DEPARTMENT OF ARCHITECTURE

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 (ways architects and architecture perform, and how these performances persist and change over time); architectural representation, especially dramatic modes of representation implicit in the works and words of architects; portrayals of architects in film, fiction and dramatic literature (from Aristophanes to Ionesco); stories and myths about architectural origins; performance spaces and the role of festivals in shaping urban environments; the creative role of metaphor for architects; the rhetorical function of architecture in philosophy; architecture, politics and spatial justice; phenomenological approaches to contemporary architecture; and other trans-historical topics concerning ornament, cultural memory, critical thinking and imagination.

DEPARTMENT OF CITY PLANNING

Dr. Sarah Cooper
Email: sarah.cooper@umanitoba.ca
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 the production of age-friendly communities. He has led student groups that have studied walkability and accessibility 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 and how the needs of an aging population can be accommodated in areas with declining populations and services. Dr. Milgrom is interested in working with students with GIS skills and interests in social equity.

DEPARTMENT OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Kamni Gill
Email: Kamni.Gill@umanitoba.ca

Kamni Gill is currently examining the cultural implications of green infrastructure, especially in relation to urban tree systems and landform. Kamni is currently editor of Thinking Eye, the visual methodology section of the Journal of Landscape Architecture. Her research will particularly examine the ecological and cultural dimensions of trees through alternative modes of representation and spatial understanding of both urban tree typologies and those occurring in rural areas and the more remote areas of Manitoba. Particular attention will be paid to the relation of trees to indigenous patterns of inhabitation and use, whether traditional or contemporary. The potential for forestry and soil management techniques to contribute to new 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.

Dr. Richard Perron
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Richard’s research is focused upon ecological infrastructure and current urban strategies being undertaken across Canada. These strategies include: smart growth, sustainable community design, ecological urbanism. The research examines ways in which ecological strategies are being realized through urban design and encompasses a wide spectrum of methods and cases studies. Urban strategies may take several forms, including the development or embellishment of public spaces, central commercial areas, recreational areas, experiments in the development of business/residential districts (such as Transit Oriented Design), and the rejuvenation of neighborhoods. The current research investigates the following questions: How are these changes being realized through urban design? How do cities of different sizes go about reinventing themselves? What is the importance of ecological infrastructure in the redevelopment of Canadian urban centers? The first phase of this work was presented at conferences in Venice and Dubai in 2018.
DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR DESIGN

Dr. Susan Close  
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Bio: http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/architecture/facstaff/faclist/close.html

Susan Close is currently examining the intersection of photography and the built environment and preparing a new book on this research. Areas of research include: Photography and the Built Environment; Identity; Gender; Visual Culture; Critical Theory; Social Activism and Design.

ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN PROGRAM

Alyssa Schwann  
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Alyssa’s research involves projects that are looking at how design might engage with the natural and cultural world – a perspective brought from the application of ecological wisdom in research, design, sustainable development, and policy processes. The projects are tethered to an approach that responds to cultural landscapes and to the roots of their locations – to place. The work is focused on how design interfaces with intangible cultural heritage and landscapes, Indigenous relations to land, knowledge sharing, and stakeholder participation. Specific themes include: Mughal Gardens (Kashmir & Maharastra, India); Museum of Anthropology (Vancouver, BC); Northern Canada; Okanagan Valley (BC); and Philippine Cordilleras.