Urban Design Concentration

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Fall 2018 – Spring 2019

The Urban Design concentration requires students to dedicate twelve credit hours within their required course load to courses that focus on the physical form of the built environment. It is strongly recommended that students fulfill eight of these credit hours with an Options Studio taught by urban design faculty or visitors. This studio shall be in addition to the two studios (1st and 2nd semester Core Planning Studio) required for the MUP degree. The remaining four credit hours can be satisfied with an urban design related course approved by the concentration advisor.

Please note that course offerings often change, and new courses may be offered while these recommended courses may not be offered each year. This memo is subject to change depending on the availability of courses. Other courses may be approved with the permission of the Concentration Advisor.

Recommended basic courses:
The following courses are recommended to those interested in the concentration. They are introductory level courses that give a good overview of the topics and subject matter covered in more depth by other courses in the concentration:

GSD 5211: Cities by Design II (Spring)  Gray
GSD 5420: Urban Design for Urban Planners (Spring)  Gamble

Approved courses include:

Fall
GSD Option Studio  Various
GSD 5431: Form + Finance: The Design of Real Estate  Wang, Gamble
GSD 5497: Public Space  Kayden
GSD 6322: Mapping: Geographic Representation and Speculation  Pietrusko

At MIT (Massachusetts Institute of Technology):
MIT 11.328J: Urban Design Skills: Observing, Interpreting, Representing and Transforming the City  Ben-Joseph, Ocampo
MIT 11.309J: Sensing Place: Photography as Inquiry*  Spirn
MIT 11.301J: Introduction to Urban Design and Development  Frenchman

*requires permission of instructor

Spring
GSD Option Studio  Various
GSD 3302: Designing the American City: Civic Aspirations and Urban Form  
Krieger
GSD 3353: Advanced Seminar in City Form  
Sevtsuk
GSD 4344: Modern Architecture and Urbanism in China  
Rowe
GSD 5211: Cities by Design II  
Gray
GSD 5420: Urban Design for Urban Planners  
Gamble

At MIT (Massachusetts Institute of Technology):
MIT 11.320: Digital City Design Workshop  
Ratti, Alvarez
MIT 11.333J: Urban Design Seminar: Perspectives on Contemporary Practice  
Vanky
MIT 11.246J: DesignX Accelerator Workshop  
Frenchman

Not Currently Offered
GSD 4329: Urbanization in the East Asian Region  
Rowe
GSD 9146: Emergent Urbanism: Design Visions for the City of Hermosillo Mexico  
Davis, Vera
GSD 2446: Drawing for Designers: Technics of Expression, Articulation And Representation  
Harabasz