

# UQ SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE, DESIGN AND PLANNING

### **2023 DESIGN STUDIOS**

BACHELOR OF DESIGN
BACHELOR OF ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN
MASTER OF ARCHITECTURE
MASTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND DESIGN



## acknowledgement of country

We acknowledge and pay our respects to the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we live, create and gather.

We express our gratitude to Elders and Knowledge Holders whose wisdom, activism and knowledge have kept culture alive in this place.

We recognise our responsibility as current caretakers of the built environment to respect both this Country and those who belong to this Country.

We extend our respects.



## final draft 2023

The design process in both architecture and design is iterative, leaving us with an overwhelming unfinished feeling about our work. At the point of submission, we aren't submitting a final product, but a final draft – with a future of iterations ahead for the project.

The title of this year's end-of-year celebration also pays homage to the universal study experience of frantically saving your files as final, FINALfinal, FINALfinal\_final and so on. The idea is to not just capture the end product of our work from the year but also appreciate the process of how we got there – with mountains of trace and endless iterations.

We also recognise that as students, we are graduating only as a 'final draft' – a life-long learning process is still ahead of us, and, like our designs, we'll never be quite finished either.



The UQ School of Architecture, Design and Planning is committed to teaching, research and engagement that creates change in social and built environments. We work collaboratively with our students to prepare them for rewarding careers, where they will deploy their inventiveness and resourcefulness towards positively shaping the future.

The theme for the 2023 exhibition is Final Draft, and this reflects on personal design journeys – the ways we propose, advance and edit our ideas to perfect our craft. For the graduating students, this is a process now begun that extends well beyond their time at UO.

The presentation of projects through the annual graduate exhibition is our major event for the year and celebrates progress toward the students' professional lives. The student work on display highlights the ways architecture and design allows us to tackle local and global challenges in new and innovative ways.

In July this year our School officially welcomed Urban and Regional Town Planning and formally recognised our existing Design programs through our new School name.

There has been a long tradition of design thinking in our School, fostered over decades, producing work held in high regard locally and internationally. Through our new programs, we are very excited to take design to the next level as a critical driver of innovation across built environment fields, and now to Engineering, Business and Information Technology through our dual degrees.

We are immensely proud of our students for taking this in their stride as the three student societies came together to host the 2023 student ball. We're excited to watch this collaboration continue as the disciplines connect and grow together.

In this moment, the School engages with everyone who contributes to the liveliness and progress of the School. We thank you for your commitment and contribution to our endeavours. Our congratulations to the 2023 graduating cohorts. We are excited to see how you contribute to the creation of a more sustainable and inclusive future for our communities.

Associate Professor Antony Moulis Head of School

School of Architecture, Design and Planning



# thank you

#### TO THE TEACHERS

for the countless questions answered, patience, knowledge, and support you've given to us throughout our journey at UQ. The lessons and ideals you have imparted upon us are a priceless resource that we will use throughout our careers. We promise to continue moving forward and build upon the foundations that you have laid for us.

#### TO THE UQ ADP COMMUNITY

for nurturing and engrossing us into such a vibrant and loving community of members past and present. Thank you to those who support us and continue to give back to the life and lineage of the School. We hope to do good by your efforts and give back to the School as you did for us.

#### TO THE SOCIETIES & THE YEAR REPRESENTATIVES

for continuing the tradition of growing and strengthening of the School through student life and culture. You are the backbone of what makes our community as strong as it is and will continue to be.

#### **TO THE GRADUATING COHORT OF 2023**

for sticking with us to the end. The journey was filled with challenges, tests, and boundaries, but we've finally made it. This is not an easy degree to complete, and we hope you use the skills and knowledge you've gained during your time here for the rest of your lives.



## studio contents

## **B.Arch Des**

## M.Arch/ M.UrbDevDes

## **B.Des**

ARCH1100: Form + Space

ARCH1201: Plan + Section

ARCH2100: Site + Surface

ARCH2200: Memory + History

ARCH3100: Clients + Culture

ARCH3200: Tectonics + Precision ARCH7002: Institutions + Ideology

ARCH7003: Adaptive Capacities

ARCH7004: Dwelling + Density

ARCH7005: Landscapes + Architecture

ARCH7007: Masterclass

ARCH7015: Generative Structures

ARCH7043: Architectural Practice: Design

UDAD7006: Urban Futures

UDAD7016: Responsive Environments

ARCH7007/UDAD7004: Masterclass

DSGN1100: Interaction

DSGN1200: Experience

DSGN2100: Organisation

DSGN2200: Environment

DSGN3100: Infrastructure

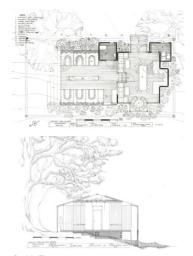
DSGN3200: Systems



# bachelor of architectural design







Sophia Zhuang

'Place and Occasion in the City'

COORDINATORS

Mr Casey Vallance Mrs Rebekah Vallance With Brisbane selected to host the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games, the city and its surroundings is anticipated to undergo significant change. Within the context of such projected change students were invited to engage through design with the architectural qualities of the West End / South Brisbane area over the course of three interlinked projects.

In Project One, 'Extreme Points of View', students sought out incidents and features of the physical form of the city that epitomised opposite extremes of various architectural characteristics.

Observations of architectural extremes of character were documented through hand drawn media and presented as information packs and postcards.

In Project Two, 'The Studio', students designed a creative studio with the task of defining the client, the brief, and a design concept. Students designed an interior within 36sqm using their brief, iterative hand drawing and model-making to resolve issues of function, spatial quality, and character.

Project Three, 'Place and Occasion in the City', extended these considerations in the design of a public teahouse located within the urban context of two sites in West End / South Brisbane.

Issues raised in the previous projects were combined with questions of design relating to its site, the composition of space and form, the integration of structure, responses to context and working with conceptual ideas.

The intentions for the final project were to introduce students to the art of architectural role-playing, empathy and imagining 'being there' within the design throughout the process.



Dominic Christensen







Eva Marshall

Sophia Zhuang

The Vertical Flow studio consisted of a series of coordinated design phases that explored design opportunities through the creative use of timber in architecture. The studio departed from an analytical understanding of constrained spaces through design phases on movement, and the tectonic understanding of lightweight timber structures.

Set within L. Woods "Free Space and the Tyranny of Types" and "The Four elements of Architecture" by G. Semper and through the use of timber, the brief focused on a design proposal that embraced plan and section through the experience and design of a constrained and vertical space. The study aimed to extensively engage contemporary timber architectural examples, to critically understand past examples and use them creatively. The emphasis on qualities of timber, architectural culture and sustainability, offered a base to critically manipulate and extend distinctive architectural layers that belong to spatial experience and movement.

ARCH1201

'Vertical Flow'

COORDINATOR

Dr Frederico Fialho Teixeira



Miryam Eskifeh

'The Productive House'

COORDINATOR

Dr Silvia Micheli

The outbreak of COVID-19 changed the way we live and work. The collapse of the work environment into the domestic realm, a sudden side effect of the pandemic, was a reality which made new demands on the conceptualisation and use of private dwellings. Domestic sites are now imbued with the potential of becoming mixed-use spaces as sites of consumption, production, and potentially its display.

Building upon this emerging trend, this studio inverted the notion of the residential edge as a barrier separating public and private - rather, it is a space of interaction or a 'threshold' between the two. A location with a predominant housing stock of timber bungalows called 'Queenslanders' are chosen for the task, all located within Brisbane's West End area. Emerging from the premise of "site within the site", students focused on the re-conception and re-evaluation of the edge, followed by an exercise of reorganising the inner spaces of the site through the addition of at least one structure to promote and facilitate production and display.

In this studio, students worked with site (the domestic block, interior and exterior space, volumes and landscape) and surface (the fence/boundary edge) to explore design problems and create innovative solutions.



Leon Adam





Lauren Stegman



Archibald Kirk

Second year turned their attention beyond the inner-city and toward the suburban hinterlands. We took as a starting point the schematic cohousing brief developed by Deicke Richards for the Sharing with Friends Group.

We considered how to provide affordable and safe housing for women at a time in their life where they may be very vulnerable, and creating an environment where they could develop friendships and support. Our eight hundred and fifty square metre site at 1 Darra Avenue is located in a Low Density Residential Zone.

We developed propositions to enable productive interactions between the inhabitants, their friends and the broader community.

#### ARCH2200

'Sharing with Friends: Older Women's Cohousing'

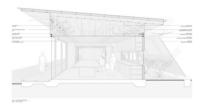
COORDINATOR

Dr Andrew Wilson





Ethan Douglas







Julia Martinelli

'Mirndiyan Gununa: A New Art Centre for Mornington Island'

COORDINATORS

Dr Kelly Greenop Ms Carroll Go-Sam This course started with the development of an aspirational brief that accurately registered the culture and needs of existing and/or potential users. Skills were developed in the respectful apprehension of cultural and physical diversity and in the effective deployment of the budget through clever planning and programming. Methods of communication that are accessible to lay audiences and which convey experiential qualities are employed at all stages of the design process.

ARCH3100 is one of six core courses offered in the Bachelor of Architectural Design degree in which solutions to design problems were developed through experimentation, iteration, collaboration and review in a studio setting. In addition to further developing previously acquired architectural knowledge and skills in form and planning, this course provided an introduction to design opportunities presented by clients and cultures. ARCH3100 developed skills in the understanding of cultural, intellectual and physical diversity as it related to architecture. ARCH3100 also developed skills in creating and interpreting architectural briefs that require integrated functional, sociocultural and symbolic design responses for both the user and client.









Matthew Schoutrop

The studio focused on designing the new School of Architecture, Design and Planning building, considering the needs of the new School, including staff, students, and the community. The project was aimed at addressing social demands and accommodation of modern academic facilities, offering a safe and pleasant environment fostering learning, individual and group activities, workshops, presentation spaces, and space for social interactions.

In addition to the design of the building itself, with its internal distribution of learning, recreational and administrative spaces, the project required students to solve public space and accessibility issues posed by the site location and dramatic topography, creating a link between the two sides of the site, and activating the public space of the ground and first levels.

The aim of the project was to develop a distinct identity of the building and its adjacent parts, unified by a traceable conceptual approach.

This studio was aimed at definition of the design intent, examining the main concept of the building and its details, what it is and what it can become in the future, how it accommodates the needs of users of the building and those who pass it by, using the new circulation pattern through the site.

ARCH3200

'Bringing New Experience to the UQ Campus'

COORDINATOR

Dr Kristina Knox



## master of architecture

# master of urban developement & design



Nina Rillera

'Everyday Architecture: Designing Community Centres for Brisbane'

COORDINATORS

Mr Michael Barnett Dr Mark Jones Students in this course negotiated the ideological underpinning of existing and future institutions in the design of buildings and precincts for governance, justice, diplomacy, education or culture. Students learned the dynamic and contested nature of exterior and interior public space and were challenged to develop compelling architectural expression for organisations that play a significant role in public life. Design proposals engaged with the political structures and processes that drive this building type. Designing with the complex briefing and planning requirements for institutional and public buildings was essential to this course.

In addition to extending competence in previously acquired architectural knowledge and skills, ARCH7002 provided students with an introduction to architectural research and design in relation to institutional architecture. Students were divided into studio units of 30 students or less. Each studio was then directed by a Studio Principal and supported by an Assistant. Studio Principals set their own projects to achieve learning objectives within common assessment criteria.

ARCH7002 also developed knowledge of architectural design research; analysis of technical and theoretical options; integration of design strategies into an effective whole; communication in a professional context; critical self-reflection and experimentation; and how the engagement of ideas in architectural design works as a process through exploration of, or reflection on, a specific architectural theme.



Ethan Palmer





Grace Spicer-Brown

'The Sydney Depot'

COORDINATOR

Dr Ashley Paine

When the controversial decision was made by the NSW State Government in 2015 to relocate Sydney's Powerhouse Museum to Parramatta, an international design competition was held for the new building while the former inner-city site in Ultimo was proposed to be sold off for redevelopment. However, following significant public backlash, the decision to close the Ultimo site was reversed in 2020—the Government announcing that the museum would instead become a multi-centred institution, operating both in central Sydney and Parramatta. Subsequently, another design competition for the renewal of the Ultimo Museum was launched in early 2022, with the winners announced later that year.

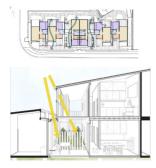
Absent in the debate of these political and real-estate machinations has been the future of the Harwood Building (1899) that forms part of the museum's Ultimo campus. Built as a depot for Sydney's first electric trams, the Harwood Building occupies land opposite the Powerhouse Museum (itself a former powerhouse built in the late 19th century to provide electricity to the tram network). With the adaption of the disused powerhouse for the museum in the 1980s, the former tram storage building was modified to house the museum library, collection store, conservation workshops and staff facilities. However, excluded from the recent competition for the Ultimo site, the fate of the building is now unclear, with speculation that it is likely to soon be demolished.

In the context of the Powerhouse Ultimo renewal, this studio considered an alternative fate for the Harwood Building: an overlooked, and at-risk building with historic significance and local interest. In particular, it imagines its conversion into a new, publicly accessible storage facility for various museum collections, aptly named the 'Sydney Depot.' Learning from the growing number of open museum stores around the world—including Herzog and de Meuron's Schaulager in Basel (2003) and MVRDV's Depot Boijmans van Beuningen in Rotterdam (2020)—the Sydney Depot will offer the first truly public cultural storage facility in Australia.





Fan Wang





Piper King

'Convivial Neighbourhoods: Housing Led Suburban Renewal'

COORDINATOR

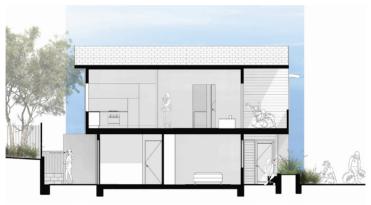
Mr Michael Dickson

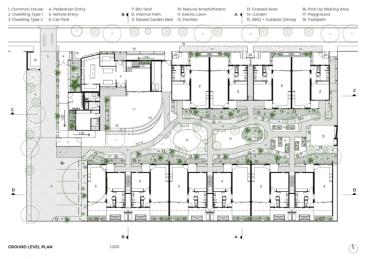
Housing on average represents almost 70% of our cities' built fabric. We can transform our cities and our everyday lives by thinking differently about housing. Our aging social housing districts are now well connected by high-speed public transport and local employment but remain stuck in the past; designed to low and inefficient densities and built to poor environmental performance standards. We are acutely aware of the chronic shortage of affordable housing supply, and we need to think differently about how we live in our suburbs and how we build our houses

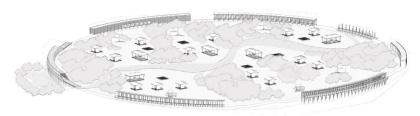
Our focus area for the studio was Logan Central. We are in the process of developing collaborations with Queensland Housing and Public Works and Housing Older Women (HOW) to develop co-housing options for older women at risk of homelessness. We explored the challenges and opportunities in trebling the density of the suburbs to make them a more connected and sustaining environment. The scale of dwellings is modest, focusing on medium density 2 to 3 storey dwellings. A key focus is placed on designing the environment, social relations, community activation, and staging renewal over time.

The studio was informed by real world problems and projects, interacting with clients who have real problems to solve. The proposals will help HOW find those solutions. Students learned strategies working with clients and acquired technical knowledge around industrialised manufactured housing, stemming from the Qld State Government's modular housing program and input from industry. We discussed and developed an understanding of the housing spectrum, the problems associated with our housing supply mechanisms, understanding the triggers of homelessness, and gained an appreciation of wider context of the issues of housing beyond design.









William Jenkins

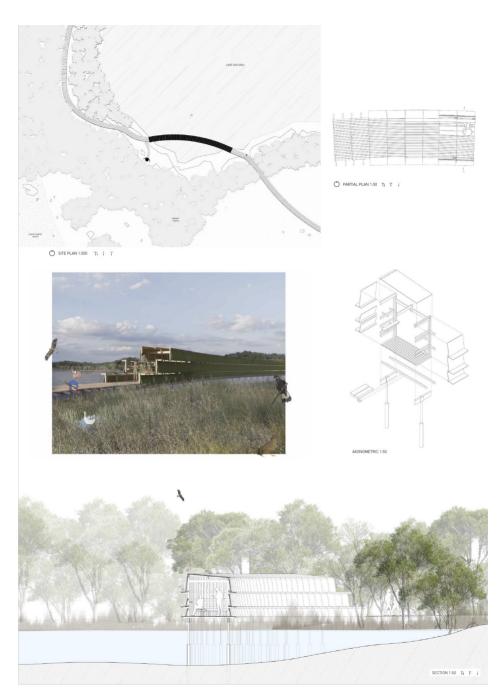
'Conserving Biodiversity by Design in National Parks'

COORDINATOR

Dr Timothy O'Rourke

National parks are at the forefront of State attempts to conserve biodiversity across different types of landscapes in Australia. One purpose of the national park estate is to protect Indigenous cultural landscapes that were invariably shaped and managed through fire regimes. These protected ecosystems are also hotspots for nature-based and cultural tourism, where visitor experience of the landscapes is mediated through planning, design and interpretation. Threats to biodiversity, the necessity of fire and the impact of increasing numbers of visitors raise questions about the design of infrastructure and types of accommodation in these diverse and often challenging landscapes.

This studio used a broad understanding of coastal ecosystems, place-based histories, and site-specific knowledge to develop and evaluate approaches to planning and architecture in protected areas. Within the Cooloola section of the Great Sandy National Park, student projects attempted to answer the question: How can design be used to both improve visitor experiences of land-scapes and protect their biodiversity?



William Jenkins



Paris Leung

'Building with Bricks: Adaptive reuse of the Hartley Teakle Building'

COORDINATOR

Dr Mark Jones

STUDIO LEADERS

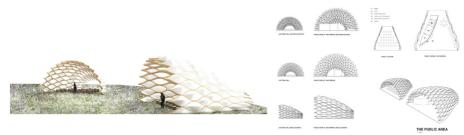
Ms Fiona Gardiner Adjunct Professor Alice Hampson ARCH7007 is an Advanced Architectural/Urban Design course where students creatively respond to a specific scenario involving future social, cultural and/or environmental challenges. Students were led to build skills of independent critical thinking and test intellectual ideas through a design proposal.

The Masterclass focussed on producing an adaptive reuse (student housing proposals) design for the UQ Hartley Teakle Building – James Birrell's final masterpiece on campus. The future for architectural practice and urban environments involves repurposing existing building stock, as highlighted at COP26 (Glasgow 2021), "Building reuse is climate action." More than ever, architects need to develop skills to understand materials, trades, and heritage significance.

The Masterclass students participated in an 'on the tools of the trade' intensive with eminent London-based practitioner Stephen Gee. The principal work of Gee, a graduate of The University of Queensland, is the conservation of important historic sites and modern buildings. He is a Louis Kahn expert and he guided students to strong design outcomes based on an understanding of materials and adaptive reuse within a heritage framework. The teaching team were supported by a suite of guest lecturers (local and interstate): historians, architects, engineers and building trade specialists.



Luke Acreman



Sheila Brandist

#### **ARCH7015**

'Agro-Forestry and Responsible Construction'

**COORDINATORS** 

Mr Kim Baber Dr Cathy Keys Timber sourced from locally grown indigenous trees has played an important role in Queensland's building industry. As designers of buildings and cities, we have an opportunity and a responsibility to influence key decisions about materials, where they come from, and the impact they have on both the immediate and wider environment.

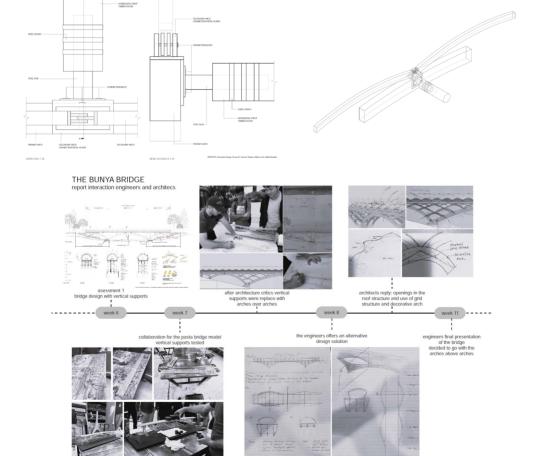
Working in consultation with UQ Civil Engineering students, this studio challenged participants to engage with the design and manufacture of timber as structural member – considering the stewardship of plantation forests and reducing waste in the construction process. The methodology was based on research by design, using studio-based techniques and hands on prototyping and experimentation with timber elements underpinned by detailed studies of timber construction. Students designed a timber foot and cycle bridge, tower, and large-scale agriculture enclosure with a series of associated ancillary buildings to support a horticultural and silvicultural plantation nursey in the Brisbane Valley. These structures and ancillary buildings were considered to be 'in conversation' with each other spatially and conceptually. What interventions need to be made into the landscape to create a best practice multi-functional agro forestry (horticultural and silvicultural) centre?

The primary construction material for the building was plantation sourced timber grown in the area, or by product material yielded from the manufacturing operations they are processed through. Considering the site's indigenous, cultural and environmental history, schemes reflected a critical position regarding best practice (i.e. new paradigm) for the future management of forestry ecologies, and how this might translate into sustainable timber construction.





THE BUNYA BRIDGE



Caroline Tanabe, Matthew Kim & Sheila Brandist





Kavvya Selvakumar

Sophie Barrett

'Avalon Apartment Living, St Lucia'

**COORDINATORS** 

Dr Mark Jones Professor Cameron Bruhn ARCH7043 is a new course in the Master of Architecture. In this course, students produced an architectural design that creatively responds to a contemporary scenario involving social, technical, cultural, economic and environmental challenges. Students developed and applied critical thinking resulting in a refined and technically resolved design proposal, showing an understanding of development triggers, legislative frameworks, commercial demands and construction processes. Student work and learning activities focused on design thinking that demonstrated the application of the relevant professional competencies expected of a graduating architecture student.

The site is a UQ-owned property, around and including the Avalon Theatre, on Sir Fred Schonell Drive, St Lucia. For this project, UQ Property and Facilities partnered with a developer in the delivery of student housing, apartment housing and ground level retail outlets. The project incorporated compliant basement carparking, waste management, and delivery vehicle allowances, along with compliant service allocations such as substations, fire hydrants and the like.

The studio emphasised design principles of (a) building on Country, (b) whole-of-life zero-carbon, (c) code compliance, (d) buildability, (e) urban contribution, (f) planning, aesthetic and spatial merit and (g) commercial viability.







Ryan Todd



Cleone Kelly

UDAD7006
'Strategies of Production:
Next Generation Urban
Villages for Cairns'

COORDINATOR

Associate Professor Antony Moulis Cairns offers a unique urban context, situated between world heritage-listed environments (the Great Barrier Reef and the Wet Tropics Rainforest), with only a narrow development corridor for the city's future expansion.

With rapid growth projected up to 2050, the city looks to create new compact walkable neighbourhoods and improve liveability and urban resilience. The Urban Futures Studio took on this problem by engaging a paradigmatic shift towards the incorporation of productive uses in urban design thinking.

Students developed ideas for the coexistence of work and living and localised production and distribution, and developed strategies to revitalise the Cairns community. Students liaised with government, industry and community stakeholders as part of the design process and build on a project-based collaboration between UQ and the Cairns Regional Council initiated in 2022. Students also had input from School-based and international researchers participating in an ongoing research alliance testing design strategies for productive cities in the Asia Pacific.



Cleone Kelly





Yunzhi Guo

#### UDAD7016 'Future-proof Suburbia'

COORDINATOR

Dr Paolo Leardini

Like most capital cities in Australia, Brisbane expects significant infill development over the coming decades, especially in low-density middle-ring suburbs. Uncontrolled urban densification could have significant impacts on resources use, green and blue infrastructure, and liveability of urban neighbourhoods. However, urban renewal and regeneration, enabled by infill, are also great opportunities to reshape neighbourhoods for resilient growth, moving away from unsustainable linear 'extract-use-dispose' urban water and resource management practices. How can we build liveable urban areas for increasing population and shrinking resources while minimising the environmental impacts of urbanisation?

This studio focused on the renewal and infill opportunities of middle-ring suburbs, exploring the catalytic value of improved connectivity space between compact building clusters to create tangible design solutions for community-driven future-proof suburbia.

Students have undertaken critical reading, background research, site exploration, documentation, and data gathering/visualisation to develop a compelling urban vision and foundational principles supporting the sustainable growth of a middle-ring suburb; this informed their transformational Urban Design Framework (UDF) to create a future-proof suburb - focused on climate resilience, circular use of water and resources, and a strong sense of community. In the following studio phase, students advanced neighbourhood scale strategies to enable the proposed UDF's implementation through a Regenerative Spatial Plan. The last studio phase led to site-specific transformational design strategies and solutions for a chosen area; working individually, students completed detailed design and documentation, illustration, and communication to deliver well-considered and resolved Future-proof Design Guidelines.



### **Transformation**

## 2.2 LAYERS



Zheng Wang



Hengyi Ren



Amy Snyders

#### ARCH7007/ UDAD7004 'Bricolage'

COORDINATOR

Dr Mark Jones

STUDIO LEADER

Hui Wang

As we move closer towards the second quarter of the 21st century, a number of significant overlapping urban challenges are presenting themselves to the design professions. In addition to the existential threat of climate change, tensions around increasing density and urban character, overlaid with a need for public amenity and adequate infrastructure are testing city administrators and designers. The re-use of heritage building stock and the creation of attractive public spaces between those buildings are important strategies available to those seeking to address these macro-challenges.

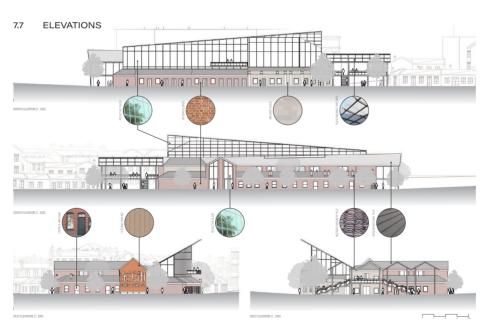
Students in this studio have examined the repurposing of extensive colonial era housing in the city of Dalian in North-east China, about 450km east of Beijing. The precinct is in a run-down condition but is a valued heritage place in the city. This project aimed to revitalise the precinct as a vibrant social space in addition to realising the commercial potential of the buildings and spaces.

The objective in this studio was for a substantial urban transformation, with the core idea being to convert the derelict housing precinct into a public and commercial zone with functions such as galleries, theatres, restaurants, cafes, marketplaces, and other non-residential uses. The new site format engages a combination of enhancing existing urban patterns and application of new patterns responding to various stimuli.

Students have developed schemes which acknowledge the heritage value of the buildings and spaces, with extensive retention and re-use. To facilitate success, the schemes have also maximised the development potential of the site with a view to attracting investment and occupation of commercial space. Given the quality of buildings and spaces which exist on the site presently, a highly desirable public and commercial precinct is anticipated.

Outputs from the studio are captured in the form of graphic reports incorporating extensive urban analysis and spatial proposals for development of precincts within the site.





Emma Sargeant



# bachelor of design



**DSGN1100** 

'Interaction'

COORDINATOR

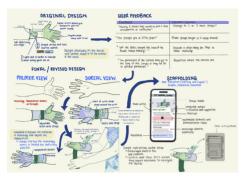
Dr Dan Luo

With the main objective as creating a compelling narrative through visual representation, this course ran a series of assignments which aimed to achieve proficient level of understanding in both the analogue and digital realms.

Conceptual design conditions were critically explored based on material and perception studies and representations.

Student started their exploration into the design realm by translating abstract ideas into tangible medias, via an abstract conceptual box constructed from an everyday object. Communication techniques. alongside with physical material experimentation, were used to materialise abstract concepts and represent it with critical depiction.

In the final design assignment, students explored the use of recycled milk bottles, generously donated by Lactalis, as the primary material for creating furniture pieces that showcased an understanding of transition in scale and composition of spatial elements. Students utilised operative actions as tools for designing and communicating their ideas. These actions abstracted the notion of aggregative formation to its most essential terms, allowing for a clear and expressive approach in the generation and illustration of both abstract and tangible design intentions, thereby demonstrating increased critical thinking skills.





Heaven Pineda

In today's context, the ability to apply design approaches and problem-solving skills is fundamental for addressing complex problems for designers. Throughout this course, students honed their design process skills, focusing on addressing chronic illnesses and enhancing patients' experiences by developing a wide range of solutions.

The course began with data collection and contextual research, followed by project planning, all guided by user-centred design principles. Throughout the course, students were equipped with a valuable array of design tools, strategies, and techniques. These included design methodologies, empathic design strategies such as personas and journey mapping, as well as the development of conceptual maps and the refinement of propositions. These tools played a pivotal role in the iterative process of generating ideas and prototypes. These tools were integrated into the generation of concepts and physical or digital prototypes, which were subsequently tested with users to gather insightful feedback.

Moreover, students also gained proficiency in the ideation process by applying divergent thinking techniques. This course emphasised the importance of user involvement in the design process. Ultimately, this course exposed students to the significance of informed decision-making in the design process and the importance of users' involvement in the design process and how this can lead to the creation of effective solutions that enhance user experience.

# **DSGN1200**

'Designing a New Product, Service or System to Enhance the Experience of Users Living with a Chronic Illness'

### COORDINATORS

Dr Mehrnoosh Mirzaei Mr Ali Rad Yousefnia



William Emery Lachlan Hamra Tanya Mohan Nate Robertson

# **DSGN2100**

'Design for Implementation: Structuring Businesses & Creating Innovative Organisational Conditions'

COORDINATOR

Dr Sean Peel

In this studio, students were introduced to theories and tools for understanding how different approaches to design implementation work in the marketplace. They were challenged to analyse the structures of design-driven businesses in terms of their value propositions, costs, revenues, engagement channels, and customers. Subsequently, they were required to form their own teams, establish manifestos, and explore real-world problems that could be solved by their unique combinations of knowledge, skills, and motivations.

In an iterative process, insights from organisational analyses informed their selection of design problems, and the structures of their organisations were refined in response to the needs of the chosen context. This project-driven course culminated in a pitch for both a designed product or service, and an underlying organisation capable of delivering it in a sustainable way.

Through this course, students were exposed to the importance of being dynamic in their collective approach to solving problems through design. Organisational conditions that are conducive to radical (rather than incremental) innovation are based on a receptivity to feedback, and on being able to pivot to address changing landscapes of technological capabilities, social meanings, and customer expectations. Accordingly, this studio aimed to contribute to achieving a confidence and readiness for professional practice.



Adobe Stock, Visoot

The design studio explored the impact on natural systems of design choices that shape the built environment, at different scales. It provided a learning pathway to understand the environmental and social consequences of the current 'linear' production mode of goods aiding someone's daily life, and to embrace and implement a disruptive approach to design out waste, while maintaining valuable material resources in use for longer.

A circular economy (CE) is a transformational alternative to current economic models that are inherently linear, where materials are taken, used for making products and then disposed.

The 2023 iteration of DSGN2200 investigated the life cycle of timber building components and processes (design, manufacture, operation, and end of life) within the construction sector, to identify constraints and potentials for its transition to a CE, including new construction products using reclaimed timber; scenarios, technologies and marketplaces enabling the reuse of existing timber building components; and design for disassembly and reuse of timber for new construction.

The first part of the design studio introduced students to the process of circular design for timber building construction, with a focus on reuse, repurpose and recycling (3Rs). In Assessment Task 1, students documented their research addressing an identified problem; developed a vision for transformative change; and identified design strategies for its implementation.

The second part of the design studio focused on advancing the concept design through an iterative process with inputs from industry, stakeholders, and peer designers. In Assessment Task 2, students developed a selected circular timber component/process in relation to the 3Rs, prototyped it, tested it with stakeholders, and developed a communication strategy for industry engagement. Through workshops with industry and structured studio sessions, students delivered a detailed design solution for a circular timber component/process addressing one of the 3Rs, and finally pitched it to industry.

**DSGN2200** 

'Timber: Design for a Circular Enconomy'

COORDINATOR

Dr Paola Leardini

2ND YEAR: BACHELOR OF DESIGN [SEMESTER 2]



Adobe Stock, Africa Studio

#### **DSGN3100**

'How might we use Design Thinking to Innovate Aged Care Infrastructure in Rural Settings?: A Case Study'

COORDINATOR

Dr Nancy Pachana

CONTRIBUTORS

Peter Reilly Sophie Griffiths This studio was run as a novel multidisciplinary collaboration with the School of Health and Behavioural Sciences. Students developed their expertise in Design Thinking Methodologies and applied them to the complex challenge of aged care infrastructure in Australia.

In the 2023 iteration of DSGN3100, the designer's role as mediator was explored within the timely context of regional aged care. Following the findings of the 2021 Royal Commission into Aged Care, the exceptional inadequacies of current levels of care and operational inefficiencies, were challenged through a case study project of an aged care facility located in Regional Queensland. This case study offered students a learning pathway to understanding the skills designers require to deliver high-calibre, co-designed facilitation and design recommendations, that consider the broad and often divergent needs of the project stakeholders and end user groups.

The case study offered students a rich opportunity to create personas of end users, including persons living with cognitive challenges or physical challenges, to understand the unique design challenges of delivering large-scale projects involving public and private stakeholders. In addition, this design studio challenged students to refine their leadership, collaboration and communication skills to participate in the planning and development of design decision-making meaningfully.





Maddison Pledger-Dunn

This course explored the application of design in developing systems with far-reaching social and economic impact, placing a strong emphasis on fostering opportunities for innovation. Throughout the semester, students engaged in reflective activities to self-identify and guide their final-year design project. By driving an iterative design process and encouraging open-ended thinking for unpredictable problems, they negotiated, scoped, managed, and successfully executed various facets of substantial design projects, culminating in the presentation of their final design solutions to a panel of experts.

As the concluding design studio within the Bachelor of Design program, this course signifies the culmination of accumulated design knowledge. Students have harnessed established design methodologies, processes, and the expertise acquired through their chosen majors, resulting in a diverse array of topics. These topics encompass various areas, such as addressing job opportunities for international students, challenging prevailing perceptions regarding car culture, exploring the potential of Australian research in driving innovative solutions, and educating students on how to recognise "red flags" associated with intimate partner violence.

This course has offered the compelling opportunity for students to take the lead on their own projects, harnessing their knowledge and skills to affect positive societal change, while also delving into the nuanced intricacies of comprehending systematic change.

# **DSGN3200**

'Designing for Systematic Change'

COORDINATOR

Dr Karla Straker



School of Architecture, Design and Planning



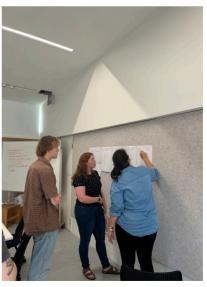
Bachelor of Architectural Design Studio 2023



Bachelor of Architectural Design Studios 2023











Architecture Field Experience / South Korea (ARCH3341)



Special Topics in Architecture / Japan (ARCH3342)

Thank you for your contribution to the Student Culture & Experience Fund

the champions

# BVI

the advocates

nettletontribe

rothelowman
Hassell
bureau^proberts

the friends

m3architecture

77**ARCHITECTURE** 

MARC & CO



# acknowledgements

#### **CURATORS**

Charlie Shelton, Jesse Grant, Sophie Barrett & Shideh Shasti

#### **EXHIBITION COMMITTEE**

Madison Hunter (Sponsorship Coordinator), Tom Hallam (Treasurer), Katherine Bowtell, Isabella Thaesler, Dhruvesh Vinaikumar, Fan Wang, Haneen Sabbagh, Isaac Janssen-Škripić & Patrick Wolfe

#### **STUDIO GUIDE**

Qi Rong Song, with assistance from UQ Studio leaders

#### **MASTERS GRADUATE BOOK**

Gina Engelhardt

## **BACHELORS GRADUATE BOOK**

Liam Leblond

#### **END-OF-YEAR EXHIBITION**

Would not be possible without the dedicated volunteers who contributed their time & knowledge to dreaming up, building and running the event

#### **UQ STAFF**

Rachael Woodman, Sam Butler & Sonya Brown