Architectural Studies

Overview

The built environment is created through a complex interaction of history, human cognition, economics and public policy. As an architectural studies major, you learn how to distinguish those forces and understand the interplay between them. You draw on many different academic fields to do this, from art and design to math and environmental studies. In the best tradition of the liberal arts, you are encouraged to take the broadest possible view. Your studies prepare you for professional school in architecture, landscape architecture, historic preservation or urban planning, or to pursue a wide range of other careers.

Personalized Learning

You work closely with faculty mentors who lead small courses and seminars. Your final integrative project might be an internship in architecture, landscape architecture, urban planning or interior design. Students periodically visit firms and take trips to historic sites. Assignments often involve primary research. Recently, students worked with curator Stephen Fan on an exhibition at the Lyman Allyn Art Museum that explored architectural and social issues related to local Chinese immigrant communities.

International Opportunities and Study Abroad

Most architectural studies majors spend time abroad, either in a semester-long program or a summer internship. You might take part in an archaeological field project in Greece, visit architectural sites in Italy with classmates, or complete an internship with an architectural firm in Germany, Spain or England.
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; 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

**Stephen Fan, Adjunct Assistant Professor of Architecture**
A.B., Harvard College
M.Arch., Harvard Graduate School of Design
Architectural design; geography; race and architecture; community engagement

**Abigail A. Van Slyck, Dayton Professor of Art History; Dean of the Faculty**
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

**Emily C. Morash, Visiting Assistant Instructor**
B.A., Smith College; M.Arch. History, University of Virginia; Ph.D. Candidate, Brown University
Modern and contemporary architecture; Italian architecture; American architecture; architecture and media

**Christopher Steiner, Lucy C. McDannel '22 Professor of Art History and Anthropology; Chair of Art History and Architectural Studies**
B.A., M.A., Johns Hopkins University; M.A., Ph.D., Harvard University
African art and material culture; art market and collecting; images of race and “otherness” in visual culture; offbeat museums and visionary art; censorship and museum controversies

**Gregory Bailey, Associate Professor of Art**
B.A., Sonoma State University; M.F.A., University of Hartford
Sculpture; mold making and casting; welding and fabrication; wood construction

Selected Courses

Survey of the History of Art; Architecture, 1400-Present; Ancient and Medieval Rome; Christian Pilgrimage in the Middle Ages: Ritual, Architecture, and Urbanism; New London: A Cultural Landscape Approach; The Arts & Crafts Movement in America; American Architecture; 20th-Century Architecture & Design, Contemporary Architecture; Architectural Design Studio; Landscape Architecture Design Studio; Three-Dimensional Design and Sculpture; Urban and Regional Economics; Environmental Psychology; Environmental Studies; Calculus; Physics

About Connecticut College

Connecticut College educates students to put the liberal arts into action as citizens in a global society. A leader in the liberal arts since 1911, the College is home to nationally ranked programs for internships, community action, arts and technology, environmental studies and international studies. Our beautiful 750-acre arboretum campus is located in the historic New England seaport community of New London, Conn.