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www.aaschool.ac.uk/graduate
The AA Graduate School includes 12 postgraduate programmes offering advanced studies for students with prior academic and professional experience. It is an important part of the larger AA School, which is one of the world’s most dynamic, experimental and international learning environments.

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 up 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

Design Research Laboratory
(MArch Architecture & Urbanism)
DRL is the AA’s innovative team-based programme in experimental architecture and urbanism.
www.aadrl.net

Emergent Technologies & Design
(MArch/MSc)
EmTech emphasises forms of architectural design that proceed from innovative technologies.
emtech.aaschool.ac.uk

Housing & Urbanism
(MArch/MA)
Housing & Urbanism rethinks urbanism as a spatial discipline through a combination of design projects and contemporary theory.
www.aaschool.ac.uk/hu

Landscape Urbanism
(MA)
Landscape Urbanism investigates the processes, techniques and knowledge related to the practices of contemporary urbanism.
landscapeurbanism.aaschool.ac.uk

Sustainable Environmental Design
(MArch/MSc)
SED introduces new forms of architectural practice and design related to the environment and sustainability.
sed.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
Design & Make
(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

Projective Cities
(Taught MPhil)
Projective Cities is a 20-month course dedicated to the city as a site for projective knowledge, research and design.
projectivecities.aaschool.ac.uk

Conservation of Historic Buildings
(AA Graduate Diploma in Conservation of Historic Buildings)
The Conservation of Historic Buildings programme is a part-time day-release course that offers a multi-faceted approach to historic buildings and their conservation.
www.aaschool.ac.uk/bc

AA PhD Programme
(MPhil/PhD)
The AA PhD Programme fosters advanced scholarship and innovative research in the fields of architecture and urbanism through full-time doctoral studies. The PhD in Architectural Design is a studio-based option for qualified architects with experience in design research and an interest in relating theory to design practice.
www.aaschool.ac.uk/phd

AA Interprofessional Studio
(Postgraduate Diploma Spatial Performance & Design)
AAIS offers a one-year full-time or two-year part-time course open to professionals in many creative fields who collectively realise projects between architecture, art and performance.
www.interprofessionals.net

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.
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 and 2014, 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.

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 6 November 2014**
- **Friday 23 January 2015**

All prospective graduate students interested in our MArch, MA, MSc, PhD, MPhil and Grad Dip programmes 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 6 November 2014** which 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 23 January 2015** 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 or graduateadmissions@aaschool.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; and
- Submit a portfolio of design work (all applicants with the exception of History and Critical Thinking and Building Conservation) before the deadlines below to be considered for the 2015/16 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 28 November 2014**
**Early (Winter) applications close:** 
**Friday 30 January 2015**
**Late (Spring) applications close:** 
**Friday 13 March 2015**

Applications made after this date may be accepted at the discretion of the school.

* Students wishing to apply for a bursary must apply 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 receive 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.

To apply for a bursary, new graduate students must complete the main application form and portfolio no later than **Friday 30 January 2015** stating their interest in an AA bursary in the ‘Finances and Funding’ section.

The bursary application procedure will be explained once applicants receive an official offer. The Graduate Bursary Committee bases its decisions on the recommendations of the programme directors and financial need.

Graduate Programmes Entry Requirements

**Minimum Academic Requirements:**

**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 honours 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)

MA Landscape Urbanism (12 months)
Professional degree or diploma in architecture, landscape architecture, urbanism or other relevant disciplines

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

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

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

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

Post Graduate Diploma in Spatial Performance & Design (AAIS) (12 months; 24 months part time)
Second Class or above Honours 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 in a university or educational institution of university rank)

Graduate Diploma in Building Conservation (day-release)
Open to students/professionals with Part 2 (ARB/RIBA) or equivalent recognised qualifications. Suitably qualified members of other disciplines (eg, surveyors, planners) may be considered. Overseas students who require a Tier 4 (General) Student Visa to study in the UK are not eligible to apply for this course.

MPhil 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 Master’s 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.

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 and Building Conservation, 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 bachelor’s 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 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
- Cambridge Certificate of Advanced English at grade C1 or C2
- Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English at grade C2
- Pearson Test of English (PTE) (Academic) overall minimum of 63 with a score of at least 59 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

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 29 May 2015, 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.
Please note the English language qualification requirements are subject to frequent change in line with Home Office/UKVI regulations. It is the student’s responsibility to remain up to date with all 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

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

Fees
Fees for 2014/15* academic year:

- MA/MSc £23,262
- MArch (16 months) £30,683
- MPhil/PhD Research Degrees £20,950
- Taught MPhil in Architecture (Projective Cities) programme (20 months) £34,248
- AAIS Postgraduate Diploma in Spatial Performance and Design (12 months full time) £18,141
- AAIS Postgraduate Diploma in Spatial Performance and Design (24 months part-time two days per week) £7,256

*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 receive 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 6 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, an accommodation and London living expenses guideline can be found on the AA website. We do offer an accommodation advice service, which is organised by students three weeks before the beginning of the academic year to provide information to help students find housing.

Contact
More detailed Admissions information can be found on the AA website 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 or graduateadmissions@aaschool.ac.uk
(Clockwise from left) Design & Make students at Hooke Park; AADRL MArch Jury: Third Layer, High, by Radwa Mostafa El Fagoumy Ahmed, Ashkan Ashki, Ralph Antoine Gebara, José Roldan Caballero (AADRL)
Landscape Urbanism at Surat Creek, India (above) and preparations for AADRL Phase 1 Final Juries (left)
Work by Yuwei Wang (Grad Distinction) of Projective Cities (above) and History & Critical Thinking seminar with Smedar Dreyfus
Housing & Urbanism Studio (above) and AADRL MArch presentation (left); (opposite) Emergent Technologies & Design (Emtech) at Hooke Park
Landscape Urbanism final jury (above) and work by Soosok Kim – designing built forms with sun and wind in Seoul (Sustainable Environmental Design)
Emtech masterclass bootcamp for final juries (above) and PhD work by Patricia Martin del Guayo – climate in urban public spaces (left); work from Landscape Urbanism’s research in Delhi-Mumbai (opposite); Design & Make students complete the Big Shed, Hooke Park (overleaf)
Experimentation and Innovation (v.17)
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, which begins 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.2)
The DRL continues its exploration of prototypical design systems with the 
introduction of our next design research agenda, Behavioural Complexity, 
which will investigate architecture as an instrument that engages material 
and social forms of interaction. Social scenarios will be coupled with material 
life-cycles as a way of speculating on architecture’s role in how we live. 
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 seeks 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.

Shajay Bhooshan is a 
MPhil candidate at the 
University of Bath and a 
Research Fellow at 
Institute of Technology 
in Architecture, ETH, 
Zurich where he is a 
research assistant in 
Block Research Group. 
He also heads the 
research activities of the 
Computation and Design (co|de) group at 
Zaha Hadid Architects, 
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 MAArch 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 in Cambridge 
and at the AA, she won 
a RIBA scholarship and 
was a finalist in 2011 
RIBA President’s Award 
for Outstanding Thesis. 
She teaches at AA, UCL, 
Leeds and is the 
founding director of 
SpaceMedia Int and 
DEZACT.

Mollie Claypool has 
held teaching positions 
at the AA since 2009 
in the DRL and History 
and Theory Studies 
programmes, as well 
as at the University of 
Reading and University 
of Brighton. She has 
worked with the RCA, 
AA Publications and 
Phaidon Press. She 
studied architecture 
at Pratt Institute and 
received her Masters 
from the AA.

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 
Baimond in London. 
He has worked in the 
offices of Asymptote 
Architecture, Axii:Ome 
and Kokkugia. He holds 
a Masters from the AA. 
He has lectured and 
taught in the US and 
Europe.

Oliviug Lugoan-Ghenciu 
is a space and motion 
designer and his work 
has been exhibited in 
the UK, US, Australia, 
Japan and Europe. He 
runs ‘CtrlArchDel’ 
Studio and teaches and 
holds workshops at 
institutions such as the 
AA, Princeton University 
School of Architecture, 
Bartlett School of 
Architecture and 
the University of 
Nottingham.

Mostafà El-Sayed is 
currently working 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 insti-
tutions both in London 
and internationally.

Albert Williamson-Taylor 
has been the lead 
technical tutor on the 
DRL MArch programme 
since 2011. As cofound-
er of design-led 
structural engineering 
firm AKT II he brings 
a passion for cut-
ting-edge technology 
to the many projects 
that he oversees. He 
has extensive experi-
ence in award-winning 
designs that emphasise 
innovation and 
computational research 
in combination with a 
sustainable approach to 
technology and 
respect for heritage.
Phase II Design Research Agenda:
Behavioural Complexity (v.1)
The possibilities of Behavioural Complexity are explored in four parallel research studios, run by Theodore Spyropoulos, Patrik Schumacher, Robert Stuart-Smith and Shajay Bhooshan.

Theodore Spyropoulos’s studio, Behavioural Agency, investigates autonomous self-aware and assembled systems that look at machine learning, collective building and environmental conditioning.

Tectonic Articulation – Making Engineering Logics Speak, led by Patrik Schumacher, instrumentalises engineering and fabrication logics for the purpose of articulation – the adaptive differentiation of load-bearing structures as well as the adaptive differentiation of volumes and envelopes according to the building’s environmental performance.

Robert Stuart-Smith’s studio, Behavioural Production, develops adaptive, rapid and on-demand construction enabled by swarm 3D-printing that orchestrates design and production as a singular creative process able to respond to diverse social and economic time-based scenarios.

Shajay Bhooshan’s studio, Synthetic Equilibria, researches ‘when machines will design and build’, in terms of architectural design and how can we describe, evaluate and search for the right designs.

Phase I Design Workshops:
Material Behaviour Theodore Spyropoulos, Robert Stuart-Smith, Shajay Bhooshan, Pierandrea Angius, Mostafa El-Sayed, Term 1
Term 1 begins with two sets of three design workshop modules emphasising computational and material prototyping as an analytical methodology and the prime mode of design production and representation. Each five-week module focuses on a set of methods and intended design output, introducing Phase I students to a 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, Robert Stuart-Smith, Mostafa El-Sayed, Shajay Bhooshan, 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 with Mollie Claypool, Term 1
Pursuing design as a form of research raises a series of questions that 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, as well as the implications of this for architectural and design practice. Weekly sessions will include presentations related to course readings.
Synthesis: Project Submission, Writing & Research Documentation  
Winston Hampel & 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 with 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.

Conceptualising Computing Shajay Bhooshan & 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.

Design as Research II: Computational Space Robert Stuart-Smith with Mollie Claypool, 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.

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.
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 the achievements of our past studies, we will include greater involvement from experts in the fields of component systems and material computation, urban physics and algorithmic urban design, engineering, advanced computation and computationally driven fabrication. We will continue our Masterclass series for the fifth year, along with lectures, tutorials and workshops from Wolf Mangelsdorf (Buro Happold), Achim Menges (ICD Stuttgart), Francis Aish (Applied Research and Development – and partner in Foster + Partners), Jordi Truco (HYBRIDa), Janet Barlow (Urban Physics, Reading), Sergi Valverde (Complex Systems Lab, Universitat Pompeu Fabra) and Suryansh Chandra (Zaha Hadid Architects).

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.
Core Studio 1 and 2 – Active Systems
Evan Greenberg, Mehran Gharleghi and Manja van de Worp

Core Studio 1 – Material Systems
Evolutionary strategies and computational techniques are used to develop the architectural qualities of different material systems. Physical models will explore the integration of material behaviour and fabrication processes. Core studio 1 is supported by weekly sessions on associative modelling in Grasshopper/Rhino, workshops on scripting in Python and in Grasshopper, sessions on geometry and iterative processes to model and control growth processes. The studio concludes with fully fabricated and digitally modelled, doubly curved material systems that exhibit integrated structural and environmental properties.

Core Studio 2 – City Systems
The core studio 2 project extends the system logics 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, and the detailed design of one ‘cell’ within it, with digital and fully fabricated models.
Emergence Seminar Course
*Michael Weinstock*
Terms 1 & 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 the generative design experiments, which conclude with the detailed modelling and analysis of the set of evolved forms, surfaces and structures.

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. This analysis continues into Term 2.

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.
The MA History and Critical Thinking is a unique platform for critical enquiry into history – through modes of writing, conceptual assumptions and methodologies – and engagement with contemporary architectural knowledge and the cultures of the city.

Writing is essential to the course as an object of study and practice. Different forms – theses, essays, reviews, commentaries and interviews – are explored to articulate various aspects of the curriculum. Seminars with distinguished practitioners – critics, journalists, writers, designers and curators – bring to the course a diversity of perspectives and skills.

The programme’s ambition is threefold: 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 geopolitical 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, writing workshops, public events and debates. Collaborations with AA design units, participation in juries and architectural visits allow students to engage with design speculation as well as particular projects. Additionally, the programme provides research facilities and supervision to MPhil and PhD candidates registered under our joint PhD programme.

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* and published several articles.

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 is a founding member of the Graduate School at the London Consortium.

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*.

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

Marina Lathouri and the participation of PhD students, photo Devanshi Shah
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 Académie de l’Architecture in Paris.

Pedro Ignacio Alonso directs the MA in History and Design at the Universidad Católica de Chile. He is the co-author of *Panel* (2014), which explores the role large concrete panel systems played in architecture’s modernisation. Along with Hugo Palmarola he was awarded the Silver Lion at the 2014 Venice Biennale.

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 is currently the first fellow of the Mellon Initiative in Architecture, Urbanism and Humanities, for which he will teach in Princeton.

Manuel Orazi teaches at the University of Bologna and Ferrara and works for the publishing house Quodlibet. He is a regular contributor to the magazine Log and recently completed *The Erratic Universe of Yona Friedman* to be published in 2014.
Term 1 courses examine practices of architectural historiography and reflect on interpretations of the past. The notion of modernity is interrogated through a critical 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 theoretical discourse – this seminar series looks at the roles of key texts in the construction and criticisms of the 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 Zeitgeist argument, formalism and the vernacular.

**Aesthetics and History Mark Cousins**
This course provides an account of the intellectual bases of architectural theories within a modern field of aesthetics and follows with an analysis of the fate of this idea, particularly in relation to its complex relation to the rise of art history in the nineteenth century.

**Design by Words 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 communicating ideas in a clear and direct way. 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 are concerned with the historical processes of the discipline’s formation parallel to contemporary architectural and urban thinking, offering the students a range of approaches to interpret and expand disciplinary knowledge in an historical, cultural and political arena.

**Architecture Knowledge and Writing Marina Lathouri**
From the early treatise to more recent theoretical articulations, it is through writing that architecture is propagated as a distinct form of knowledge and a 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, its aesthetic norms, its 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. Lectures, reading seminars and assignments aim to understand and challenge these ‘languages’ of architecture.
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 articulate the theoretical conjunctions of the contemporary city. It analyses the links between transformations in international and sub-state polities, 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.

Critical Fabrications Pedro Ignacio Alonso
This lecture series discusses the development of large concrete panel systems during the second half of the twentieth century, bringing to light marginal accounts of modern architecture.

Translation in Architecture Marina Lathouri with Manuel Orazi & Siri Nergaard
This one-week workshop explores the ways in which translation and architecture meet. The very translatability of architecture is interrogated in the light of institutional, legal and economic constraints, cultural specificities and political ideologies.

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

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

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.

hu.aaschool.ac.uk
FlorianDirschedlisanarchitectandurban
designer. After studying
architecture and urban
planning in Munich,
Delft and the AA, he
worked on a number
of housing schemes
and masterplans in
Germany and has
taught architecture
and urbanism at the
Technical University in
Munich. He is currently
project architect in
an international design
practice on projects
in France and the UK.

EladEisensteinis
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 with an MA
in Housing & Urbanism
from the AA. He has
experience in designing
and delivering a wide
range of projects with
sustainable placemak-
ing at their core,
including new eco-
cities, large-scale
metropolitan centres,
and complex city
centre sites.

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designer involved in
practice, teaching
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member for CABE and
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AnnaShapiroisan
architect and urbanist,
who studied architec-
ture and urban planning
at Tel Aviv University
and completed an MA
with distinction in
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for a range of architec-
tural practices, and is
currently an urban
designer with Sheppard
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She is part of Collective
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international design-
research group.

AlexWarnock-Smithisanarchitectandurban
designer, with experi-
ence in practice,
teaching and research.
He is cofounder of
Urban Projects Bureau,
a multidisciplinary
practice working on
architectural, urban
and public realm
projects. UPB were
recently selected by the
British Council as one
of ten teams to exhibit
at the British Pavilion
at the 13th Venice
Architecture Biennale
2012.
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 their design and writing projects. While each of the workshop teams will pursue distinctive lines of investigation, individual development is seen through seminars and other project possibilities that ask students to explore key issues in urbanism today. The H&U programme places particular emphasis upon the urban inner periphery, where the complexity of the urban process is plainly visible. Project work in the Design Workshop reflects this. Each team will define the balance and integration of architectural, social and political concepts that drive its work, giving each project a distinctive style and character.

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 frame of London and its metropolitan region. We will also have an intensive design workshop outside the UK, which offers 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 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 & 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, 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 with 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 & 2
This course explores the various national and local strategies evolved by the state with the aim of meeting the challenges of urban expansion over the past 100 years. The course will focus 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. It will also review the development of ideas about housing form and production.

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 is a 12-month design course that explores how the techniques, dynamics and discourses of landscape-based disciplines can be reappropriated as a means to ask fundamental questions about the contemporary city. It investigates the how the intersection of physical and social processes of territorial formation generates new forms of urban typologies, governance and knowledge.

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

In October 2000 the European Landscape Convention in Florence became the first pan-European project with the ambition of defining the entirety of the European territory from a cultural perspective. It promised a collective sense of the appreciation of territorial specificity supported by comprehensive studies of charters and tailor-made recommendations. However, the decidedly encyclopaedic spirit of the Florence Convention trumped a stubborn reality where the practises of property developers, and, perhaps more importantly, a set of labyrinthine policies were never translated into meaningful systems of space production.

It is in this rift between utilitarian and cultural practices of European policies that Landscape Urbanism has focused its research. For the second year the course seeks to explore how productive and natural formations can generate the basis of a pan-European project of territories neither generic nor iconic, neither conventional nor touristic. As such the course concerns itself with both the geomorphological formations of relevant landforms and the actual cultural, political and economic forces that drive and choreograph the social formations of these landforms. The outcome of these concerns will entail the production of a set of radical and experimental cartographies that form a Pan-European Atlas as the basis of new ways of documenting the future of European environments. As projective machines with the capacity to unveil the glitches between conflicting systems at stake, these cartographies put forward projects and design intentions at territorial scales as future alternatives.

MA
12 months (three terms, plus thesis work)

* Please note that for the 2015/16 academic year the degree of this programme will change to a 12-month MSc and a 16-month MArch in Landscape Urbanism, subject to approval and validation by The Open University. Please follow the AA and the programme websites for updates.

Directors
Alfredo Ramirez
Eduardo Rico

Design Tutor
Clara Oloriz Sanjuan

Seminar Tutors
Douglas Spencer
Tom Smith

Technical Tutors
Giancarlo Torpiano
Gustavo Romanillos
Vincenzo Reale

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.

Anastasia Kotenko and Niki Kakali – a GIS cartography of a comprehensive and seamless understanding of Europe through the dynamics of sand dune landscapes along the entire continental grounds
Course Methodology

Land/Territorial Formations Terms 1 & 2
During the first two terms, the course aims to thread geomorphological processes, social structures and design intentions into land and territorial formations. Exploring the idea of a necessary synthesis – a utilitarian forced hybridisation – opens up the possibility of discovering 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, and, at the same time, a territorial description of architectural space. The final aim of this term is the generation of an atlas of similar and relevant territories across Europe, which traces the geographies of the pan-European problematic posed by the social and geomorphological formations outlined and researched by the student.

Territorial Documentation Terms 3 & 4
The final section of the course explores modes of documentation extending beyond the idea of the fixity and stability of master planning to operate in projective and subversive ways. Following the development of an atlas, students will produce a territorial manual describing the procedures and guidelines behind their projects in order to extrapolate upon principles of similar locations across European territories.

Eduardo Rico studied civil engineering in Spain and graduated from the AA’s Landscape Urbanism programme. Currently he works within the Arup engineering team and is 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 ETSAM 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 Urban Prototypes.


Tom Smith is a landscape architect and urban designer. He was instrumental in the design of the London 2012 Olympic and Legacy Masterplan and is developing the practice of SpaceHub in London.

Giancarlo Torpiano holds an MArch in Emergent Design and Technologies 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 an MA 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 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.

Territorial Processes, Lecture Series Term 1
Directly linked to the Landscript workshop, this series of lectures, given by engineers and scientists currently researching the use of computational tools, addresses territorial formation processes.

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.

Core Seminar Terms 1 & 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.

Models, Methods and Histories Seminar 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.

The Rhetoric of Mapping, Seminar 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 & 3
The lecture series introduces construction techniques related to the design of landscape projects that adopt a ‘machinic’ ethos to technical practice.
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 on how architecture can contribute to this. 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.

sed.aaschool.ac.uk

MSc
12 months (three terms, plus thesis work)

MArch
16 months (four terms)

Director
Simos Yannas

Staff
Paula Cadima
Jorge Rodríguez Álvarez
Klaus Bode
Gustavo Brunelli
Herman Calleja
Mariam Kapsali
Byron Mardas

Simos Yannas has initiated and led postgraduate environmental design research and teaching at the AA since the late 1970s. He is currently also the director of the AA School’s PhD Programme and runs regular courses for AA Technical Studies. He lectures frequently outside the AA School and his writings have been published in a dozen languages. He was awarded the PLEA (Passive and Low Energy Architecture) Lifetime Achievement Award in 2001.

Paula Cadima has been in architectural practice and environmental research for more than 25 years and has taught at the AA Graduate School and at the Technical University of Lisbon. She worked for the European Commission in Brussels for five years where she was involved in the management of world-class research projects on energy efficiency, renewable energy sources and emerging fields. She chaired the Environment & Sustainable Architecture working group of the Architect’s Council of Europe in 2009 and is the president of PLEA since 2011.

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 UCL-Bartlett, where he developed a GIS tool to assess the energy performance of buildings in large urban areas.

Yiping Zhu, Extending Spaces and Fading Borders SED MArch Dissertation 2014 – design proposals for a daylit and naturally ventilated primary school building that performs better environmentally by extending into protected outdoor and transitional spaces most of the year, Xiamen, China, 24.48°N 118.09°E

Yiping Zhu, Extending Spaces and Fading Borders SED MArch Dissertation 2014 – design proposals for a daylit and naturally ventilated primary school building that performs better environmentally by extending into protected outdoor and transitional spaces most of the year, Xiamen, China, 24.48°N 118.09°E
Phase I Design Research: Refurbishing the City Terms 1 and 2
The year starts with London as a laboratory providing case studies of recent built projects that engage student teams in fieldwork combining on-site observations and environmental measurements with advanced computational simulation studies. The findings from these case studies will become starting points for Term 2 design briefs that will explore innovative design strategies addressing lifestyle trends, technical developments and climate change.

Phase II Design Research: Dissertations
MArch students who started the course in October 2013 will return in October 2014 to complete the final stage of their individual design projects. Eighteen MArch students are currently in Phase II developing projects with sites in 11 different countries for a wide range of building types, design briefs, climatic conditions and urban contexts. These are due for completion in February 2015. A new set of Phase II dissertation projects will then be launched by the MSc and MArch students who will join the programme at the beginning of this academic year.

Courses & Workshops

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.
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 and energy consumption will be investigated at different scales, ranging from the regional to that of the urban block, and illustrated with case studies of new and refurbishment schemes in different countries and urban contexts.

Instrumentation & Computation Tools Terms 1 & 2
This is a technical course introducing the scientific instruments and computational tools applied on SED project work. These deal with data acquisition and processing and with the modelling and simulation of solar, thermal, airflow and daylight processes for design research at different levels that encompass the individual occupant as well as the city.

Modelling & Simulation Workshop Terms 1 & 2
This is a weekly workshop that provides hands-on training in the use of the scientific instruments and computational tools introduced by the Tools course. The workshop parallels the sequence of the fieldwork and analytical requirements of the Term 1 and 2 projects providing student teams with the tools and support they need at each stage.

Environmental Design Primer Terms 1 & 2
This course introduces key topics of environmental design research and practice as these relate to architecture and urban design. Topics include theories of environmental comfort; the science of measurement and performance assessment; the physics of natural lighting and ventilation; the ecology and environmental performance of materials; and technologies for renewable energy applications in the urban environment.

Lessons from Practice Terms 2 & 3
Each year a number of practising architects, engineers and researchers are invited to present their approach to and practice of sustainable environmental design showing examples of recent projects.

Phase I Research Seminar Terms 1 & 2
This seminar deals with literature research, academic writing and the choice of topics for the two research papers that students are required to submit individually at the end of Terms 1 and 2.

Phase II Research Seminar Terms 3 & 4
In Phase II the seminar provides support for the early stages of MSc and MArch dissertation research.
The stewardship of the historic environment requires heritage practitioners with special skills in understanding, investigating, enhancing and communicating the legacy of the past. It is the ambition of this programme to inspire the participants to build upon their existing knowledge and skills to become more effective, competent and confident practitioners.

This two-year part-time programme takes place on 32 Fridays over each of the two academic years and is designed to offer a comprehensive and innovative approach to the conservation of historic buildings. It attempts to address the need to conserve, the artefacts that require conservation and the methods of conserving. Philosophical issues and craft techniques are explored alongside modern value systems of assessment. The programme includes site and craft workshop visits that are connected to current conservation issues of interest.

The First Year engages the students in developing their own conservation philosophies, allied with study of eighteenth-century to twentieth-century building types. Students begin to learn about causes of defects to buildings, as well as their diagnosis and repair. Various exercises are undertaken by each student, based upon the demands of actual practice. The Second Year extends the scope of these studies with modules including the issues associated with the development and repair of historic interiors and the introduction of services into historic buildings, together with ongoing development of the students’ philosophies. The principal work of each student in this year is to write a thesis of around 20,000 words on a subject of their choice to be approved by the staff. This is developed with the assistance of a specialist external tutor.

Those directing the programme benefit from the expertise of its advisors – Richard Halsey, Elain Harwood, David Heath, Frank Kelsall, Robyn Pender, John Redmill (past director), Clive Richardson and Robert Thorne – who review the course content and activities. Many former students show their continuing commitment to the course by returning to lecture.

For 40 years the AA’s Building Conservation Programme has been recognised as one of the leading courses of its kind. The course is designed to meet the ICOMOS Guidelines for Education and Training, which are currently under review, though its content is informed by current developments in conservation best practice. The course is accepted by the RICS and IHBC as meeting the standards for their members involved with conservation works.

www.buildingconservation.aaschool.ac.uk

AA Graduate Diploma
Two years, part-time

Director
Andrew Shepherd

Year Master
David Hills

Thesis Tutor
Martin Cook

Andrew Shepherd is an architect and has run a practice specialising in conservation work for over 30 years, principally in the ecclesiastical field. He is also involved in various international training programmes.

David Hills is an architect with a major conservation practice and has a special interest in the conservation of modern architecture with heritage significance.

Martin Cook is a graduate of the course and has a distinguished career in public service, education and consultancy.

Visit to Cliveden to view works in progress, June 2014
Students of MArch Design & Make use the realisation of buildings as a 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. With access to the woodland as a source of building material and to Hooke Park’s wood-working facilities, timber-building technologies underlie the programme’s agendas.

The 16-month full-time post-professional design programme starts with an Induction Studio through which key design and digital fabrication techniques are taught. This is followed by the Core Studio wherein a temporary full-scale piece of inhabitable landscape infrastructure is built in the Hooke Park woodland. In parallel, seminar courses cover agendas of ruralism and the cultural theories of making as design. These taught components are then applied in the design and construction of the Hooke Park Project, which follows the brief for a new building for the Hooke Park campus.

Designs for the built project are developed through prototyping, mock up and physical testing, working with engineering consultants and specialist builders. Construction is completed in the autumn, and this is followed by the individual production of a thesis, which draws on the constructed project as evidence towards a propositional argument concerning the practice and realisation of architecture.

MArch
16 months (four terms)

* Please note that for the 2015/16 academic year a 12-month MSc award will be introduced, subject to approval and validation by The Open University. The MSc will share the taught components of the MArch programme and will focus explicitly on design prototyping in timber, using new fabrication facilities at Hooke Park including the robotic fabrication cell being installed in Autumn 2014. Please follow the AA and programme websites for updates.

Programme Director
Martin Self

Studio Master
Kate Darby

Construction Tutor
Charley Brentnall

Thesis Tutor
Mark Campbell

Martin Self is an engineer and designer who has taught at the AA since 2004. He worked at Ove Arup & Partners where he was a founding member of the Advanced Geometry Group, studied architectural theory at the AA and has consulted with such practices as Zaha Hadid Architects and Antony Gormley Studio.

Kate Darby is an architect and has taught at Bath University, the Bartlett, Cardiff, Cambridge, Westminster and London Metropolitan Universities, Oxford Brookes and the AA. In 2008 she founded the rural practice, KDA.

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 the director of the Paradise Lost AA Research Cluster.

The Hooke Park Timber Seasoning Shelter, designed and built by four students of the 2012-13 Design & Make cohort and fabricated from steam-bent beech components. Recent Student Lodge projects can be seen in the background.
The taught MPhil in Architecture and Urban Design raises the question of what kind of project and research arises from architecture and architectural urbanism. It sets out to define the status and methods of design research. This is understood both as an intellectual problem, which explores the relationship between theory and design for knowledge production, and as a practical problem of the way that design research can affect practice.

The ambitions of Projective Cities are framed by methodological and pedagogical propositions: that the city can be read as a projection of the possibilities of architecture; that the urban and its cultural, social, political, historical and economic contexts are defined by architectural design operative at different scales; that architectural and urban plans are intelligible as formal and theoretical products of disciplinary activity as well as the collective outcome of socio-political forces; that typal and typological reasoning are complementary disciplinary means through which collective ideas of the city can be discovered and proposed; that design and research activities are inseparable 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.

During the first year of Projective Cities, seminars, design studios as well as skill and writing workshops introduce students to the programme’s pedagogy, providing the theoretical and practical foundations for formulating a research project. In the second year, the questions and aims of each research proposal are developed into an original designed-and-written dissertation.

Projective Cities prepares students for a long-term research trajectory through a rigorous methodological framework and supervision. While the programme is a stand-alone degree it also offers a structured way into a PhD.
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. Doctoral candidates apply for and follow a traditional route with 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 research tool as well as a product 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 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 as 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. Architectural research in sustainable environmental design is directed by Simos Yannas. Research in emergent technologies in architectural design, including active material systems and urban metabolic design are directed by George Jeronimidis and Michael Weinstock. A new research strand launched in 2014/15 on ‘City-Architecture’ will be directed by Pier Vittorio Aureli, and will be 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 the area of their proposed research. Enquiries can be addressed to one of the programme’s directors of studies or the AA Admissions Office, and 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. Details of all current and recent PhD topics can be viewed online at phd.aachool.ac.uk.

Forthcoming events at the AA include a one-day symposium on Algorithms & Actualisation in December 2014. Later in December, staff and students from the PhD programme will present work at the 30th International PLEA Conference on Sustainable Habitats for Developing Societies, held in Ahmedabad, India.

Doctoral candidates registered with another institution 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 school’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.
EXPATs – Choosing Your Own World
In today’s global world we can create anywhere, work everywhere and construct and find our own home. Affordable air travel, a higher standard of living conditions and the constant search for creative networks and opportunities encourages a dispersed lifestyle whereby the individual constantly creates his own environment and with it new modes of production. A whole generation of creatives live in locations of their choosing and create work that is independent from single locations and fixed structures, which undulates around multiple hubs of creativity.

The AA Interprofessional Studio is such a creative hub. This year the studio will utilise its networks and create a series of productions in relation to three ‘expat’ locations: the islands Sardinia, Ibiza and Guernsey, drawing upon the unique qualities of the location to develop an extravaganza of music, dance and spatial performance. We will research how we can become expatriates in spite of ‘global citizenship’ or virtual networks and ‘unplug’ from these in order to be able to feed back into the same with new, inspired work.

In collaboration with Mangiabarche Gallery on Calasetta, Sardinia, Emerging Ibiza and Creative Guernsey, the studio will develop full-scale productions starting with a basecamp on Sardinia that produces the framework for a broader event and cultural festival on Ibiza and finishes with a performance and forum of discussion on Guernsey.

Sardinia – Base Station: A Scenic Event
The Sardinia event is the most remote and secluded of the series. It focuses on producing the atmospheric and scenic elements of the year’s narrative.

Ibiza – Spatial Lab: An Event Formed by Music
The results of the first event will form the basis for a wider integrative experience on Ibiza where we will raise the level of cultural discussions and interdisciplinary collaborations across art-disciplines, binding everything together through music.

Guernsey – Broadcast: A Choreographed Event
The final event will stage all disciplines together as a choreographed event, where the choreography reaches into every segment of organisation, workshop, conference and publication of the year’s development, forming one great crescendo that goes beyond the event itself.

* Please note that for the 2015/16 academic year the degree of the course will change to a 12-month MA and a 16-month MFA in Spatial Performance and Design, subject to the approval of the MFA award and the validation of the MA/MFA programmes by The Open University. Please follow the AA and the programme websites for updates.

Studio Director
Theo Lorenz

Studio Master
Tanja Siems

Tutors’ summary
logbook of ‘The Conversation’, staged in London, Barcelona and Berlin
Studio Tutors and Experts

Andy Dean (music and production)
Albert Lang (theatrical direction and spatial composition)
David McAlmont (music and history of the arts)
Heiko Kalmbach (film direction and dramaturgy)
Joe Walkling (choreography, New Movement Collective)
Joel Newman (film and sound)
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.
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