Undergraduate Research Award
List of Researchers – Faculty of Architecture

DEPARTMENT OF ARCHITECTURE

Prof. Lancelot Coar
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Lancelot Coar is an Associate Professor in the Department of Architecture, a researcher at the Centre for Architectural Structures and Technology (CAST) at the University of Manitoba and is currently a PhD candidate (Architectural Engineering) at Vrije University, Brussels, on the subject of ice shells and bending active framed fabric formwork structures. His research explores how the dynamic properties of building materials can guide design and construction methods to produce highly efficient structures and unique architectural forms. His research has been published widely and has exhibited his work internationally in museums, galleries and in the public sphere.

Dr. Lisa Landrum
Email: Lisa.Landrum@umanitoba.ca
Bio: http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/architecture/facstaff/faclist/landruml.html

Lisa is a registered architect and published scholar. Her research encompasses topics in architectural history, theory and design, including architectural agency and representation; portrayals of architects in film, fiction and dramatic literature; stories and myths about architectural origins; performance spaces and the role of festivals in shaping urban environments; the creative role of metaphor for architects; and other trans-historical topics concerning cultural memory, spatial justice, critical thinking and imagination. Landrum is currently leading a SSHRC-supported research mobilization project, entitled Canadian Architecture Forums on Education (CAFÉ), and working with a national task force to develop an architecture policy for Canada.

Dr. Mercedes Garcia-Holguera
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Dr. Garcia-Holguera's research bridges across disciplines from science and technology, architecture and environmental design, with architecture at the core focusing on the amalgamation of the biological and eco-mimetic with key aspects of energy efficiency and sustainability.

DEPARTMENT OF CITY PLANNING

Dr. Sarah Cooper
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Bio: http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/architecture/facstaff/faclist/Cooper.html

Dr. Cooper's research examines social policy and planning, with a particular focus on low-cost housing policy. Low-cost housing is an integral part of the housing system in Canada, and is foundational to creating inclusive communities. Housing policy, and the resulting access to housing, is framed by several factors, including ideas of public and private, different models of property, increasing commodification, and historic and contemporary colonialism. Other areas of study include neighbourhood change, community development, Indigenous planning, critical urbanism and community-based research.

Dr. Richard Milgrom
Email: richard.milgrom@umanitoba.ca

Dr. Milgrom’s research addresses the social impact of urban form, from the local to regional scale. In recent years, this has focused primarily on social inequity as has been exacerbated by Winnipeg's development, and on the production of age-friendly communities. He has led student groups that have studied walkability, access to transit and quality open spaces, options in housing, and appropriate services in Manitoba’s cities and towns. He is currently working to expand this work to a regional scale. He is examining the unequal demographic changes that are emerging at a regional scale within the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region, and how the needs of an aging population can be accommodated in areas with declining populations and services across the province. Dr. Milgrom is interested in working with students with interests in social equity and the relationship between built environments and health. GIS and strong graphic skills would be assets.

DEPARTMENT OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Prof. Kamni Gill
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Kamni Gill is currently examining the cultural implications of green infrastructure, especially in relation to urban tree systems and animals. Her research will examine traditional landscapes shaped by human and animal interdependencies through archival research and literature reviews. The human-animal interface in human settlement will be examined and a position paper developed exploring how human—animal interactions were instrumental in landscape design and management. Her research will explore the human-animal interface in contemporary urban settings through setting up a wildlife observation stations in Winnipeg and the creation of a citizen science project for documenting wildlife. The aim of the research is to understand how mammals coexist with people in urban environments and how they make use of cities. At the same time, Kamni maintains an ongoing interest in tree planting types and is currently developing a lexicon of urban tree spaces. The potential for new open space tree typologies will be explored through case studies from the fine arts, landscape architecture, urbanism, ecology, ethnography and agriculture as well as through a series of test sites/installations.

DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR DESIGN

Prof. Kurt Espersen-Peters
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My emerging area of research is an exploration of the experience and perception of time in the built environment. Since Einstein’s connecting of space and time in his theory of relativity, modern designers have sought to explore the relationship between the space of the built environment and the passage of time. However, most of these have been efforts defining in chronological or linear timelines, usually of a historical nature or static in conceptualization. What has been largely absent from these investigations is the subjective experience of time and space, where the perceiving occupant of built spaces relates to their surroundings in a temporal manner. The immediacy of engaging in space through a temporal threshold becomes the condition through which to understand spatial perception and experience. My current area of focus is concerned with developing a theory of subjective, temporal engagement with the built environment based on aspects of phenomenology and theories of consciousness. I am seeking undergraduates with an interest in the how and why of the built environment and an inquisitive mind, looking for meaning in the world we build around us.
Dr. Shauna Mallory-Hill
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Bio: https://umanitoba.ca/faculties/architecture/facstaff/faclist/mallory-hill.html

Dr. Mallory-Hill undertakes research work in the area of understanding the impact of building design on occupant health, wellness and productivity. Students employed under the undergraduate research award will have the opportunity to work alongside other graduate research assistants in organizing, collecting, and analyzing data related to one of two active research projects: aging-in-place ergonomic kitchen design or pre- and post-renovation design evaluation of persons living with Alzheimer’s and related dementia.