 tuition fees. Fees are payable in advance or on an annual or termly basis. A three per cent discount\* is deducted if a full year's fees are paid by 15 July 2016.

Before the registration process can be undertaken during Introduction Week, applicants must have paid Term 1 (September-December) tuition fee inclusive of AA Membership and Student Forum membership fee, in addition to the deposit already paid.

\*Fees and discounts are subject to review annually

### Financial Assistance

The AA is committed to giving as many talented students as possible the opportunity to study. Approximately one in six AA students receives financial assistance through our Scholarship, Bursary and Assistantship programme.

#### *Bursaries for New Graduate Applicants*

New students applying for the Graduate School are eligible to apply for a bursary. Please see page D9 for full details.

#### *AA Assistantships for All Students*

A number of assistantships are offered to eligible full-time registered students who are experiencing financial hardship. Students are able to work up to ten hours per week, providing assistance with certain administrative, exhibitions, or maintenance functions. New eligible students wishing to apply will be told the procedure when they register at the beginning of the academic year. International Tier 4 students must have the legal right to work as per their international student visa.

#### *AA Scholarships*

Graduate applicants are not eligible to apply for scholarships as these are offered at Undergraduate level only.

### Accommodation

The AA does not have halls of residence. However, we enlist the services of the University of London Housing Services (ULHS) who run a private housing service for many students in London.

The ULHS can offer advice to students on how to find accommodation, which areas to consider, what the options are, pricing and more. They have an online database of accommodation offers from registered landlords and letting agents which operates throughout the year. These offers include flats and houses for groups as well as rooms in shared flats and houses. The ULHS works with a number of other providers of accommodation including short-term providers and Private Student Halls of Residence.

The ULHS also offers housing advice including a contract checking service which allows students to have their contracts for private accommodation checked before they sign. Legal advice can also be provided should students get into any difficulty in private accommodation. For further information please visit [www.housing.london.ac.uk](http://www.housing.london.ac.uk)

### Contact

For more detailed information go to [www.aaschool.ac.uk](http://www.aaschool.ac.uk)

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the Graduate Admissions Team on +44 (0)20 7887 4007/4067 / 4094 or [graduateadmissions@aschool.ac.uk](mailto:graduateadmissions@aschool.ac.uk)

# Design Research Laboratory

MArch  
16 months (four terms)

Director  
Theodore Spyropoulos

Founder  
Patrik Schumacher

Course Masters  
Robert Stuart-Smith  
Shajay Bhooshan

Programme Coordinator  
Ryan Dillon

Course Tutors  
Pierandrea Angius  
Doreen Bernath  
Apostolos Despotidis  
Alexandra Katerina  
Garcia Lipezker  
Mostafa El-Sayed  
Tyson Hosmer  
Alicia Nahmad Vasquez  
David Reeves

Technical Tutors  
Alessandro Margnelli  
Ed Moseley  
Albert Williamson-Taylor

Software Tutors  
Torsten Broeder  
Michail Desyllas  
Soomeen Hahm  
Paul Jeffries  
Eva Magnisali  
Jorge X Méndez-Cáceres  
Ashwin Shah  
Pavlina Vardoulaki

## Experimentation and Innovation (v 18)

The DRL is a 16-month post-professional design programme leading to a Masters of Architecture and Urbanism (MArch) degree. The DRL investigates digital and analogue forms of computation in the pursuit of systemic design applications that are scenario- and time-based. Considering controls systems as open acts of design experimentation, the DRL examines production processes as active agents in the development of Proto-Design systems.

## Course Structure

Four terms of study are divided into two phases. Phase I, a three-term academic year beginning each autumn, introduces design techniques and topics through a combination of team-based studio, workshop and seminar courses. In Phase II, commencing the following autumn, teams carry forward their Phase I work in the form of comprehensive design thesis projects. At the end of January these projects are presented to a panel of distinguished visiting critics, after which each team documents their 16 months of design research work in a hardbound book.

## Phase I Design Research Agenda

### *Behaviour Complexity (v 3)*

The DRL continues its exploration of prototypical design systems with our current design research agenda, Behavioural Complexity, which will investigate architecture as an instrument engaging both material and social forms of interaction. Social scenarios will be coupled with material life-cycles as a way of speculating on how we live and the role architecture can play. Behavioural, parametric and generative methodologies of computational design are coupled with physical computing and analogue experiments to create dynamic and reflexive feedback processes. New forms of spatial organisation are explored that are neither type- nor site-dependent, but instead evolve as ecologies and environments seeking adaptive and hyper-specific features. This performance-driven approach aims to develop novel design proposals concerned with the everyday. The iterative methodologies focus on investigations of spatial, structural and material organisation, engaging in contemporary discourses of architecture and urbanism.

OwO  
Studio: Theodore Spyropoulos  
Assistant: Mostafa El Sayed  
Team: Agata Banaszek (Poland), Camilla Degli  
Esposti (Italy), Ilya Pereyaslvtsev (Russia),  
Antonios Thodis (Greece)

*Theodore Spyropoulos* is director of the experimental architecture and design practice Minimaforms. He has been a visiting Research Fellow at MIT and cofounded the New Media Research Initiative at the AA. He has taught in the graduate school of the University of Pennsylvania and the Royal College of Art, Innovation Design Engineering Department and previously worked as a project architect for the offices of Peter Eisenman and Zaha Hadid Architects.

*Patrik Schumacher* is a practising architect and architectural theorist promoting parametricism. He studied philosophy and architecture in Bonn, Stuttgart and London and received his doctorate in Cultural Science at Klagenfurt University. He is a partner at Zaha Hadid Architects and has recently been the John Portman Chair at Harvard's GSD.

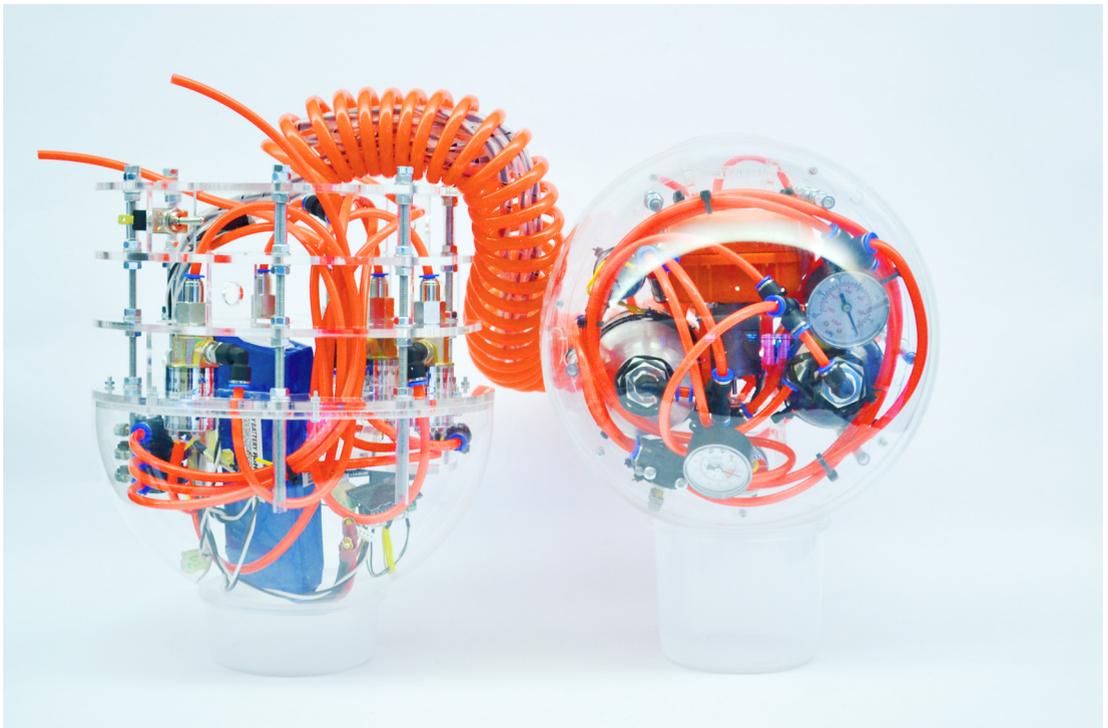
*Robert Stuart-Smith* is a director of Robert Stuart-Smith Design and co-founding director of research practice Kokkugia. He has practised architecture in the UK, US and Australia for the offices of Lab Architecture Studio, Grimshaw Architects and as an algorithmic design consultant to Ove Arup AGU and Balmond Studio for design engineering. Kokkugia and RS-SDesign's work has been widely published and exhibited, including recent acquisitions for the FRAC permanent collection and three consecutive nominations for Russia's Chernikov Prize.

*Shajay Bhooshan* is an MPhil candidate at the University of Bath and a Research Fellow at the Institute of Technology in Architecture, ETH, Zurich where he is a research assistant in the Block Research Group. He also heads the research activities of the Computation and Design (code) group at Zaha Hadid Architects in London. He completed his MArch at the AA in 2006.

*Pierandrea Angius* works for Zaha Hadid Architects. He holds a degree in architecture and a PhD in Building Technology from the Politecnico of Milan and an MArch in Architecture and Urbanism from the AA. Since 2009 he has been teaching at the University of Pennsylvania Visiting Design Studio.

*Doreen Bernath* is an architect and a theorist across disciplines of design, technology, philosophy, visual art, media and cultures. Trained at Cambridge and the AA, she won an RIBA scholarship and was a finalist in 2011 for the RIBA President's Award for Outstanding Thesis. She teaches at the AA, UCL, Leeds and is the founding director of SpaceMedia Int and DEZACT.

*Apostolos Despotidis* is currently working for Fosters + Partners and has previously worked for Minimaforms London where he has been involved in projects of various scales from urban planning to installation design. He holds an MArch from the AADRL.



## Phase II Design Research Agenda

### *Behavioural Complexity (v.2)*

The possibilities of Behavioural Complexity are explored in four parallel research labs, run by Theodore Spyropoulos, Patrik Schumacher, Robert Stuart-Smith and Shajay Bhooshan. Theodore Spyropoulos' studio, Behavioural Agency, explores autonomous self-aware and assembled systems that explore machine learning, collective building and environmental conditioning. Responsive Kinetic Structures, led by Patrik Schumacher, is based on the study of responsive deformation phenomena found in animal and plant organisms, and on the basis of physical experiments, principles of kinetic responsiveness are used to design spatial interaction scenarios involving agent-based crowd modelling. Robert Stuart-Smith's studio, Behavioural Production: Investigations into Swarm Printing, develops on-site, adaptive and on-demand construction made possible via aerial robot 3D-printing, and thus demonstrating design and production as a singular creative process inherent to collective and autonomous robotic behaviour. Shajay Bhooshan's studio, Metamorphosis: Prototypes as Applied Research in Architecture, Engineering and Manufacturing, researches and asks 'when machines will design and build' in terms of architectural design, and how can we describe, evaluate and search for the right designs.

*Ryan Dillon* studied at Syracuse University and the AA. Currently he is Unit Master of AA Intermediate 5, teaches in the History and Theory programme and works as a designer at EGG Office. Previously he worked at Moshe Safdie Architects.

*Tyson Hosmer* works as a project architect and computational researcher with Cecil Balmond in London. He has worked in the offices of Asymptote Architecture, Axi:Ome and Kokkugia. He holds a Masters from the AA and a Bachelors from Virginia Tech.

*Mostafa El-Sayed* is the co-founder of Automata Technologies and previously worked as a member of the Computation and Design group at Zaha Hadid Architects. He is a graduate of the AA and the American University

of Sharjah. He has taught and presented work at various events, workshops and institutions both in London and internationally.

*Alexandra Katerina Garcia Lipezker* is currently employed at Foster + Partners, London. A graduate of AADRL, she completed her undergraduate studies at Syracuse University, New York. She has previously worked for Legoretta Architects, Mexico.

*David Reeves* is a designer, programmer and researcher currently based in London where he works as a member of the Computation and Design (code) group at Zaha Hadid Architects. He holds a Bachelor of Architectural Studies from Carleton University and a Master of Architecture (MArch) from the University of

British Columbia. He was previously employed at Amanda Levete Architects for three years.

*Albert Williamson-Taylor* has been the lead technical tutor on the AADRL MArch programme since 2011. He is an active member on the Steering Committee of the Council for Tall Buildings, and as co-founder of design-led structural engineering firm AKT II he brings a passion for cutting-edge technology to the many projects that he oversees. He has extensive experience in award-winning designs that emphasise innovation and computational research in combination with a sustainable approach to technology and respect for heritage.

*Alicia Nahmad Vazquez* is a PhD Fellow at the Welsh School of Architecture, University of Cardiff. She previously worked with the parametric design group at Populous, London and has accumulated design and construction experience in various practices including Zaha Hadid Architects and Grupo Inmobiliario Altiva, Mexico. Her research focus includes the mediation between digital design and traditional material crafts and the incorporation of human-robot interactions on the construction site.

## Phase I Design Workshops

### *Material Behaviour*

*Robert Stuart-Smith, Shajay Bhooshan, Mostafa El-Sayed*

#### *Term 1*

Term 1 begins with two sets of three design workshop modules that emphasise computational and material prototyping as both an analytical methodology and the prime mode of design production and representation. Each five-week module focuses on a specific set of methods and intended design output, introducing Phase I students to a broad range of concepts and techniques that can be taken forward to future workshops and the year-long Phase I and Phase II studio projects.

## Phase II Prototyping Workshop

### *Adaptive Systems and Structures*

*Theodore Spyropoulos, Patrik Schumacher, Robert Stuart-Smith, Shajay Bhooshan, Pierandrea Angius, Mostafa El-Sayed, Tyson Hosmer, Alicia Nahmad Vazquez*

#### *Term 1*

This five-week workshop at the midpoint of Phase II addresses a detailed part of the spatial, structural, material and environmental systems of each team's thesis project, with an emphasis on modelling techniques which act as feedback for the testing and development of the larger-scale proposals. A presentation in November will serve as a major interim review.

## Phase I Core Seminars

### *Design as Research I – Open Source*

*Robert Stuart-Smith*

#### *Term 1*

Pursuing design as a form of research raises a series of questions this course will examine in relation to larger technological, economic and cultural contexts. The seminar will explore ways of associating design with forms of research and the implications of this for architectural and design practice. Weekly sessions will include presentations related to course readings.

### *Conceptualising Computing*

*Mostafa El-Sayed*

#### *Term 1*

This seminar will provide a foundation in the contemporary history of design computation, leading to the deployment and conceptualisation of computational logics and strategies relative to design objectives.

*Synthesis: Project Submission,  
Writing & Research Documentation*  
Doreen Bernath

*Terms 1 & 2*

These weekly sessions will review the basics of writing and research related to DRL course submissions. Presentations will cover resources in London and beyond, the preparation of thesis abstracts, writing styles and issues related to essays, papers and project booklets. Tutorials will discuss ongoing research topics and seminar and studio presentations.

*Behaviour: Examining the Proto-Systemic*  
Theodore Spyropoulos and Ryan Dillon  
Term 2

This core seminar will articulate a behaviour-based agenda that engages experimental forms of material and computational practice. Examining cybernetic and systemic thinking through seminal forms of prototyping and experimentation, the seminar will look at the thought experiments that have manifested since the early 1950s as maverick machines, architectures and ideologies. Team-based presentations will examine these methods and outputs as case studies for studio experimentation.

*Design as Research II: Computational Space*  
Robert Stuart-Smith  
Term 2

This seminar is an overview of computational approaches to architectural design, strategies and processes. Weekly readings on software technologies and design systems will relate computational work in art, music, new media, science and other sources to contemporary architectural discourses around parametric design. Teams will make weekly presentations related to the readings and an analysis of selected projects.

*Machine-speak: Computational Design as Applied Science*  
Shajay Bhooshan  
Term 2

This technical seminar will focus on the mediation of Architectural Geometry with engineering and industrial manufacturing constraints. Additionally, the seminar will provide a techno-centric and contemporary history of computational design – its influences, progression of its foundations and methods, its applications etc.

2015 DRL Final Phase 2 Jury with invited critics Philippe Block (ETH), Mark Cousins (AA), John Frazer (European Graduate School), Jason Kelly Johnson (Future Cities Lab), Marta Malé-Alemany (IAAC), David Pigram (University of Sydney), Max Schwitalla (Studio Schwitalla), Brett Steele (AA) and others.

## Phase I Prototyping Workshop

### *Responsive Systems*

*Apostolos Despotidis*

#### *Term 2*

The workshop provides introductory material for prototyping and physical computing. Students will learn to use the Arduino platform focusing on exchanging of information between the physical and analogue world as well as exploring fabrication processes to form their ideas. These techniques will serve as essential skills to successfully develop prototypes during Phase II.

## Software Platforms

*Maya, Rhino, 3D Studio, Processing, Arduino, Softimage,*

*Adobe Suite, Python, Openframeworking & Scripting*

*Shajay Bhooshan, Torsten Broeder, Soomeen Hahm, Paul Jeffries,*

*Eva Magnisali, Jorge X Méndez-Cáceres, Ashwin Shah, Pavlina*

*Vardoulaki*

#### *Terms 1 & 2*

These optional workshops introduce the digital tools and systems used in the DRL, giving a grounding in the basic skills required to construct and control parametric models and interactive presentations. Sessions will build up to advanced scripting, programming and dynamic modelling techniques.



# Emergent Technologies & Design

**M**Arch, 16 months  
(four terms)

**M**Sc, 12 months (three  
terms, plus thesis work)

## Directors

Michael Weinstock  
George Jeronimidis

## Studio Master

Evan Greenberg

## Tutors

Elif Erdine  
Manja van de Worp

The Emergent Technologies & Design programme continues to evolve through the development of our research in the studio, in seminars and in dissertations. The programme aims each year to produce new research that takes forward our interests and expertise in material organisation and the design and development of systems in a variety of scales.

Our work focuses on the interdisciplinary effects of emergence, biomimetics and the evolutionary computation of design and production technologies, which are developed as creative inputs for new architectural and urban design processes. Building on our achievements, we will include greater involvement from experts in the fields of material computation, urban physics and algorithmic urban design, engineering, advanced computation, and computationally driven fabrication. We continue to organise lectures, tutorials and workshops from industry leaders, including Wolf Mangelsdorf (BuroHappold), Francis Aish (Foster + Partners), Achim Menges (ICD Stuttgart), Jordi Truco and Sylvia Felipe (Hybrida/Elisava) and Suryansh Chandra (Automata Technologies).

The instruments of analysis and design in Emergent Technologies are computational processes. The seminar courses and core studio are designed to familiarise students with these instruments, their associated conceptual fields and with their application to architectural design research. The courses are thematically and instrumentally cross-linked with the core studio and each other. Core Studio 1 centres on the exploration of material systems and their development into distinct surfaces and assemblies. These assemblies demonstrate the potential for integrated structural and environmental performance, which produces local 'microclimatic' variations that define spatial arrangement. In Core Studio 2 we examine urban systems and generate new material, social and ecological organisations as part of an investigation into a larger, more complex piece of the city.

*Michael Weinstock* was born in Germany, lived as a child in the Far East and West Africa, and then attended an English public school. At the age of 17, after reading Joseph Conrad, he ran away to sea, where he spent years in traditional sailing ships, gaining shipyard and building experience. He studied architecture at the AA where he has taught since 1989. His research interest lies in exploring the convergence of biomimetic engineering, architecture, emergence and material sciences. He received the 2008 Acadia Award for Excellence and has published *The Architecture of Emergence and Emergent Technologies and Design – Towards a Biological Paradigm for Architecture*. He has been visiting professor at Rome, Barcelona, Calgary and Yale.

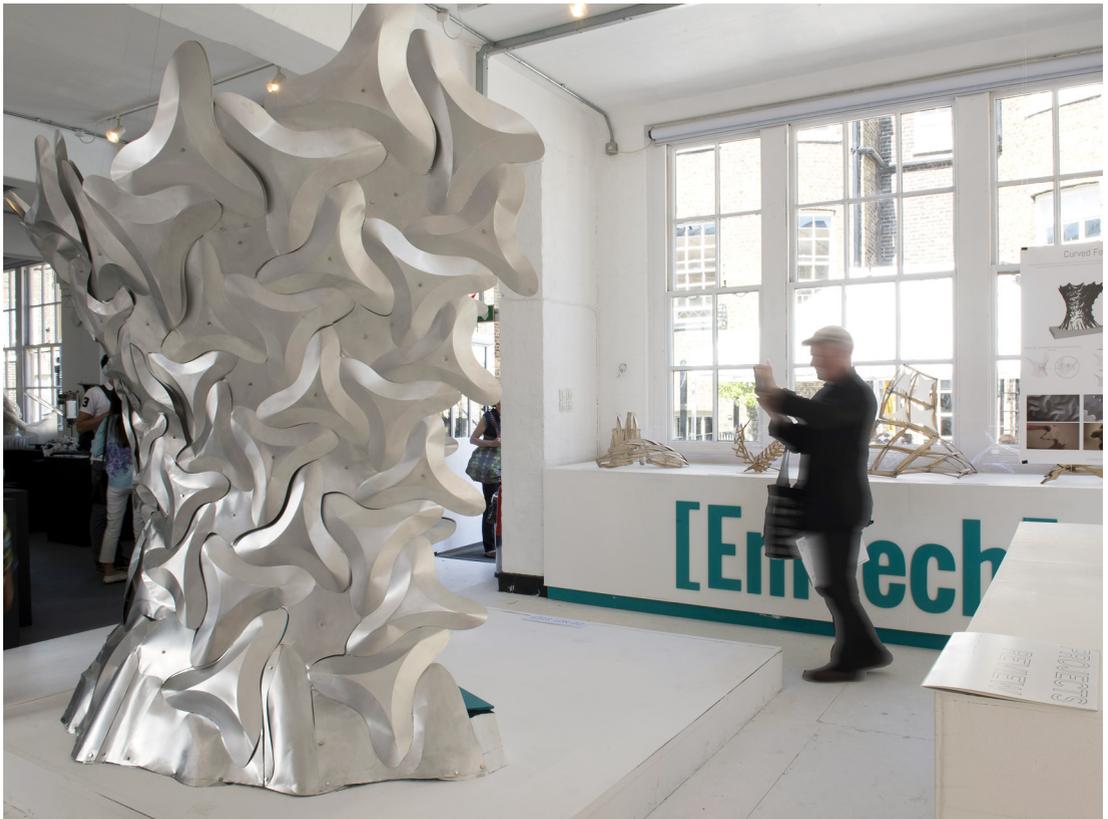
*George Jeronimidis* is the director of the Centre for Biomimetics in the School of Construction Management and Engineering. He is an active member of the Smart Materials and Structures Committee of the Institute of Materials, Minerals and Mining (IoM3) and has published extensively in these fields. He is a member of the Scientific Advisory Board of the Max Planck Institute of Colloid and Interfaces in Potsdam and is on the editorial board of the International Journal of Virtual and Physical Prototyping.

*Evan Greenberg* is a researcher, designer and educator with interests in biomimicry, advanced fabrication processes, and resilient systems and urban microclimates. He has worked with architects, engineers, artists and fashion designers around the

world. He has taught at the AA since 2008 upon gaining his MSc with distinction in Emergent Technologies and Design. Evan has directed workshops and lectured internationally and is a fellow of the Biomimicry Institute.

*Manja van de Worp* trained as an architect and structural engineer at the Technical University of Eindhoven and Emtech at the AA. Her interests lie in finding synergies between structural design and architecture through technology, geometry and fabrication. She has worked for Arup in London in the Advanced Geometry Unit and Advanced Technology and Research Group and is now a Principal at NOUS Engineering London.

*Elif Erdine* is an architect and researcher. Her recently completed PhD thesis (2015) focuses on the integration of tower subsystems through generative design methodologies informed by biomimetic analogies. Since 2010 she has taught at various AA Visiting School programmes, where her teaching experience explores generative design techniques, the integration of algorithmic design methods with large-scale digital fabrication tools, and physical computing.



### Core Studio 1 & 2

*Evan Greenberg with Manja van de Worp and Elif Erdine*

#### *Core Studio 1 – Material Systems, Term 1*

Physical and digital computational techniques are used to develop the architectural qualities of different material systems tuned to specific climatic contexts. Digital models will explore possibilities in response to various parameters while physical models will explore the integration of material behaviour and fabrication processes. The studio concludes with fully fabricated and digitally modelled, doubly curved material systems that exhibit integrated structural and environmental properties. Core Studio 1 is supported by workshops on associative modelling and computational analysis methods in Grasshopper/Rhino.

### Core Studio 2

#### *City Systems, Term 1*

The Core Studio 2 project extends the system logics explored in Core Studio 1 to a larger and more complex piece of the city. The microclimatic, typological and social organisations of a defined urban tissue are studied, and an analysis is made of interactions across the hierarchical levels analogous to cell, tissue and organ. A generative set of rules at neighbourhood-scale is developed and initiated. The studio concludes with the design of a new urban tissue and its systems with digital and physical models. Core Studio 2 is supported by workshops on Python scripting and computational analysis methods in Grasshopper/Rhino and weekly student-led discussion sessions.

### Emergence and Design Seminar Course

#### *Michael Weinstock, Term 2*

Emergence has been an important concept in biology, mathematics, artificial intelligence, information theory and computer science, newer domains of climatic modelling and other complex systems analysis and simulations. A survey is presented of the mathematics of evolution and embryological development, the data structures and processes of the genome, population dynamics and pressures. Applications to architectural design are explored in generative design experiments, which conclude with the detailed modelling and analysis of a set of evolved urban block morphologies. The concepts and workflows developed in the Emergence and Design Seminar are developed within a design framework in Core Studio 2.

### Natural Systems and Biomimetics Seminar Course

*George Jeronimidis with Evan Greenberg, Term 1*

An introduction to the ways in which organisms have evolved through form, materials and structures in response to varied functions and environments is followed by an account of engineering design principles that have been abstracted from nature in current research projects for industry and material science. A study is made of a natural system (general form, anatomy, energy flows and behaviour), along with an exploration of interrelations and an abstraction of engineering principles. The methods of analysis as well as system logics and material performance studied in this seminar will be further developed within Core Studio 1.

### Design Research Studio and the Thesis/Dissertation

*Terms 3 & 4*

Three main fields of design research are offered: Active Material Systems with Advanced Fabrication, Natural Ecological Systems Design (currently focused on shorelines and deltas), and Urban Metabolic Design (presently centred on the algorithmic design for energetic models of new cities in emergent biomes). Students may choose one of the three fields and will work in pairs. The design research studio facilitates a deeper understanding of emergence and its application to advanced production in architecture, urbanism and ecological engineering, while integrating theoretical discourses, science and the insights gained from experiments. The studio will develop students' abilities to analyse complex issues and to engage in independent research, working towards the presentation of the fully developed individual thesis/dissertation proposal.

# History and Critical Thinking in Architecture

MA  
12 months (three terms)

Director  
Marina Lathouri

Staff  
Mark Cousins  
John Palmesino  
Douglas Spencer

Visiting Tutors  
Tim Benton  
Tina Di Carlo  
Fabrizio Gallanti  
Anthony Vidler

The MA History and Critical Thinking is a unique platform for critical enquiry into history – its writings, conceptual assumptions and methodologies – that engages with contemporary architectural knowledge and cultures of the city. Writing is central to the course as a subject of study and practice, and different forms – theses, essays, reviews, commentaries and interviews – are explored and used to express aspects of the curriculum. Seminars with visiting historians, critics, designers and curators bring a diversity of perspectives and skills.

The programme's ambition is three-fold: to understand the history of the discipline and the ways in which, social, political and cultural aspirations become effective arguments in particular accounts of architectural and urban modernity; to interpret the contemporary from a historical, critical and cross-disciplinary point of view; to investigate design processes and technologies of architectural and urban analysis in the context of recent cultural and geo-political changes in order to produce knowledge that relates to practices and public cultures in architecture.

The course is organised around a number of lectures, seminars, workshops, public events and debates. Collaborations with AA design units, participation in juries and architectural visits enable students to engage both with design speculation and specific projects. The programme also provides research facilities and supervision to degree candidates (MPhil and PhD) registered under our joint PhD programme, a cross-disciplinary initiative supported by all of the graduate programmes.

Term 1 lectures and seminars focus on the writing of history and the ways in which various constructs of the past relate to architectural and visual practices. The notion of modernity is interrogated through a critical re-reading of histories of modernism and the emergence of the modern field of aesthetics.

## *Readings of Modernity, Marina Lathouri*

Through a detailed examination of modes of architectural writing – manifesto, historical narrative, architectural canon, formal analysis, critical essay and theory – this series looks at key texts and their relationship to early histories of architectural modernity.

## *Le Corbusier (1920–35): Style, the Zeitgeist and Nature, Tim Benton*

One reason Le Corbusier remains a necessary point of departure for any study of the ambiguities and contradictions in modernist architecture is his continual reassessment of his own position. This series follows his adoption and rejection of the founding arguments of modern architecture with the aim of confronting certain taboo concepts in the discussion of modernism: style, the

*Marina Lathouri* studied architecture and philosophy of art and aesthetics. She teaches at the AA and Cambridge University. She has previously taught at the University of Pennsylvania. Most recently, she co-authored the book *Intimate Metropolis: Urban Subjects in the Modern City*.

*Mark Cousins* directs the AA's History and Theory Studies at the undergraduate level. He has been Visiting Professor of Architecture at Columbia University and a founding member of the Graduate School of the London Consortium. He is also Guest Professor at Southeast University in Nanjing.

*John Palmesino* has been Head of Research at ETH Studio Basel and Research Advisor at the Jan Van Eyck Academie, Maastricht. He is a founding member of Multiplicity and the Diploma 4 Unit Master at the AA. He also teaches at the Research Architecture Centre, Goldsmiths in London. He has established Territorial Agency with Ann-Sofi Rönnskog.

*Douglas Spencer* has studied architectural history, cultural studies, and critical theory. His recent writings include contributions to *The Missed Encounter of Architecture with Philosophy, Architecture Against the Post-Political* and *New Geographies 6: Grounding Metabolism*. He is currently writing a book titled *The Architecture of Neoliberalism*.

*Tim Benton* taught for 40 years at the Open University and has been Visiting Professor at numerous places. His research in the history of architecture and design between the wars and Le Corbusier has achieved international renown. His book *The Rhetoric of Modernism*, Le Corbusier as lecturer (2007) was awarded the Grand Prix du Livre sur l'Architecture by the Academie de l'Architecture in Paris. His book *LC foto: Le Corbusier: secret photographer* deals in part with Le Corbusier's observation of nature, and he is currently working on a film of Le Corbusier on holiday.

*Tina Di Carlo* a former curator of architecture and design at the Museum of Modern Art, New York, is a PhD fellow in Exhibiting Architecture: Place and Displacement at the Oslo School of Architecture in the department of History, Form and Theory. She holds advanced degrees in Philosophy and Art History from the Courtauld Institute, London, and a Masters in Architecture from Harvard's Graduate School of Design.



*Fabrizio Gallanti* has wide-ranging experience in architectural design, education, publication and exhibitions. He was the Associate Director of Programmes at the Canadian Centre of Architecture in Montreal and the recipient of the first fellowship of the Mellon Initiative in Architecture, Urbanism, and Humanities, for which he taught at Princeton. He is currently visiting professor at the School of Architecture of Université de Montréal.

*Anthony Vidler* is a historian and critic of contemporary and modern architecture. His published writings include monographs on Claude-Nicolas Ledoux and James Stirling, theoretical interpretations of psychoanalysis and architecture and historiographical studies of modernism. He is Professor of Architecture at the Cooper Union in New York and Vincent Scully Visiting Professor of Architectural History at Yale University.

Zeitgeist argument, formalism and the vernacular. This course will also look at new evidence of Le Corbusier's engagement with natural form and the 'cosmic' system which underlies it.

*Aesthetics and Architectural History, Mark Cousins*

This course provides an account of the intellectual bases of architectural theories in a modern field of aesthetics, analysing the fate of this idea, particularly in relation to its complex relation to the rise of art history in the nineteenth century.

*Drawing Matter, Tina di Carlo*

Meeting three times in the autumn and three times in the spring, the course will weave through the year-long MA to expose students to the critical thinking of architecture through the history and the connoisseurship of objects. A private collection will make up part of the pedagogy, and exhibitions in London will comprise part of the curriculum. Readings with a focus on collecting will be stressed, along with contemporary writing from 1968 forward in architecture. The course will conclude with an exhibition alongside printed works.

*Design by Words: Workshop on Reading and Writing, Marina Lathouri with Fabrizio Gallanti*

In this one-week intensive workshop, writing moves away from the complexities of architectural jargon and academic writing to instead function as a practice of thinking and a tool for clearly and directly communicating. The workshop consists of an introduction and discussion of a writing example, followed by the writing of a short piece and a public reading.

Term 2 courses centre on historical processes of the discipline's formation parallel to contemporary architectural thinking. Students are exposed to a range of approaches for interpreting knowledge in an historical, cultural and political arena.

*Architecture Knowledge and Writing, Marina Lathouri*

From the early renaissance treatise to more recent theoretical articulations, through writing, architecture was established and propagated as a form of knowledge and a distinct set of professional practices. The economy of the literary object elicits an intricate relation to the economy of the built object – its modes of production, aesthetic norms, didactic and historical value, its uses and effects, and produces a disciplinary (public) space which cannot be found anywhere in the singular statement, built or written. The course's lectures, reading seminars and writing assignments examine the multiple 'languages' of architecture, whose translatability is interrogated through culture, institutional and economic constraints and political ideologies.

*The Subject of Architecture, Douglas Spencer*

Theories and practices of architecture have, especially since the 1960s, been engaged with questions of the relations between the self and its environments. The subjects of architecture have been conceived as operatives in cybernetic systems, cognitive mapmakers, deconstructive readers, and post-critical participants in the network of flows. This course addresses such constructions of the architectural subject through the analysis of a range of related themes, texts, and projects.

*The Post-Eurocentric City, John Palmesino*

This seminar series seeks to theoretically articulate the conjunctions that shape the contemporary city. It analyses the links between the transformations in international and sub-state politics, processes of institutional change and the material structures of human environments.

*History and Critical Thinking Debates: Locating Architecture Politics, Marina Lathouri with Douglas Spencer and John Palmesino*

HCT Debates provide a venue for invited speakers, tutors and students to exchange ideas and arguments, making possible a process of thinking in common, by definition a pedagogical practice distinct from the seminar or the lecture.

In Term 3, the Thesis Research Seminar focuses on the most significant component of the students' work, the final thesis. Choice of topic, organisation of field of research and development of the central argument are discussed. Students learn about the nature of a dissertation from the shared experience of the group. The unit trip takes place in the third term and includes intensive sessions to help students solidify their theses. Work in progress is presented to a jury of invited critics at the end of the term.

*Architecture in Words: Seminars on Writing the Visual from Plato to Damisch, Anthony Vidler*

From Vasari to Winckelmann, art and architectural historians have had to negotiate the image, or the space, through words. After an introduction to the antique vocabulary of painting and architecture, the seminars will examine the writings of John Ruskin, Adrian Stokes, Colin Rowe, Hubert Damisch and Jacques Derrida, among others. These four seminars will conclude the discussions of the Architecture Knowledge and Writing seminar series in Term 2. In parallel to the Thesis Research Seminar, students will be expected to produce a brief example of their own descriptive prose.

In Term 4 the students complete the writing of their thesis to be submitted in September.

# Housing & Urbanism

MA  
12 months (three terms,  
plus thesis work)

MArch  
16 months (four terms)

Directors  
Jorge Fiori  
Hugo Hinsley

Staff  
Lawrence Barth  
Abigail Batchelor  
Nicholas Bullock  
Elad Eisenstein  
Dominic Papa  
Anna Shapiro  
Naiara Vegara  
Alex Warnock-Smith

The Housing and Urbanism Programme engages architecture with the challenges of contemporary urban strategies. Today's metropolitan regions show tremendous diversity and complexity, with significant global shifts in the patterns of urban growth and decline. Architecture has a central role to play in this dynamic context, developing spatial strategies as part of urban policies and generating new urban clusters and types. This course focuses on important changes in the contemporary urban condition and investigates how architectural intelligence helps us to understand and respond to these trends. Offered as a 12-month MA or a 16-month MArch, the course is balanced between cross-disciplinary research and design application. Students' work is divided among three equally important areas: design workshops, lectures and seminars, and a written thesis for the MA or a design thesis for the MArch – all of which allow students to develop an extended and focused study within the broader themes of the course.

## Lecture Courses and Seminars

### *Design Workshop Terms 1, 2 and 3*

The Design Workshop is the programme's core course and provides a framework for linking design investigation to a politically and historically informed approach to issues of contemporary urbanism. Students and tutors make up small teams and work together to explore and develop design responses to well-defined urban challenges. The course also runs seminars to stimulate debates on different approaches to key themes in the programme's areas of research, with presentations by both students and visiting scholars and practitioners. The course consists of individual and group work, and students present both design and written work. While each of the workshop teams pursues distinct lines of investigation, the seminars and individual work give the opportunity for individual work on approaches to key issues within urbanism today. We focus on the urban inner periphery, where the complexity of the urban process is plainly visible. Each team defines the balance and integration of architectural, social and political concepts that drive its work, giving every project a distinctive style and character.

Mariana Cenovicz Moro  
Education + Housing: extroverted models to achieve integration, São Paulo, MArch design thesis – new urban patterns around a station in São Paulo integrate new education buildings (funded by the national SESC programme) with new residential space, increasing density and mix, and linking the urban area with a network of public spaces.

*Jorge Fiori* is a sociologist and urban planner. He has worked in academic institutions in Chile, Brazil and England, as a visiting lecturer at several Latin American and European universities and consultant to a number of international and national urban development agencies. He researches and publishes on housing and urban development, with particular focus on the interplay of spatial strategies and urban social policy.

*Hugo Hinsley* is an architect with expertise in urban development projects and housing design. He has a wide range of practice experience and has been a consultant to many projects in Europe, Australia and the US. He

has taught and published internationally. Recent research includes London's design and planning, particularly in Docklands and Spitalfields; urban policy and structures in European cities; and rethinking concepts of density.

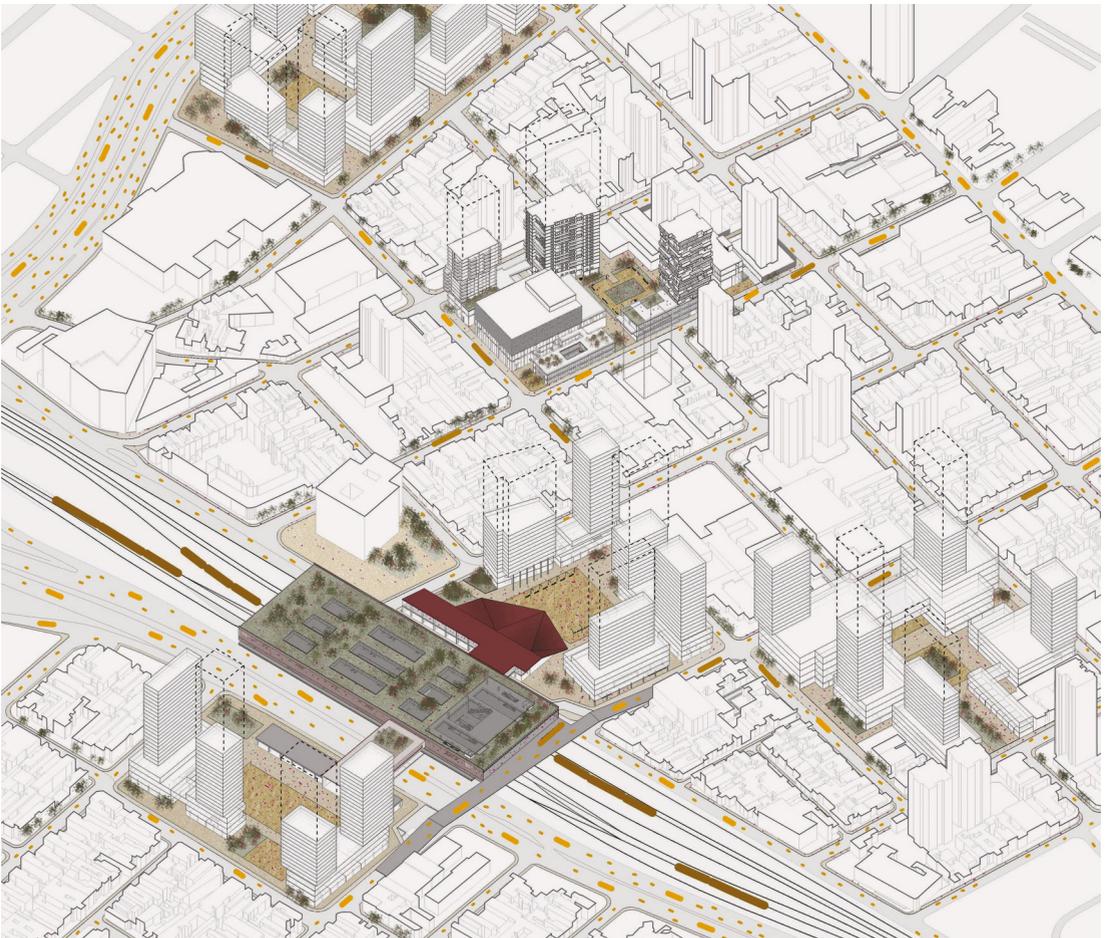
*Lawrence Barth* lectures on urbanism and political theory, and has written on the themes of politics and critical theory in relation to the urban. He is a consultant urbanist on large-scale strategic projects to architects, cities, and governments, and is engaged in research on urban intensification, innovation environments, and the transformation of workspace in the knowledge economy.

*Abigail Batchelor* is an architect and urban geographer with practice experience in the Netherlands and UK. Her focus is on the architectural, urban and socio-economic challenges of large-scale urban redevelopment. Recent projects include housing design guidance for Hackney Council and Liveable London project with CPRE London. Her research focuses on the aestheticisation practices surrounding development and the meanings of place within a globalised market.

*Nicholas Bullock* studied architecture at Cambridge University and completed a PhD under Leslie Martin. His research work includes issues of housing reform with a special interest in

Germany; postwar housing design and policy; and the architecture and planning of reconstruction after the Second World War.

*Elad Eisenstein* is a Director at Arup and the leader for urban design and masterplanning for the UK, Middle East and Africa. He is an architect and an urban designer, and has experience in designing and delivering a wide range of projects with sustainable placemaking at their core, including new eco-cities, large-scale metropolitan centres, and complex city centre sites.



*Dominic Papa* is an architect and urban designer involved in practice, teaching and research. He is a founding partner of the practice s333 Studio for Architecture and Urbanism, which has won awards for projects across Europe. He is a design review panel member for CABE, and has been a jury member for a number of international competitions.

*Anna Shapiro* is an architect and urbanist, who studied architecture and urban planning at Tel Aviv University, and received her MA from the AA. She has worked for a range of architectural practices and is currently an urban designer with Sheppard Robson Architects. Anna is part of 'Collective Formations', an international design research group, and is an artist and illustrator.

*Naiara Vegara* is an architect, the Director of Foundation Metropoli Design LAAB London, and a Director of the AA Visiting School Semester Programme in London. Naiara has been a visiting critic at many architecture schools, and has presented her research on virtual environments and the design process in architecture at workshops hosted at Columbia University, Princeton and the University of Pennsylvania.

*Alex Warnock-Smith* is an architect and urban designer. He has lectured and written internationally, and is co-founder of Urban Projects Bureau, a multi-disciplinary practice working on architectural, urban and public realm projects. UPB was selected by the British Council to exhibit at the British Pavilion at the 13th Venice Architecture Biennale 2012.

Our main site for design investigation will be an inner-peripheral area of London. We will engage with the urban process of this site within the larger context of the city and of its metropolitan region. We will also have an intensive design workshop outside the UK, which gives us the opportunity to collaborate with other urbanism programmes and city governments, testing our design and conceptual approaches in a different context.

### *Cities in a Transnational World, Term 1*

This course explores the social and economic context of housing and urbanism as it interacts with the formulation and implementation of strategies of urban development and with the reshaping of the role of architects and planners in the making of cities. It offers a comparative analysis of the restructuring of cities in the context of the current stage of internationalisation of the world economy, placing strong emphasis on issues of policy and planning, and on current reforms in systems of urban governance.

### *The Reason of Urbanism, Term 1*

This lecture and discussion series provides the foundations for an engagement with the urban as a problem-field in western governmental reasoning. The course will trace the twentieth-century development of urbanism so as to highlight the inherent political issues, and will develop a theoretical perspective through an engagement with the work of Arendt, Foucault, Sennett and others. Through this perspective students will investigate the relation of key political concepts to the generation of new urban spatiality.

### *Critical Urbanism, Terms 1 and 2*

This course will explore urbanism's role as an instrument of diagnosis and critique. Beginning with lectures and readings in the first term and building toward a seminar format in the second term, the course explores the ways architecture has generated a range of critical and reflexive responses to the city over the last four decades. Emphasis will be placed on developing students' facility through the critical analysis of contemporary urban projects, while background readings will include Koolhaas, Rowe, Rossi, Eisenman, Tschumi and others.

### *Shaping the Modern City, Terms 1 and 2*

This course compares various national and local strategies evolved by the state to meet the challenge of urban expansion in the past 100 years. Rather than presenting a continuous narrative history, the course looks at key events, projects and texts that illustrate contemporary responses to the opportunities and problems created by growth. The focus is on post-1945 housing and planning in a number of European and US cities in order to consider critical issues such as density, regeneration, mixed use and new working and living patterns.

### *Housing and the Informal City, Term 2*

This course uses housing as a strategic vehicle for investigating the evolution of ideas and approaches to the informal and irregular processes of city making. In particular, it critically reviews the growing despatialisation of strategies for addressing urban informality and their associated social conditions while exploring the role of urbanism and spatial design. The course attempts to identify appropriate tools and instruments of spatial intervention and design, and to examine their articulation by redesigning urban institutions and rules.

### *Domesticity, Term 2*

This seminar series explores trends in multi-residential housing against the background of a discursive formation, linking together domesticity and urbanism. Taking Mies van der Rohe's patio houses of the 1930s and Karel Teige's 1932 critique of the minimum dwelling as opening counterpoints, this course develops the students' understanding of type and diagram in the pursuit of fresh approaches to urban living. Core readings include the writings of Michel Foucault, Jacques Donzelot and Nikolas Rose.

### *Thesis Seminar, Term 3*

This seminar is organised around the students' written or design thesis. It provides a forum to discuss work in progress with members of staff and invited critics, and to comment on each other's work

### *Other Events*

We will make a study trip to a European city to develop comparative research, and will invite a number of academics and practitioners from all over the world to contribute to the programme. Students are also encouraged to attend courses offered by other programmes in the AA.

# Landscape Urbanism

MSc  
12 months

MArch  
16 months

Directors  
Alfredo Ramirez  
Eduardo Rico

Design Tutor  
Clara Oloriz Sanjuan

Seminar Tutors  
Douglas Spencer  
Tom Smith

Technical Tutors  
Giancarlo Torpiano  
Gustavo Romanillos  
Vincenzo Reale

Landscape Urbanism explores the emergence of ‘territory’ as a field of design praxis. Through this lens the programme operates within contemporary conditions to understand urban environments not as discrete independent collections of objects, but as interconnected landscapes with both far-reaching implications on not only the environment – ie, climate change, energy debates and wide-spread pollution – but also on social and political spheres. The course combines material explorations of landscape evolution (facilitated by digital simulations) with the development of critical perspectives and studio work. It is aimed at professionals – architects, landscape architects, engineers, urban planners and geographers – who are engaged with territorial disciplines.

## A Pan-European Atlas of Radical Cartographies

The current production of treaties, networks, government plans and other local policies and agreements with the potential to impact specific geographies has come out of the high demand for synchronised responses and projects at the scale of territory. But given the potential impact on the spaces they address, these formal interventions are rarely seen as opportunities for research-led design projects. It is in this rift – between utilitarian and cultural practices of European policies – that Landscape Urbanism aims to locate a space for research. For the third year the course will explore how productive and natural formations can generate the basis of a pan-European project of territories that are neither generic nor iconic, conventional nor touristic. The course is instead concerned with both the geomorphological formations of land and the actual cultural, political and economic forces that shape them socially. The primary outcome of these concerns is the production of a set of radical and experimental cartographies to form a Pan-European Atlas as the basis of new forms of documenting the future of European environments. These cartographies are seen as projective machines with the capacity to unveil the glitches between conflicting systems at stake – tectonic landscapes, political governance, land administration and their material and spatial organisation – to put forward projects and design proposals, from the territorial to architectural, as future alternatives.

Silvia Ribot, Lida Driva and Dimitra Bra – cartography depicting the intersection of the Arga and Aragon rivers’ geomorphological and social formations leading a new proposed territorial organisation in the Spanish region of Navarre

*Alfredo Ramirez* is an architect and director of Groundlab where he has won and developed several competitions, workshops, exhibitions and projects. He is Director of the AA Visiting School in Mexico City and has taught workshops and lectured internationally on the topic of landscape urbanism and the work of Groundlab.

*Eduardo Rico* studied civil engineering in Spain and graduated from the AA's Landscape Urbanism programme. He has been a consultant and researcher in the fields of infrastructure and landscape in Spain and the UK. Currently he is working within the Arup engineering team as well as being part of Relational Urbanism. He has taught at Harvard GSD and the Berlage Institute.

*Clara Oloriz Sanjuan* is a practising architect who received her PhD from the ETSA Universidad de Navarra and the AA. She has worked for Foreign Office Architects, Cerouno, Plasma Studio and Groundlab. She teaches at the University of Navarra and is co-director of the AA Visiting School in Bilbao. She co-directs an AA research cluster titled Urban Prototypes.

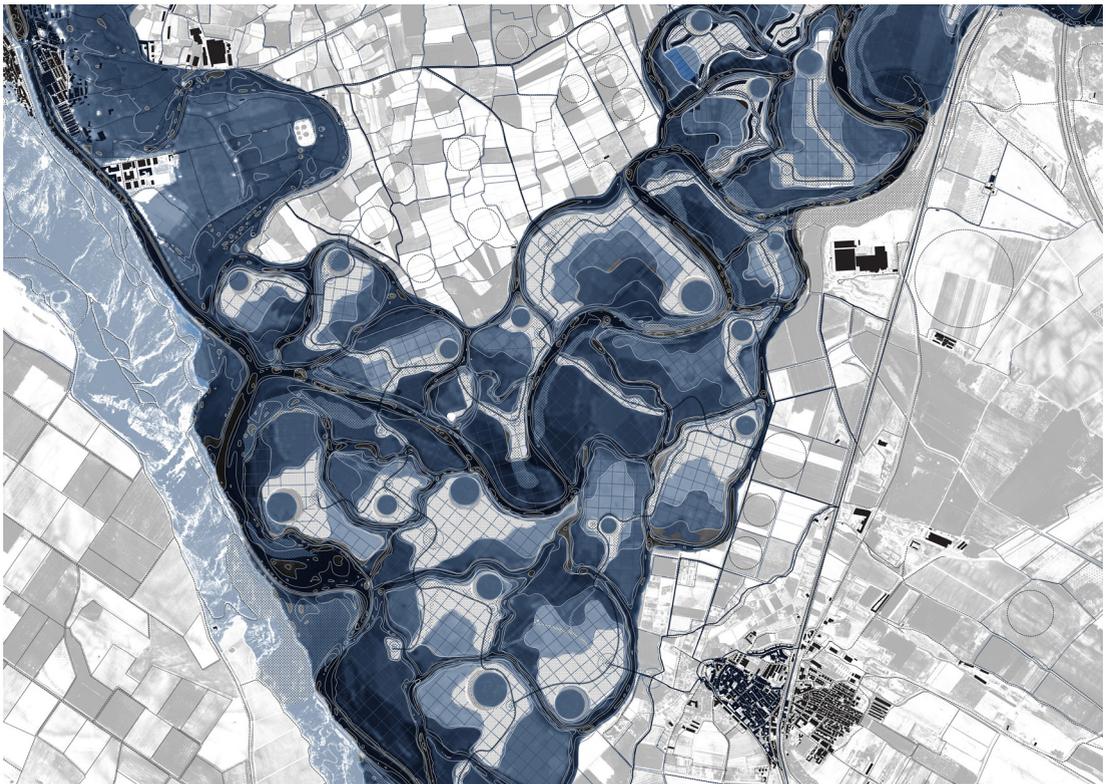
*Douglas Spencer* has studied design and architectural history, cultural studies, critical theory and has taught at a number of architectural schools. His research and writing have been published in journals including *The Journal of Architecture*, *Radical Philosophy*, *AA Files* and *Culture Machine*. He is currently researching for a book that formulates a Marxian critique of contemporary architecture and 'control society'.

*Tom Smith* is a landscape architect and urban designer. He worked at EDAW AECOM on projects such as the masterplan for the Chelsea Flower Show and developments in rural communities in Portugal. He was instrumental in the design of the London 2012 Olympic and Legacy Masterplan and is currently focusing developing the practice of SpaceHub in London.

*Giancarlo Torpiano* completed his Bachelors in Architecture and Structural Engineering at the University of Malta and holds an MArch in Emergent Technologies and Design from the AA. His main interests are algorithmic design focused on emergent behaviours, natural structures, structural engineering and computational techniques. He has led workshops on digital architecture in Malta and at the AA.

*Gustavo Romanillos* is an architect and researcher interested in the spatial analysis of urban and territorial dynamics. He completed his degree in Architecture at the ETSAM, and a Masters in Geographic Information Technologies at the UCM. His research and teaching activities are being developed in different Spanish universities, Nicaragua and the UK.

*Vincenzo Reale* graduated in 2010 from the University of Bologna (MA Building Engineering and Architecture) and has been a Euro-chartered engineer since 2011. He holds an MSc in Emergent Technologies and Design from the AA.



### Course Methodology

#### *Territorial Formations Terms, 1 and 2*

During the first two terms Landscape Urbanism weaves together research into geomorphological processes, social structures and design intentions to explore the idea of a necessary synthesis – a utilitarian-forced hybridisation that imagines new forms of territory where physical and social processes are transformed into new spatial conditions. These will draw upon the historically established capacity of landscapes to host and modulate the struggles between physical/environmental and human forces within specific geographical/geological points in space and time.

#### *Cartogenesis, Term 2*

The assemblages of geomorphological processes and social formations will be retraced and redescribed in light of historical and contemporary forms of cartographic representation. This will serve as the basis for describing territorial space in architectural terms, as well as a territorial description of architectural space. The aim of this term is the generation of an atlas of similar and relevant territories across Europe, tracing the geographies of the pan-European problematic posed by the social and geomorphological formations outlined and research by the student.

#### *Tectonic Grounds / Territorial Documentation, Terms 3 and 4*

The final section of the course will consist of the exploration of modes of documentation that extend, beyond the idea of the fixity and stability of masterplanning, to operate projectively and subversively. Following the development of an Atlas, students will produce a territorial manual describing the procedures and guidelines behind their projects in order to extrapolate principles to similar locations across European territories.

### Course Components

#### *Landscript, Workshop, Term 1*

An introduction to software programming will enable students to script basic procedural modelling and understand how physical interactions of materials and processes produce recognisable morphologies. The use of relevant software, such as GIS, Python, Rhino as well as land form modelling will be used to exercise students' capacity to introduce intention and design criteria in decision-making processes.

#### *Landform Dynamics, Lecture Series, Term 1*

Directly linked to the Landscript workshop, this series of lectures will address territorial formation processes. The sessions will be presented by engineers and scientists currently researching the use of computational tools in the study of geomorphology.

*Social Formations, Workshop, Term 2*

This workshop explores processes of social formation. Students investigate how groups, such as trade unions, guilds and cartels, have historically organised themselves into productive communities. These findings will then be diagrammed and applied to design projects.

*Landscape Urbanism Core Seminar, Terms 1 and 2*

This seminar series is taught alongside the studio, where questions of process, matter, becoming and objecthood are set alongside landscape and urban modelling, thus forming a means for discussing design and territorial concerns.

*LU History and Theory Seminar Series: Models, Methods and Histories, Term 1*

This lecture and seminar-based unit is concerned with how the intersections of landscape and urbanism have been thought, modelled, designed and analysed. It is designed to provide students with an understanding of the potentials and problematics of Landscape Urbanism.

*Cartogenesis Workshop, Term 2*

The workshop will generate a series of cartographical representations of the projects with the aim of drafting a cartogenetic manifesto that declares the pan-European intentions of the project.

*LU History and Theory Seminar Series: The Rhetoric of Mapping, Term 2*

This seminar explores the ways in which maps authorise and contest territorial claims, construct forms of knowledge, project certain scenarios and operations and reveal political, social, economic and cultural processes. The conception of cartography as a form of argumentation will support and inform design practice in the making of the manifesto and in the final thesis.

*Machining Landscapes Seminar, Terms 2 and 3*

The lecture series introduces construction techniques related to the design of landscape projects that adopt a 'machinic' ethos to technical practice.

This seminar integrates knowledge, principles of a range of construction techniques related to the design of landscape projects to understand, consider and address the complexity of the relations among contemporary urban dynamics, adopting a 'machinic' ethos to technical practice.

# Sustainable Environmental Design

**MSc**  
12 months (three terms,  
plus thesis work)

**MArch**  
16 months (four terms)

**Directors**  
Simos Yannas  
Paula Cadima

**Staff**  
Klaus Bode  
Gustavo Brunelli  
Herman Calleja  
Mariam Kapsali  
Byron Mardas  
Jorge Rodriguez

Sustainable Environmental Design engages with real-life problems affecting buildings and cities throughout the world. Providing alternatives to the global architecture and brute force engineering that are still the norm in most large cities requires new knowledge on what makes a sustainable environment and the role architecture can play. Design research for the SED Masters programme is driven by strict performance criteria following a process of adaptive architecturing that proceeds from inside to outside, attuning the built form and its constituents to natural rhythms and inhabitant activities. Key objectives of all SED projects are to improve environmental conditions and quality of life in cities, achieve independence from non-renewable energy sources and develop an environmentally sustainable architecture able to adapt and respond to changing urban environments.

The taught programme is structured in two consecutive phases. Phase I is organised around two team projects combining MSc and MArch students. In Phase II, MSc and MArch projects are developed separately, following individual research agendas. MSc students complete the 12-month course with a dissertation project that documents the architectural potential and design applicability of their chosen topic in its geographic and climatic context. The MArch extends over a 16-month period that culminates in a detailed design application for a specific design brief and site.

The SED research agenda Refurbishing the City continues this year with London-based projects in Terms 1 and 2 in collaboration with local architectural and engineering practices. Dissertation project briefs will encompass many other cities and climates over Terms 3 and 4. Recent MSc and MArch projects will be presented at the International PLEA Conference, Architecture in (R)evolution, in September 2015. A book on sustainable housing design is currently being produced, drawing upon the programme's London case studies with a Research Award from the Royal Institute of British Architects.

*Simos Yannas* has led environmental design research and teaching at the AA since the late 1970s. He has collaborated on many international projects, and his writings have been published in a dozen languages.

His most recent publications are on adaptive architecture, on learning from vernacular architecture and on refurbishing the city. In 2001 he was a recipient of the International PLEA Achievement Award.

*Paula Cadima* studied at the Technical University of Lisbon and has been in architectural practice and environmental research for more than 25 years. She worked for the European Commission in Brussels for five years managing world-class research projects on energy efficiency, renewable energy

sources and emerging fields. She chaired the Environment & Sustainable Architecture working group of the Architects' Council of Europe in 2009 and is the current president of PLEA.

*Jorge Rodríguez-Álvarez* studied at the architectural school of A Coruña followed by a Masters in building conservation and urban regeneration before undertaking the MSc SED, completed in 2008. He co-founded SAAI, a laboratory of environmental design and specialised consultancy with ongoing projects worldwide. He completed his PhD at the UDC, Spain, with a research stay at the Bartlett, where he developed a GIS tool to assess the energy performance of buildings in large urban areas.

*Klaus Bode* studied building engineering at the University of Bath. He was project engineer on Foster + Partners' Commerzbank in Frankfurt and on Rogers and Piano's Potsdamer Platz projects in Berlin. He co-founded BDSP Partnership and collaborated with the Rogers Partners on the Welsh Assembly Building in Cardiff, with Grafton Architects on the Bocconi University in Milan and with the sculptor Antony Gormley on his Blind Light exhibition among other projects.

*Gustavo Brunelli* graduated from the Federal University of São Paulo and completed the MA in Environment & Energy Studies at the AA in 2004. He has worked with ChapmanBDSP on projects in the UK and abroad, including leading the environmental team on the Velodrome for the

London 2012 Olympic Games, and is currently associate director with hurleypalmerflatt engineering consultants.

*Herman Calleja* practised as an architect in Malta and Spain before joining the MArch in Sustainable Environmental Design at the AA, graduating in 2012. He has since worked as an environmental analyst developing the use of parametric tools and collaborating with various architects, including Grafton Architects, Hopkins and Zaha Hadid Architects, on daylighting, thermal modelling and radiation mapping studies.



*Mariam Kapsali* graduated from the National Technical University of Athens and won a scholarship to the MSc in SED at the AA, which she completed with distinction in 2012. She works as a researcher on performance evaluation studies of domestic and non-domestic buildings and is a member of the Oxford Institute of Sustainable Development.

*Byron Mardas* studied architecture and urbanism at the National Technical University of Athens and worked as an architect in Athens before taking the MSc in Sustainable Environmental Design at the AA, which he completed in 2013. He is an environmental designer with Foster + Partners in London specialising in daylighting optimisation, outdoor comfort and parametric modelling.

*Design Research Studio:  
London Building Case Studies, Term 1*

London will serve as the laboratory for field studies of recent buildings and urban spaces, engaging student teams in projects that combine on-site observations and environmental measurements with the use of advanced computational tools for investigating the relationship between building, climate and occupants and the difference between design expectations and real-life environmental performance.

*Design Research Studio:  
Refurbishing the City I, Term 2*

The insights gained from the Term 1 case studies provide starting points for design briefs that will be developed into team projects applying the conceptual and computational tools of adaptive architecturing to respond to climate change, lifestyle trends and technical developments that shape the future of the city.

*Design Research Studios:  
Refurbishing the City II, Terms 3 and 4*

In Term 3 individual agendas for dissertation research combine into thematic groupings that initiate shared research before separating into MSc and MArch projects for the final stage in Term 4.

Lecture Courses & Workshops

*Sustainable City, Term 1*

This course reviews theories of urban sustainability, introducing notions of environmental performance for cities and the instruments and tools applied to its assessment. The effects of urban morphology on microclimate, energy consumption and climate change will be investigated at different scales, ranging from the regional to that of the urban block, and illustrated with case studies of new and refurbished schemes in different countries and urban contexts.

*Adaptive Architecturing, Term 1*

The course shows how knowledge and understanding of environmental processes can provide a new generative framework for architecture. Occupant-centred and strongly contextual in its relationship with climate and site this is an adaptive architecture that is innovative yet has affinity with the vernacular and a symbiotic relationship with the city.

*Environmental Simulation & Performance  
Assessment Tools, Terms 1 and 2*

The course introduces the data acquisition equipment and computational tools used on all SED project work. It runs in parallel to Term 1 field studies in weekly all-day sessions that combine formal presentations with hands-on workshops. Starting with field measurements, the course continues with the calibration of software and an introduction to advanced computational tools for modelling and simulation of solar, thermal, airflow and daylight processes in and around buildings. The scale of the tools encompasses a wide range – from individual building elements and room, to city and region. Expertise in the use of the tools for analytic and generative purposes is built over the first two terms of the academic year through daily practice on project work and design research.

*Environmental Design Primer, Terms 1 and 2*

This course introduces key topics of environmental design research and practice as these relate to architecture and building science. Topics include urban climatology and the theories and practice of environmental comfort; the physics of natural light, airflow and thermal processes; the ecology and environmental performance of materials; renewable energy technologies in the urban environment; and the science and art of measurement and performance assessment.

*Lessons from Practice, Terms 2 and 3*

Each year a number of practising architects, engineers and researchers are invited to present their approach and practices relating to sustainable environmental design. There will be a study trip to Europe to visit built projects relevant to the programme's interests.

*Research Seminar, Terms 1–4*

In Phase I the seminar provides a regular forum for discussing research methods and topics of interest that can be developed into agendas for dissertation research. In Phase II the seminar provides support for the development and review of MSc and MArch dissertation projects.

# Design & Make

**MArch**  
16 months (four terms)

**MSc (Timber Technologies)**  
12 months (three terms)

Programme Directors  
Martin Self  
Emmanuel Vercruyssen

Construction Tutor  
Charley Brentnall

Thesis Tutor  
Mark Campbell

Visiting Tutors  
Toby Burgess  
Kate Darby  
Kostas Grigoradis  
Jez Ralph

*Martin Self* has taught at the AA since 2004. He worked at Ove Arup & Partners, studied architectural theory at the AA and has consulted with such practices as Zaha Hadid Architects and Antony Gormley Studio.

*Emmanuel Vercruyssen* is co-founder of the art practice LiquidFactory, a member of the design collective Sixteen Makers and the field robotics group RAVEN. He was unit master of MArch Unit 23 at the Bartlett and led the Robotics and Cad-Cam research lab (2009–15).

*Charley Brentnall* is a timber-framing contractor who has played a pivotal role in the renaissance of timber framing in the UK. He founded Carpenter Oak & Woodland in 1988, is a visiting lecturer at the Universities of Bath and York and a member of the Timber Framers Guild, Carpenters Fellowship, Icomos and SPAB.

*Mark Campbell* has taught history and design at the AA since 2004. He is Programme Head of MPhil Media Practices and directs the Paradise Lost Research Cluster.

Students of Design & Make use the physical realisation of built projects as their vehicle for design research, developing modes of architectural design that integrate full-scale making. Based at Hooke Park, the AA's woodland campus in Dorset, they inhabit an environment that combines studio, workshop, building site and forest as part of a wider rural community of rich craft tradition. Working within a masterplan for the extension of the campus, student teams design and construct experimental buildings at Hooke Park.

The core agenda of Design & Make is to advance the materialisation of architecture through the synthesis of advanced technologies, craft techniques and deep understanding of natural material and geometry. The key proposition is that new digital design and fabrication technologies, such as digital 3D scanning, generative modelling and robotic fabrication, enable traditional techniques for making to be re-invented as innovative processes for architecture.

The programme starts with an Induction Studio through which key techniques are taught, followed by the Core Studio in which a temporary inhabitable structure is built in the Hooke Park woodland. In parallel, seminar courses cover agendas of ruralism, timber technologies and the cultural theories of making. These taught components are then applied in the main project, which for MSc students consists of the building of a 1:1 prototype, and for MArch students consists of a group-designed building for the Hooke Park campus. The programme concludes with an individually written dissertation that draws on the constructed project as evidence towards a propositional argument concerning the practice and realisation of architecture.

The 'Inhabitable Tetrahedron', a first term Core Studio project built by Design & Make students Zachary Mollica and Yung-Chen Yang to test strategies subsequently deployed in permanent projects at Hooke Park, photo Valerie Bennett



# Projective Cities

## MPhil

20 months (five terms, including thesis work)

### Director

Sam Jacoby

### Staff

Maria Shéhérazade Giudici

Mark Campbell  
Adrian Lahoud  
(external thesis supervisor)

*Sam Jacoby* is a chartered architect with an AA Diploma and a doctorate from the Technische Universität Berlin. He has worked in the UK, US and Malaysia and has taught at the University of Nottingham, the Bartlett and since 2002 at the AA. He co-founded Projective Cities in 2009.

*Maria Shéhérazade Giudici* is the founder of the publishing and educational platform Black Square. She earned her PhD from TU Delft. She has taught at the Berlage Institute and BIArch Barcelona and worked with offices BAU Bucharest, Donis Rotterdam and Dogma Brussels.

*Mark Campbell* has taught history and design at the AA since 2005. He completed his PhD and MA at Princeton. He has taught at the Cooper Union, Princeton University and Auckland University. He is the Director of the MPhil in Media Practices and 'Paradise Lost' AA Research Cluster.

*Adrian Lahoud* holds a PhD from the University of Technology, Sydney. Currently he is Head of Architecture at the RCA. He was Programme Leader of MArch Urban Design at the Bartlett, acting Director of the Centre for Research Architecture Goldsmiths and Director of the MArch in Urban Design at the University of Technology, Sydney.

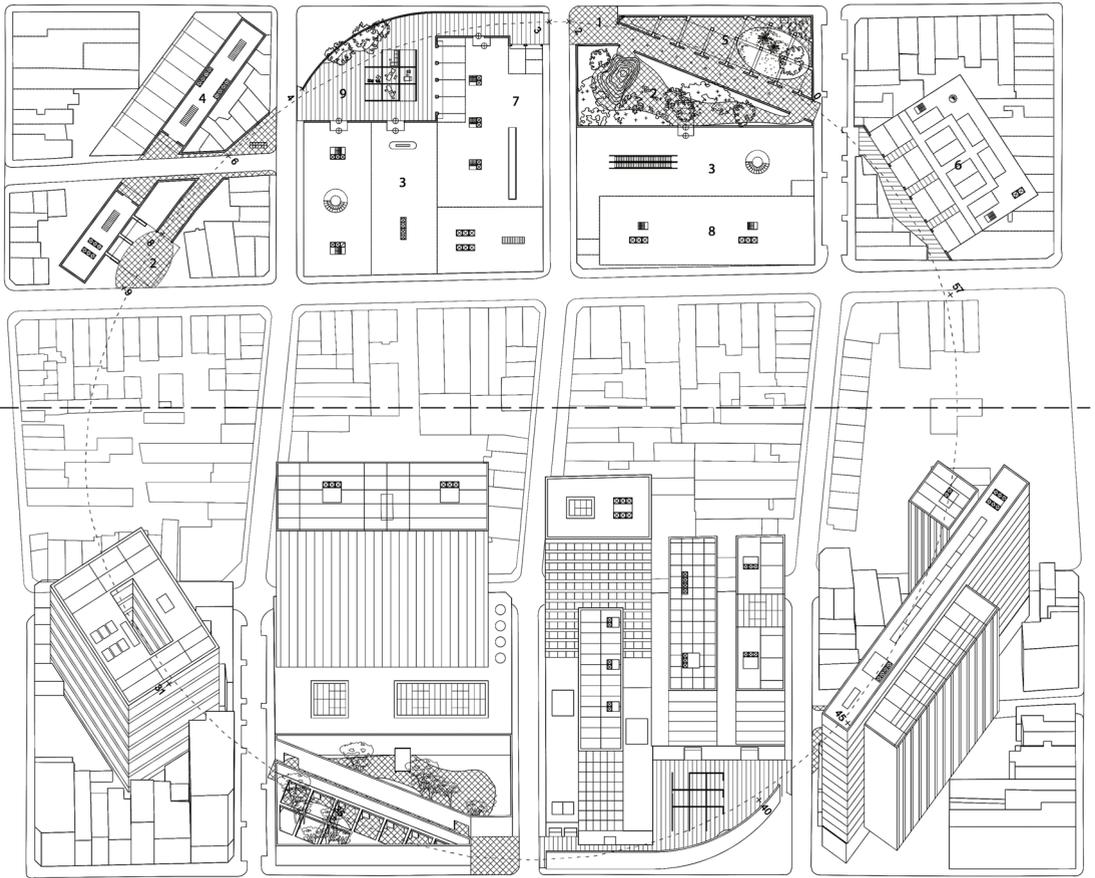
The MPhil in Architecture and Urban Design cultivates research and design across architecture, urban design and planning. The programme prepares students for a long-term research trajectory through a rigorous methodological framework and supervision. Although conceived as a stand-alone degree, the training in research and thesis work leads many graduates into advanced PhD studies, teaching and research-based practices.

The first year of the programme is mainly taught, introducing students to research methods, academic writing, advanced analytical techniques and computational skills in preparation for an independent dissertation project. At the end of the first year, students propose their research topics and aims, which, once approved, are developed through design research, speculative proposals and critical writing throughout the second year.

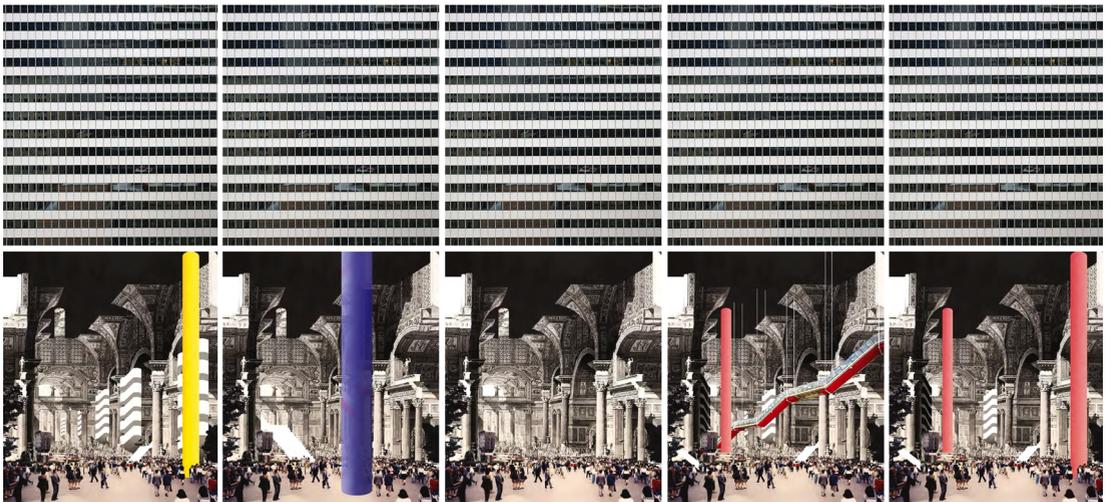
The programme pursues original enquiries into architecture and architectural urbanism and their relations to urban design and territorial planning. It advances design research as an intellectual problem, exploring the relationship between theory and design for disciplinary knowledge production, and a practical problem, how design research can affect practice. Within these investigations, equal importance is given to written and designed work.

The ambitions of *Projective Cities* are framed by the propositions: that the urban and its cultural, socio-political, environmental and economic contexts are defined by design operatives at different scales; that architectural and urban plans are the collective outcome of these contexts; and that knowledge production (theory) and formal production (practice) are methodologically linked. Architecture and urbanism are symbiotic modes of enquiry driven by relevance and agency within a field. This field is defined in terms of a series of distinct diagrams that are always social and spatial.

*Projective Cities* seeks exceptional thinkers, gifted designers and critical writers with an interest in the future of our cities. Fully dedicated to individual research – with the dissertation accounting for two-thirds of the programme – a high level of self-motivation and critical thinking is expected.



- 1 Passage
- 2 Patio
- 3 Lobby
- 4 Shop
- 5 Restaurant/Bar
- 6 Co-working
- 7 Lounge
- 8 Office
- 9 Atelier



# Media Practices

## MPhil in Media Practices (five terms)

Director  
Mark Campbell

*Mark Campbell* has taught history and design at the AA since 2005. He completed his PhD and MA as a Fulbright Scholar at Princeton University and undergraduate BArch (Hons) and BA at Auckland University. He is a Visiting Professor of Architecture at Southeast University, Nanjing, and has also taught at the Cooper Union, Princeton University and Auckland University. He is the founding director of Unreal Estates and has worked in practice in Auckland, New York and London. In addition to publishing extensively, he has served as the managing editor of *Grey Room* and the Cooper Union Archive. He is the Director of the MPhil in Media Practices and 'Paradise Lost' AA Research Cluster.

In an era defined by the instant transmission of information, the five-term taught MPhil in Media Practices questions the ways in which various media can inform and represent a reading of architecture, itself a discipline characterised by the laborious speed at which it is often produced. Media Practices is intended to develop the student's capacity to engage in wider architectural discussions through a broad spectrum of means, opening up a series of potential career paths including further academic study. The course stems from the argument that the conventional techniques of making and understanding architecture – drawing, modelling, talking and writing – now require augmenting in the contemporary world. As such, the programme aims to reconsider how alternative practices might elicit an expanded investigation of contemporary architecture. Students will study historical and traditional modes of representing architecture before undertaking investigations into alternative and expanded practices – such as film- and sound-based work, documentary and nonconventional publications. This preparation will lead to the production of a thesis that draws on diverse media practices as a means of investigating current architectural issues.

The course aims to help students develop both the intellectual framework and skills-based knowledge necessary to employ a range of novel and unconventional practices as they begin to hone a fuller understanding of possibilities within the discipline. The first year provides the basis for each student's final research project – through seminars, workshops and research modules, students will explore topics such as investigative methodologies, project development, contemporary discourses, documentation, archiving, publishing and radical architectural media practices. In the second year students will develop a self-initiated thesis that conceptualises and realises their work at an advanced graduate level. In addition to a written explanatory component, the thesis might take on a number of forms – such as an extended photo-essay, cine-essay, film- or sound-based work, or non-traditional publication materials – allowing the author to test and deepen arguments through practice.

The programme draws on the diverse and intellectually rich resources of the AA faculty, along with invited consultants and collaborators, including academics, writers, journalists, critics, publishers, sound and media artists, filmmakers, experimental documentarians and others. In addition, the course will develop associations with cultural institutions in London and beyond. The course is directed towards students with a degree in architecture and an interest in developing a critical consideration of their subject.



# AA Interprofessional Studio

MA in Spatial  
Performance and Design  
(12 months)

MFA in Spatial  
Performance and Design  
(18 months)

Studio Director  
Theo Lorenz

Studio Master  
Tanja Siems

Studio Tutors  
and Experts  
Andy Dean  
(music &  
production)  
David McAlmont  
(music and history  
of the arts)  
Heiko Kalmbach  
(film direction  
and dramaturgy)  
Joe Walking  
(choreography, new  
movement collective)  
Joel Newman  
(film and sound)  
Mauricio Pauly  
(composition and  
sonology)  
Renaud Wiser  
(choreography, new  
movement collective)  
Steve Webb  
(engineering)

*Theo Lorenz is an architect, painter and media artist. He has taught at the AA since 2000 and since 2008 has been the director of AAIS. Throughout his work in academia, practice (co-director T2 spatialwork) and art, his main interest lies in the research and application of projects through a mediated design process within creative networks.*

*Tanja Siems is an urban researcher and designer. She is professor and the head of the Institute for Spatial Research and Urban Performance in Germany. She received her PhD in 2002 and with Theo Lorenz co-directs T2 spatialwork in London.*

## UnREAL

Our reality might be something entirely different to what we perceive. Several scientists have argued that the material world is in fact a holographic projection or even a simulation in itself.

This year the AA Interprofessional Studio will challenge what is real and what is not. We will create environments that extend the perception of what is possible. Through the overlapping of the different disciplines we will create new realities that are beyond preconceived understanding of genre. They will be immersive, interactive and provocative.

Even if we don't live in a total simulation we are nevertheless already embedded in a simulated environment. Simulated structures, micro-trading, drone wars, pattern recognition and weather forecasting together influence our lived realities beyond our own understanding.

Every genre or discipline today uses various forms of simulations to innovate and recalibrate work. However, these methodologies and results remain isolated and are often based on the same set of tools and guidelines. We aim to re-appropriate and utilise these practices to, in turn, create simulated realities that span beyond different genres.

We will research the creative consequences based on the hypothesis that everything around us might be simulated. In consequence every new design, virtual or real will function as a nested simulation within the overall construct. We will attempt to virtualise the real and realise the virtual. Through a series of events in London and Vienna we will create environments that defy our understanding of reality. These environments will no longer distinguish between genres, physical or real, performer or audience, subject or object and create immersive spatial conditions.

### *London: The Round Robin Test*

The first event will take place in London and forms the applied laboratory for the created realities. Once a simulation framework is set up a multitude of versions are run and fine-tuned by each involved discipline. No version is identical to another.

### *Vienna: public release*

On the basis of the results of the first event series the project will be released to a wider interacting public that will continuously challenge the outcomes, creating lasting effects among its participants.

're\_dial' performance of AAIS (2014–15) by Dongoo Koo, Sumaya Islam and Mariana Vargas with New Movement Collective, David McAlmont, Andy Dean, Alice Purton.  
Photo Valerie Bennett



# PhD Programme

## PhD Directors of Studies & First Supervisors

Pier Vittorio Aureli  
Lawrence Barth  
Mark Cousins  
Jorge Fiori  
Hugo Hinsley  
George Jeronimidis  
Marina Lathouri  
Brett Steele  
Michael Weinstock  
Simos Yannas  
(Chair PhD Committee)

## Second Supervisors

Doreen Bernath  
Paula Cadima  
Mark Campbell  
David Cunningham  
Sam Jacoby  
Adrian Lahoud  
Nina Power  
Douglas Spencer  
Thomas Weaver  
Thanos Zartaloudis

Doctoral studies at the AA combine advanced research with a broader educational agenda, preparing graduates for practice in global academic and professional environments. Current PhD topics encompass architectural theory and history, architectural urbanism, advanced architectural design, the city, emergent technologies and sustainable environmental design in architecture. Doctoral candidates may follow the traditional route of a scholarly, text-based written dissertation. Alternatively, a studio-based option of a PhD in architectural design is offered to graduates who wish to engage with design as a research tool of the doctoral thesis.

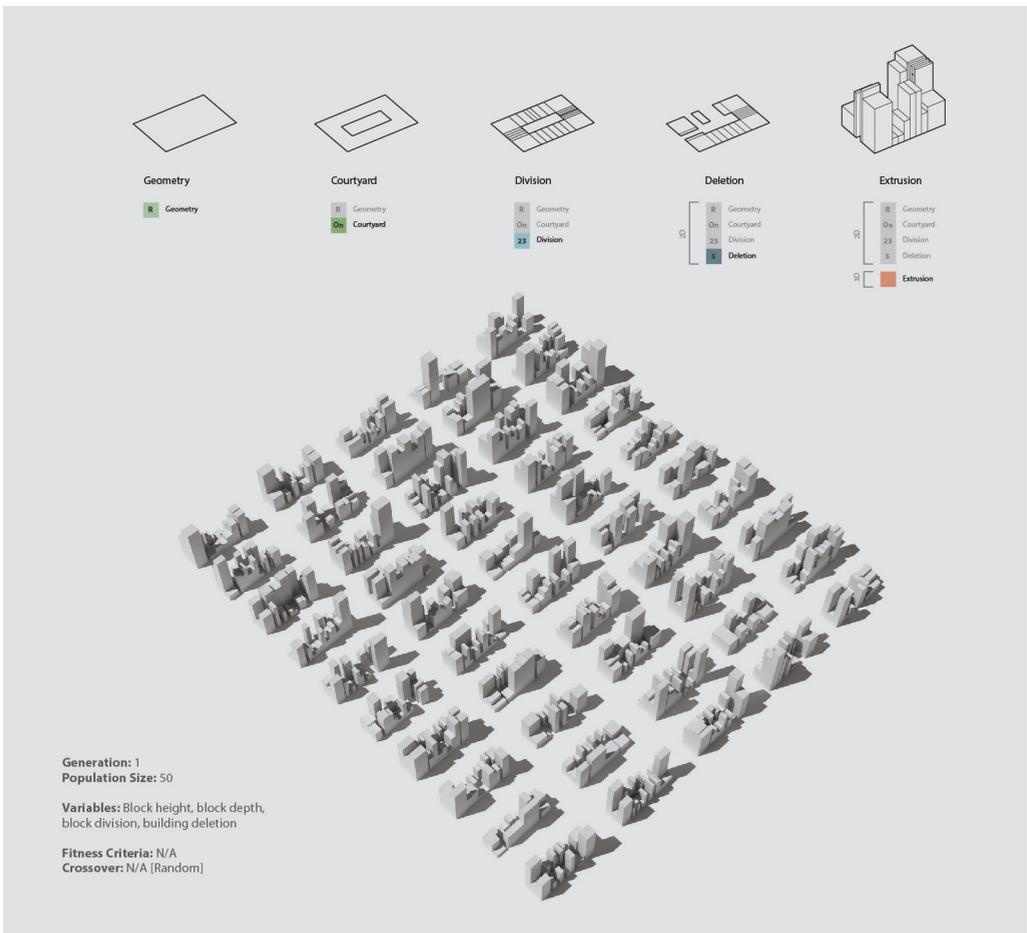
PhD studies at the AA are full-time for their entire duration. This starts with a preparatory period during which candidates attend selected courses and seminars while developing their research proposals. Approval of proposals initiates the formal period of PhD study, which has a maximum duration of four years. Currently, about 30 PhD students from more than 20 countries are enrolled in the programme. Each PhD candidate is guided by two supervisors, one of whom is designated Director of Studies. Architectural history and theory topics are directed by Mark Cousins and Marina Lathouri. Research on urban and housing issues addressing policy, strategic thinking and spatial design is supported by Lawrence Barth, Jorge Fiori and Hugo Hinsley. Research in emergent technologies in architectural design, including active material systems and urban metabolic design is directed by George Jeronimidis and Michael Weinstock. Architectural research in sustainable environmental design is directed by Simos Yannas and Paula Cadima. 'City-Architecture', a new research strand launched in 2014–15, is directed by Pier Vittorio Aureli and organised around a collaborative seminar and collective design agenda.

Applications are welcome from graduates in architecture and related disciplines. Prospective applicants should hold a Masters degree or equivalent in areas related to the programme's research topics. Details of all current and recent research topics and bios of PhD candidates and supervisors can be viewed online at [phd.aachool.ac.uk](http://phd.aachool.ac.uk). Enquiries should be addressed to the AA Admissions Office or the Chair of the PhD Committee who can then advise on matters of research and supervision. Prospective applicants should be prepared to come to the School for an interview. Tuition fee bursaries are offered to highly qualified applicants, and travel bursaries are available to registered PhD students presenting work at external events.

During their studies at the AA, PhD students are expected to produce work worthy of scholarly publication, including conference papers and journal articles. Opportunities for teaching at the AA School are available during the second and third years of PhD studies.

Forthcoming events involving PhD staff and students include the 31st International PLEA Conference 'Architecture in (R)Evolution' to be held in Bologna in September 2015. Research seminars in Terms 1 and 2 will be directed by Pier Vittorio Aureli, Mark Cousins and Marina Lathouri. Research symposia in Terms 2 and 3 will present the work of new, continuing and completing PhD candidates.

Doctoral candidates registered with another institution but wishing to undertake a period of research at the AA must follow the procedure described for applicants in this Prospectus and online. The maximum period of study as a visiting doctoral student is one academic year, for which the AA's tuition fees will apply pro-rata. Applications by scholars with post-doctoral or equivalent qualifications wishing to do research related to any of the AA's postgraduate programmes are considered subject to their relevance to the AA's current research interests. Tuition fees may apply.



Apply today to be a part of the UK's oldest independent school of architecture.

See the AA for yourself by attending an Open Day or contact the Admissions office. For information about the interview process, applying for a bursary and to make your application to one of the world's most prestigious schools of architecture, see page D9.

### Graduate School Open Days

Thursday 5 November 2015

Friday 22 January 2016

Please see the AA website for full event details and to register your interest in attending the Open Days.

### Application Deadlines

Optional Early Offers close:

Friday 27 November 2015\*

Early (Winter) applications close:

Friday 29 January 2016\*

Late (Spring) applications close:

Friday 11 March 2016

\* Applicants wishing to be considered for a bursary must submit their online form, English language certificate (if required) and portfolio before either the Optional Early-Offer or the Early (Winter) deadline.

[www.aaschool.ac.uk/graduate](http://www.aaschool.ac.uk/graduate)  
[graduateadmissions@aschool.ac.uk](mailto:graduateadmissions@aschool.ac.uk)



2016-17

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