

Graduate Certificate in City Design

Introduction

The Graduate Certificate in City Design is a joint certificate program between the School of Architecture and the Department of Landscape Architecture in the College of Design at North Carolina State University.

The aim of this certificate program is to certify that students undertaking the program have had extensive exposure to the knowledge base and practice of design at an urban scale. This is accomplished through a 15-hour sequence of courses centrally focused on the design of cities, history and theories of urbanism, and city design methodologies including, where appropriate, an advanced city design studio. In addition to the required seminar, Anatomy of the City (ARC 570), students are required to undertake 12 additional hours comprised of a either a studio and two theory and/or skill-based seminars or one additional seminar and two city design studios).

Intent of Certificate Program

The certificate program is intended to promote design inquiry and application at the scale of the city, for students and practitioners of architecture, landscape architecture, and city and regional planning. The program's objectives are to:

- consider the human condition, particularly in making significant urban places;
- design integrated systems of movement, with increased accessibility;
- promote a greater mix of and association of uses and amenities within a well-scaled urban fabric, bringing a fuller sense of equity to the city;
- foster new opportunities for energy production, collection, and saving at the local scale;
- define new means of "greening" the city;
- capture greater senses of identity, meaning, and quality within the city fabric;
- promote interdisciplinary and inter-university studies between departments at NC State and between NC State and the Department of City and Regional Planning at UNC Chapel Hill.

Interdisciplinary Initiative

This certificate is an interdisciplinary, reflecting the nature of city design practice. It aims to bring together students and faculty from landscape architecture and architecture into an interactive and team-based learning context.

This is a joint proposal from the School of Architecture and the Department of Landscape Architecture.

Certificate Coordinator:

Robin Abrams
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Faculty Participants

SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE
Robin Abrams, Professor
Thomas Barrie, Professor
George Elvin, Professor

Kristen Schaffer, Associate Professor
Patricia Morgado, Associate Professor
Sara Queen, Associate Professor
Burak Erdim, Assistant Professor
Traci Rider, Assistant Professor
Henry Hanson, Assistant Professor of Practice (Prague)
Adam Gebrian, Assistant Professor of Practice (Prague)
Igor Kovacevic, Assistant Professor of Practice (Prague)

DEPARTMENT OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Meg Calkins, Professor and Department Head
M. Elen Deming, Professor and Director of the Doctor of Design
Robin Moore, Professor
Gavin Smith, Professor
Kofi Boone, Associate Professor
Andy Fox, Associate Professor
Celen Pasalar, Assistant Dean for Research and Extension, Assistant Professor

Dan Howe, Assistant Professor of Practice
Rodney Swink, Teaching Assistant Professor

ART & DESIGN

Cecilia Mouat Croxatto, Assistant Professor

GRAPHIC DESIGN

Tania Allen, Associate Professor of Art + Design

NOTE: Not all courses taught by the above faculty qualify for the City Design Certificate. If not explicitly stated as approved, students should request approval from the Certificate Director.

Academic Requirements for Participants

Certificate students are expected to complete a total of 15 hours of coursework. This coursework can be completed within the existing curricula of the Master of Architecture (Tracks 1, 2, and 3) and the Master of Landscape Architecture (Tracks 1, 2, and 3). Additionally, it is possible to earn this certificate as a post baccalaureate, non-degree seeking student (PBS, NDS).

There are three methods of fulfilling this requirement: one studio option; two studio option; no studio option. Studios must be approved by the certificate coordinator in advance, as to whether they fulfill all, or a majority of the intentions of the certificate program, as stated on the first page of this document.

Single Studio Option for M.Arch Tracks 1, 2, and 3 & MLA Students			
Required Coursework	HRS	Required Coursework from the Elective Menu	HRS
ARC 570 Anatomy of the City	3	Seminar from Elective Menu	3
ARC 503/LAR 507 Advanced Architectural Design Studio/Advanced Landscape Architecture Design Studio (focused on city design)	6	Seminar from Elective Menu	3
TOTAL	9	TOTAL	6
CERTIFICATE TOTAL			15

Double Studio Option for M.Arch Tracks 1, 2, and 3 & MLA Students			
Required Coursework	HRS	Elective Second Studio	HRS
ARC 570 Anatomy of the City	3	ARC 503/LAR 507	6
ARC 503/LAR 507 Advanced Architectural Design Studio/Advanced Landscape Architecture Design Studio (focused on city design)	6	Approved Advanced Studio in Architecture or Landscape Architecture with City Design emphasis	
TOTAL	9	TOTAL	6
CERTIFICATE TOTAL			15

Non-Studio Option for Practicing Professionals and Graduate Students in Approved Alternative Programs (PBS, NDS, MCRP)			
REQUIRED	HRS	Required Coursework from the Elective Menu	HRS
ARC 570 Anatomy of the City	3	Advanced Seminar from ARC or LAR Elective Menu	3
		Advanced Seminar from ARC or LAR Elective Menu	3
		Advanced Seminar from from ARC or LAR Elective Menu	3
		Advanced Seminar from ARC or LAR Elective Menu	3
TOTAL	3	TOTAL	12
CERTIFICATE TOTAL			15

Required Coursework

ARC 570 Anatomy of the City (3 hours)

A morphological investigation of cities throughout urban history, with emphasis on formal principles of spatial organization. This course covers the history of city form, 20th century city design history and theory, examination of current urban issues, design of public spaces, and designing city futures.

ARC 503/LAR 507 Advanced Design Studio (6 hours)

This is an advanced design studio focusing on projects of an urban scale, that require team approaches to real life problem solving, focus on urban futures, and also provide opportunity to explore the integration of smaller scale architecture, landscape architecture, and physical planning projects within the larger design context.

Electives Menu (6 hours)

SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE, NC STATE

(NOTE – not all courses are taught every year)

ARC 544 American City Planning History

ARC 571 Urban House

ARC 572 Regional Infrastructures

ARC 574 Place and Placemaking

ARC 575 Participatory Design in Architecture

ARC 576 Community Design

ARC 577 Sustainable Communities

ARC 589 Architecture Travel Study II (requires prior approval by certificate coordinator)

ARC 590 Special Topics (topics vary by approval of certificate coordinator)

ARC 630 Independent Study (requires prior approval by certificate coordinator)

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LAR 535 Environmental Social Equity and Design

LAR 542 Human Use of the Urban Landscape

LAR 545 City Planning and Landscape Architecture

LAR 582 Special Topics (topics vary, by approval of certificate coordinator)

LAR 630 Independent Study (requires prior approval by certificate coordinator)

Additional Opportunities

Additionally, with permission of the certificate coordinator, students may take up to six credits from another provider of graduate level coursework in city planning and/or design, such as the Department of Urban and Regional Planning at UNC Chapel Hill. However, to count towards the certificate, students must register for these courses through inter-institutional registration.

Application Process

Students may apply on line to participate in the certificate program at this website:

https://grad.ncsu.edu/programs/search/?search=city+design&academic_discipline=&entrance_exam=°ree%5B%5D=cert

To qualify for admission to the Certificate in City Design, students must be enrolled in, or have completed, a professional program in architecture, landscape architecture, or urban planning. At the time of application students must have a 3.00 grade point average in their professional degree program. Practicing Professionals and Graduate Students in Approved Alternative Programs are also welcome to apply.

Certificate Completion

Students must apply to graduate from the certificate at the same time they apply to graduate from their degree program; it is a separate application process but completed in the same way.

There is an assessment process associated with completion of the certificate requirements, which requires completing a form detailing the coursework taken for the certificate, and an explanation of how the learning objectives for the certificate have been met.

To receive a Graduate Certificate, a student must complete 15 hours of coursework, and have a minimum 3.00 grade point average (GPA) on all certificate course work. All grades on courses taken towards the certificate program in courses numbered 400 and above are included in the GPA. Courses at the 300 level and below are not eligible for certificate credit and subsequently do not affect the graduate GPA.

The minimum grade to receive certificate credit can be no lower than a grade of B-. GCP students who take letter-graded 400-, 500- and 700-level courses do not have the option of taking the courses for "credit only" if they intend for the course to be part of their GCP. Transfer credit from other institutions is not allowed for GCP. All course work must be registered for through NC State University. All GCP requirements must be completed within four (4) calendar years, beginning with the date the student commences courses applicable to the GCP, unless a more restrictive time limit has been established by the program or academic college/school. A student may obtain more than one certificate. Each certificate must have at least nine (9) credit hours that are unique to it.

Note: Academic success might have a strong bearing on admission to a degree program, but completion of a certificate program in no way guarantees entry into a graduate degree program, which is done through a separate application process.

Certificate in City Design
Outcomes Assessment Plan

Objectives

1. In this certificate program, students will develop an understanding of the complexity of large urban contexts, and develop an ability to design at the scale of the city, in ways that respond to issues of economy, ecology, and equity. For the purposes of this certificate program, a **city** is defined as a relatively large and permanent settlement have complex systems for sanitation, utilities, land usage, housing, and transportation. Such cities are usually associated with metropolitan areas and urban areas, creating numerous business commuters traveling to urban centers for employment.

2. The certificate program will provide an educational experience that satisfies the expectations of its graduates

Objectives and Outcomes

Objective 1: By the time they complete this certificate program, graduates should be able to:

- a. Describe the impact of the **history** of cities on urban form
- b. Possess awareness of the existence of the **key 20th theoretical foundations** of city design
- c. Apply research methods applicable to working within an urban context.
- d. Demonstrate ability to produce a design at the scale of a city or district that addresses at least **three** of the following areas of concern:

Multi-modal transportation issues, including human-powered

Multi-family housing

Inclusive zoning

Urban ecology

Brownfield restoration

Equity

Urban open space

Mixed-use development

Infill development

Infrastructure

- e. Demonstrate ability to design an interventional, site-specific project within a complex urban context that addresses at least three of the following:

pedestrian environment

public space

streetscapes

transit stations

multi-family housing

mixed-use buildings

urban recreation facilities

public markets

civic buildings, such as performing arts, recreation centers, schools, etc., located on urban sites

ecological landscapes

infrastructure systems

Objective 2: At the time they complete this certificate program, graduates are expected to:

- a. be satisfied with the usefulness of the certificate program in enabling them to achieve their professional goals
- b. be sufficiently satisfied with the certificate program to recommend it to others with the same professional goals
- c. be satisfied with the appropriateness of the courses in providing the knowledge or training they anticipate needing for their professional goals
- d. be satisfied with the frequency and timeliness of courses offered for the certificate
- e. be satisfied with the quality of teaching in certificate courses
- f. be satisfied with the overall educational experience of the certificate program

Objective 1. Students will develop an understanding of the complexity of large urban contexts, and develop an ability to design at the scale of the city, in ways that respond to issues of economy, ecology, and equity.

Outcome	Evidence to be Collected	Source of Evidence	Frequency of Collection
Ability to describe impact of the history of cities on urban form	Courses and Learning Objectives Form	Students	Annually
Awareness of the existence of the key 20th theoretical foundations of city design	Courses and Learning Objectives Form	Students	Annually

Ability to apply research methods appropriate to working within an urban context.	Courses and Learning Objectives Form	Students	Annually
Ability to produce an advanced-level design at the scale of the city or district that addresses at least three of the following areas of concern: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site located in an urban context Multi-modal transportation issues, including human-powered Multi-family housing Urban ecology Brownfield restoration Equity Urban open space Mixed-use development Infill development Infrastructure 	Courses and Learning Objectives Form	Students	Annually
Ability to produce an advanced-level design that is site-specific and within a complex urban setting that addresses at least three of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> pedestrian environment public space streetscapes transit stations multi-family housing mixed-use buildings urban recreation facilities public markets civic buildings, such as performing arts, recreation centers, schools, etc., located on urban sites ecological landscapes infrastructure systems 	Courses and Learning Objectives Form	Students	Annually

Objective 2. The certificate program will provide an educational experience that satisfies the expectations of its graduates.

Outcome	Evidence to be Collected	Source of Evidence	Frequency of Collection
To be satisfied with the usefulness of the certificate program in enabling them to achieve their professional goals	Exit survey administered by Graduate School	Students	Annually
To be sufficiently satisfied with the certificate program to recommend it to others with the same professional goals	Exit survey administered by Graduate School	Students	Annually
To be satisfied with the appropriateness of the courses in providing the knowledge or training they anticipate needing for their professional goals	Exit survey administered by Graduate School	Students	Annually
To be satisfied with the frequency and timeliness of courses offered for the certificate	Exit survey administered by Graduate School	Students	Annually
To be satisfied with the quality of teaching in certificate courses	Exit survey administered by Graduate School	Students	Annually
To be satisfied with the overall educational experience of the certificate program	Exit survey administered by Graduate School	Students	Annually