



# CONNECTICUT COLLEGE

## Dan De Sousa '07

### *Architectural Studies*



**Q: Why did you decide to study architecture?**

A: I always knew I wanted to be an architect. The question was how to make it happen. I could

have gone into a bachelor's program in architecture with professional certification, but I wanted to have time for electives like history and sociology. That's why I decided on a liberal arts college. Connecticut College was a top choice for me because the architectural studies program is highly interdisciplinary with classes from many different areas.

**Q: How was your internship experience?**

A: I worked in a small architecture office every summer for the past seven years, but the design studio courses at Connecticut College gave me a completely different experience. In one, I was part of a group designing a senior housing complex for a vacant lot in a town near New London. There were 10 of us in the group, and we came up with 10 very different ideas, all of which could have been taken to a planning board to spark some new thinking about the site.

**Q: What do your career plans look like now?**

A: After graduation, I took a summer job in Washington, D.C., at the Historic American Building Survey. It is a service of the Library of Congress and the National Park Service that does research on buildings owned by the U.S. government. I drew historic farmhouses at Antietam National Battlefield in Maryland. My Connecticut College class on domestic architecture in the U.S. was excellent preparation for this. Next, I'm planning to attend graduate school in architecture.

# Architectural Studies

## Overview

Architectural studies is an interdisciplinary major that draws on many different academic fields — from art, design, social sciences and economics to math, physics, environmental studies and architectural history. You will learn to see the built environment as the product of a complex process in which historical context, human cognition, economic factors and public policy play important roles.

## A Strong Foundation

We offer studio courses in architectural design and landscape architecture, and we are always adding courses that reflect the wide interests of our faculty. One recent addition looks at visions of urban life in France as reflected in film and literature. In the best tradition of liberal arts education, you'll be encouraged to take the broadest possible view. If you wish to pursue a career as a design professional, graduate school will provide the opportunity for more narrowly focused technical study. Your studies here will prepare you for professional school in architecture, landscape architecture or urban planning, or to pursue a wide range of other careers. Our faculty are committed to partnering with students to create and share knowledge. You will work closely with faculty mentors in small lecture courses and seminars and on a final integrative project.

## Opportunities Abroad

Most architectural studies majors spend time abroad, either in a semester-long study abroad program or a summer internship. Programs in various locations focus on design, historical or environmental aspects of architectural studies. Our students have participated in field projects in Greece, recording the ruins of a medieval monastic church.

## Personalized Research

All majors are required to complete an integrative project, which may be an internship in architecture, landscape architecture, urban planning or interior design. You will be engaged in projects that build your knowledge of the field, as well as your portfolio. You will also have opportunities to join in visits to architecture, landscape and design firms and weekend trips to historic sites. Classroom assignments often involve off-campus primary research. In 2006 for example, students worked with Professor Abigail Van Slyck on an award-

winning exhibition on the architectural and social development of New London's major commercial avenue, State Street. The project earned awards of merit from the American Association for State and Local History and the Connecticut League of History Organizations.

## Faculty

Faculty from many departments and disciplines offer courses for the major in architectural studies.

Among them:

### Joseph D. Alchermes,

*Associate Professor of Art History; Associate Director of the Architectural Studies Program*

B.A., Wesleyan University; M.A., Ph.D., Institute of Fine Arts, NYU  
Roman art; Early Christian and Byzantine art; medieval architecture; Islamic art and architecture

### James Austin, *Associate Professor of French*

B.A., Pomona College; Ancien Pensionnaire Étranger, École Normale Supérieure; M.A., Ph.D., Yale University  
French film and urban culture

### Catherine Benoît, *Professor of Anthropology*

Licence d'histoire de l'art et d'archéologie, Université la Sorbonne - Paris I; Licence d'ethnologie, Université Paris VII; Diplôme d'anthropologie historique de L'École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales (EHESS); Doctorat d'anthropologie de l'EHESS  
Anthropology of gardens and landscape; health inequalities; migration

### Ann S. Devlin, *May Buckley Sadowski '19 Professor of Psychology*

B.A., M.A., Ph.D., University of Michigan  
Environmental psychology; spatial cognition; design of housing for the elderly; gender differences in way finding

### Donald M. Peppard Jr., *Professor of Economics*

B.A., Ph.D., Michigan State University  
Urban economics

### Abigail A. Van Slyck,

*Dayton Professor of Art History; Director of the Architectural Studies Program*  
A.B., Smith College; Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley  
American architecture; gender issues in architecture; vernacular architecture and cultural landscape studies; spaces of childhood; library architecture

### Andrea Wollensak, *Professor of Art*

B.F.A., University of Michigan; M.F.A., Yale University  
Visual communication in digital media; graphic design; site-specific installation works

## What can you do with a major in architectural studies?

### Darlene Gallant Wynne '00

Land-use planner with expertise in master planning, zoning and regulatory permitting for municipalities, institutions and private developers.

Earned a master's in city planning from MIT and co-founded the New England chapter of the Congress for the New Urbanism.

### Daniel I. Jarcho '04

Intern architect at PLACE architects in Seattle. Earned a master's in architecture at the Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning at the University of Michigan.

### Kathryn Hargis '05

Appraiser for a private art and personal property appraisal company and show assistant for a medieval manuscript and jewelry dealer.

Also majored in art history and studio art and earned a certificate in museum studies.

### William M. Harper '06

Pursuing a master's in film producing at Columbia University School of the Arts. Double majored in architectural studies and classics.

## Selected Courses

Survey of the History of Art; Architecture 1400-Present; The Museum as a Building Type; New London: A Cultural Landscape Approach; Roman Architecture; Three-Dimensional Design and Sculpture; Architectural Design Studio; Landscape Architecture Design Studio; The Anthropology of Space and Place: (De)Locating Culture and Anthropology; Urban and Regional Economics; Environmental Psychology; Virtual Reality; Environmental Studies; Calculus; Physics

## About Connecticut College

Connecticut College is a highly selective residential liberal arts college with 1,900 students from all over the country and the world. The academic program offers more than 47 majors in the arts, sciences, social sciences and humanities as well as innovative interdisciplinary programs. Students engage with dedicated faculty and each other to create a vibrant social, cultural and intellectual community in which learning is valued for its own sake — and individuals' diverse perspectives enrich the experience of all.

For more information, visit  
[www.conncoll.edu/academics/](http://www.conncoll.edu/academics/)