URBD 5720
Urban Design Studio I
2020-21 Term 1

URBAN DESIGN FOR HEALTHY COMMUNITIES IN THE AGE OF PANDEMICS

INSTRUCTORS
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DESCRIPTION

The COVID19 pandemic underlined the central role of public space for our health and well-being. It also highlighted existing social and health disparities as they were further exacerbated by the health crisis. Urban design can play an essential role to better prepare cities and communities for the "new normal" by helping us reconsidering the way public spaces can be used, where and how we will live, work and socialize, and how we will move between different places and activities.

The Urban Design Studio in Term I focuses on communities and public spaces along the MTR Central-Tsuen Wan Line (red line), which connects the financial centre on Hong Kong Island, with the diverse neighbourhoods of Kowloon. Reflecting on the complex interface of urban design and public health students will be challenged to develop innovative responses in line with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In this time of social distancing and remote working the role of public spaces and transport has changed, perhaps for the long term. Such crises highlight the need for multiple bottom lines and resilience at local and global levels. Responding to these challenges students will reconsider the potential for sustainable urban change examining the relationship between regional infrastructure and local placemaking initiatives.

PROCESS

The case study sites at Sham Shui Po and Jordan provide a rich cross-section of morphologies, from dense gridded blocks, through new reclamations and large scale infrastructure. Opportunities for more inclusive and sustainable visions of the city have been enabled as a substantive rethinking of the city becomes not only possible but essential. As places for living and working on Hong Kong Island and Kowloon have become unaffordable, more and more of these functions are relocated along the MTR line towards the north transforming old grass-roots and industrial areas.

During the semester, students will work with different community organizations and engage with local stakeholders and residents. Working with local community partners the studio will culminate in a strategic intervention in Sham Shui Po, creating a space for community engagement and local resilience. Students are strongly encouraged to enrol in the course URBD5731 *Urban Processes,* which will provide related knowledge about the specific processes and actors shaping the city and the specific case study sites.

With our studio work, we aim to contribute to the implementation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals: 3 (Good Health and Well-being), 10 (Reduced Inequalities) and 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities).

OBJECTIVES

- Through observations, mappings and interviews, students will understand how different urban forms and spaces in Hong Kong were generated;
- Based on their analyses, students will learn to appreciate the specific cultural, environmental and social aspects of places;
- The organization of community workshops will give the opportunity to learn how to communicate with different stakeholders.
- Through comparative analyses they learn to understand the specific impact of urban strategies.
- By following the studio objectives students can contribute to the implementation of UN Habitat's *New Urban Agenda.*
- The course also aligns with the framework of the UN Sustainable Development Goals and the UN Habitat's New Urban Agenda, in which this interdisciplinary thinking is essential to address the complexity of today's pressing urban challenges.

LEARNING OUTCOME

- Develop research skills and critical thinking;
- Integrate professional knowledge and skills into comprehensive urban design solutions;
- Develop of communication skills by engaging with different stakeholders and community members;
- Develop professional ethics and team spirit.

ASSESSMENT SCHEME

- Group research (30%)
- Group Strategy (20%)
- Individual Design Work (50%)

EVALUATION CRITERION

Each project will be measured on its success in addressing the studio theme and the opportunities and threats of the studio sites. Each project should demonstrate how it integrates considerations about public transport, community processes, respects local identity and how it improves quality of living and social cohesion in the surrounding neighbourhoods.

COURSE FORMAT

Based on the uncertainty of the health situation in Hong Kong, the studio will be taught online, blended or face-to-face, following the regulations by the university administration. Zoom link for online activities will be distributed to inscribed students before the term start.

Throughout the term, the studio teaching will be organized as a sequence of lecture inputs, desk critics, placemaking workshop and design reviews. The participation in all activities is obligatory and important part to seek relevant feedback and develop communication and design skills.

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SCHEDULE

Date	Studio Activities
Mon Sept. 7	Studio Introduction Introduction Exercise1: Urban History, Morphology, Types, Public Space Networks
Thu Sept. 10	Guided Site Visit & Exploration (online of in person, TBC)
Mon Sept. 14	Development Exercise I
Thu Sept. 17	Development Exercise I
Mon Sept. 21	**Presentation Exercise 1** Start Exercise 2: Neighborhood Walkability and Cycling Study (with D. Paetzold)
Thu Sept. 24	Development Exercise 2
Mon Sept. 28	**Presentation Exercise 2** Introduction: Tactical Site Intervention
Thu Oct. 1	Public Holiday
Fri-Sun Oct. 2- 4	Mid-Autumn Festival **Magic Bridge: Tactical Site Intervention (activity depending of health situation)**
Mon Oct. 5	Introduction Exercise 3: Stakeholders and Community Actors
Thu Oct. 8	Development Exercise 3
Mon Oct. 12	**Presentation Exercise 3** Introduction Group Strategy
Thu Oct. 15	Development Group Strategy
Mon Oct. 19	Development Group Strategy
Thu Oct. 22	**Presentation Group Strategy** Introduction Individual Project
Mon Oct. 26	Chung Yeung Festival Holiday
Thu Oct. 29	Development Individual Project
Mon Nov. 2	Development Individual Project
Thu Nov. 5	Pin-up Review Individual Project
Mon Nov. 9	Development Individual Project
Thu Nov. 12	Development Individual Project
Mon Nov. 16	Development Individual Project
Thu Nov. 19	Development Individual Project
Mon Nov. 23	**Pre-Final Review**
Thu Nov. 26	Development Individual Project
Mon Nov. 30	Development Individual Project
Wed Dec. 2	**Final review (TBC)**
Fri Dec 11	Submission final documentation

READINGS

Required Readings

- Arup (2017). *Cites Alive: Designing for Urban Childhoods,* London: Arup.
- Chase, G.L., Crawford. M, and J. Kaliski, eds. (2008), *Everyday urbanism*, New York: Monacelli Press, 2008.
- Danenberg, R., Doumpa, V. and Karssenberg, H. (eds.) (2018). *The City at Eye Level for Kids*, Rotterdam / Amsterdam: STIPO Publishing.
- Gehl, J. and B. Svarre (2013). *How to study public life.* Washington, DC: Island Press.
- Larice, M., & Macdonald, E. (2013). The urban design reader (Second ed., Routledge urban reader series). Abingdon, Oxon ; New York: Routledge.
- Mitrasinovic, M. (2015), Current Urbanities: Designing Infrastructures of Inclusion, Abingdon: Routledge. [electronic Resource]
- Harvey, D. (2008). "The Right To The City," New Left Review 53, September-October 2008.
- Saunders, D. (2011). Arrival City: How the Largest Migration in History is Reshaping our World. London: Windmill.
- UN-Habitat (2013). Streets as Public Spaces and Drivers of Urban Prosperity, Nairobi: UNHabitat.
- UN-Habitat (2016). New Urban Agenda, UN-Habitat

Readings on Urban Design

- Cuthbert, A. R. (2011). Understanding Cities: Method in Urban Design. Abingdon, Oxfordshire: Routledge.
- Lydon, M. & Garcia, A. (2015). Tactical Urbanism, Short-term Action for Long Term Change Washington, Covelo, London: Island Press.
- Mumford, E. (2009). Defining urban design: CIAM architects and the formation of a discipline, New Haven: Yale University Press.
- Shane D.G. (2011). Urban Design Since 1945: A Global Perspective, New York: Wiley.
- Shane D.G. (2013). "Asian Public Space since 1945: From Mao to the Mall and Beyond", in Footprint - Delft Architecture Theory Journal, Issue 12, Spring 2013.
- Shane D.G. (2005). Recombinant urbanism: conceptual modeling in architecture, urban design, and city theory, Chichester, England: Wiley.

Readings on Hong Kong

- (http://www.hkmemory.hk/collections/oral_history/feature_OH/story05/story5_rec/index.html
- Burdett, R. (ed) LSE Cities. Hong Kong: Cities, Health and Well-being. Available at: http://lsecities.net/ua/conferences/2011-hongkong/
- Canhem, S. and Wu, R., *Portrait from Above, Hong Kong's informal rooftop communities* (Peperoni Books / Mccm, 2010).
- Christ, E. [et al], eds. (2010). Hong Kong typology: an architectural research on Hong Kong building types, Zurich: GTA.
- Cuthbert, A.R. and K.G. McKinnell (1997). "Ambiguous space, ambiguous rights - corporate power and social control in Hong Kong". Cities 14:5.
- Frampton, A., Solomon, J.D. and C. Won (2010). Cities Without Ground: A Hong Kong Guidebook, ORO Editions.
- Li, Shi Qiao (2014). Understanding the Chinese City, Los Angeles: Sage.
- Pearson, V. and T.K. Ko, eds. (2008). A sense of place: Hong Kong West of Pottinger Street, Hong Kong: Joint Pub. Co.
- Smith, P.C. (2006). The urban design of impermanence: streets, places and spaces in Hong Kong, Hong Kong: MCCM Creations.
- Rowe, P.G (2011). Emergent Architectural Territories in East Asian Cities, Basel & Boston: Birkhäuser.

- Shelton B., Karakiewicz J. and T. Kvan (2011). The Making of Hong Kong From Vertical to Volumetric. Abingdon, Oxfordshire: Routledge.
- Wu, R. and S. Canham (2009). Portraits from above - Hong Kong's informal rooftop communities, Hong Kong: MCCM Creations

Mapping and infographics
- *Semiology of Graphics: Diagrams, Networks, Maps*, (2010) Bertin, B.,
- Environment, A.B.|, 2016. A BE | Architecture and the Built Environment, No 14 (2016): Configraphics.
- Garcia, M. (2010). The diagrams of architecture : AD reader. Chichester: Wiley.
- Tufte, E. (1990). Envisioning information. Cheshire, Conn.: Graphics Press.

City and Citizens
- Cullen, G., *The Concise Townscape* (Oxfrd: Architectural Press, 1996)
- Dovey, K., and Pafka, E., *"The urban density assemblage: Modeling multiple measures"*, in *Urban Design International* 19.1 (Spring 2014): 66-76.
- Jacobs, J., *The Death and Life of Great American Cities* (New York, Random House, 1961)
- Mikoleit, A. and Purckhauer, M., *Urban code: 100 Lessons for Understanding the City*
- H. Tieben & M.J. Kang , *Magic Carpet – Towards a Community Benefit Plans for Urban Regeneration in Taipei and Hong Kong (*Taipei: Tonshan, 2017).

Sustainability
- Condon, P. (2010). Seven rules for sustainable communities : Design strategies for the post-carbon world. Washington, DC: Island Press.
- Mostafavi, M. and Gareth D., *Ecological Urbanism* (Baden: Lars Muller Publishers, 2010)
- Heynen, Nik, Kaika, Maria, & Swyngedouw, Erik. (2006). In the Nature of Cities (Vol. 3, Questioning cities series). Florence: Routledge.
- Ng, E., *Designing high-density cities for social and environmental sustainability*. (London; Sterling, VA : Earth- scan, 2010.)

Urban visions and experimental massing
- Fernández, A. and Arpa, J., *Density Projects* (Vitoria-Gasteiz: a+t ediciones, 2008)
- Heynen, Nik, Kaika, Maria, & Swyngedouw, Erik. (2006). In the Nature of Cities (Vol. 3, Questioning cities series). Florence: Routledge.
- Klanten, R. and L. Feireiss, *Utopia Forever: Vision of Architecture and Urbanism* (Gestalten, 2011) Winy Maas, Visionary Cities (Rotterdam: NAI Publishers, 2010)
- Maas, W., *Hong Kong Fantasies* (Rotterdam: NAI Publishers, 2012)

IMPORTANT NOTE TO STUDENTS:

ATTENDANCE:
Class attendance is required in all courses. For an excused absence, the instructor must be notified and presented with documentation of illness or personal matter. Please note: **Three (3)** or more unexcused absences may result in a failing grade for the course.

ACADEMIC HONESTY:
Attention is drawn to University policy and regulations on honesty in academic work, and to the disciplinary guidelines and procedures applicable to breaches of such policy and regulations. Details may be found at: http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/. With each assignment, students may be required to submit a statement that they are aware of these policies, regulations, guidelines and procedures.

STUDENT WORK:
Submission of studio documentation must be complete and correctly formatted. Missing or incomplete submission of the documentation folder will result in the grade for the course being withheld. This will prevent registration for the following term or delay graduation. In addition, a grade deduction of *one letter grade* will be made.