

**City University of Hong Kong
Course Syllabus**

**offered by Department of Architecture and Civil Engineering
with effect from Semester A 2022/23**

Part I Course Overview

Course Title:	Research Methods and Thesis Development Seminar in Architecture
Course Code:	CA6163
Course Duration:	1 Semester (Some courses offered in Summer Term may start a few weeks earlier than the normal University schedule. Please check the teaching schedules with CLs before registering for the courses.)
Credit Units:	3
Level:	P6
Medium of Instruction:	English
Medium of Assessment:	English
Prerequisites: (Course Code and Title)	Nil
Precursors: (Course Code and Title)	Nil
Equivalent Courses: (Course Code and Title)	Nil
Exclusive Courses: (Course Code and Title)	Nil

Part II Course Details

1. Abstract

This course prepares students for their thesis project, by introducing them to a wide range of research areas, subjects and approaches. Students are guided towards a topic of research interest, and to produce a proposal for exploration in their thesis project in CA6164 Architecture Thesis Studio. The proposal usually includes justification for the topic selection, and approach to carrying out the exploration.

2. Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

(CILOs state what the student is expected to be able to do at the end of the course according to a given standard of performance.)

No.	CILOs	Weighting (if applicable)	Discovery-enriched curriculum related learning outcomes (please tick where appropriate)		
			A1	A2	A3
1.	identify research topic through critical review of literature and a site or context analysis of area in which a design project can be carried out.			✓	
2.	prepare thesis project proposal that sets out the topic of research investigation, and its justification based on literature / cases review, design site / context analysis, and methodology for their thesis project in CA6164 Architecture Thesis Studio.		✓	✓	✓
		100%			

A1: Attitude

Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.

A2: Ability

Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to self-life problems.

A3: Accomplishments

Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.

3. Teaching and Learning Activities (TLAs)

(TLAs designed to facilitate students' achievement of the CILOs.)

TLA	Brief Description	CILO No.		Hours / week (if applicable)
		1	2	
Lectures	On research methods and thesis development	✓	✓	
Seminars	On research methods and thesis development	✓	✓	
Tutorials	Group or individual tutorials on research methods and thesis development		✓	

Semester Hours:	3 hours per week
Lecture/Tutorial/Laboratory Mix:	Lecture (-); Tutorial (-); Laboratory (-)
	Mixed lecture and tutorial sessions

4. Assessment Tasks/Activities

(ATs are designed to assess how well the students achieve the CILOs.)

Assessment Tasks / Activities	CILO No.		Weighting	Remarks
	1	2		
Continuous Assessment: 100%				
Assignments	✓	✓	100%	
Examination: 0%				
			100%	

5. Assessment Rubrics

(Grading of student achievements is based on student performance in assessment tasks/activities with the following rubrics.)

Applicable to students admitted in Semester A 2022/23 and thereafter

Assessment Task	Criterion	Excellent (A+, A, A-)	Good (B+, B)	Marginal (B-, C+, C)	Failure (F)
Assignments	<p>ABILITY to UNDERSTAND, ANALYSE, DISCUSS and CRITICALLY REVIEW research topics in architecture.</p> <p>ABILITY to UNDERSTAND, EXPLORE, and EXPLAIN the selected research topic, and theoretical and methodological foundation in written format and oral presentation.</p>	High	Significant	Basic	Not even reaching marginal levels

Applicable to students admitted before Semester A 2022/23

Assessment Task	Criterion	Excellent (A+, A, A-)	Good (B+, B, B-)	Fair (C+, C, C-)	Marginal (D)	Failure (F)
Assignments	<p>ABILITY to UNDERSTAND, ANALYSE, DISCUSS and CRITICALLY REVIEW research topics in architecture.</p> <p>ABILITY to UNDERSTAND, EXPLORE, and EXPLAIN the selected research topic, and theoretical and methodological foundation in written format and oral presentation</p>	High	Significant	Moderate	Basic	Not even reaching marginal levels

Part III Other Information (more details can be provided separately in the teaching plan)

1. Keyword Syllabus

(An indication of the key topics of the course.)

Thesis proposal, Seminar on theories and methods, Architecture, History, Theory, Design, Technology

2. Reading List

2.1 Compulsory Readings

(Compulsory readings can include books, book chapters, or journal/magazine articles. There are also collections of e-books, e-journals available from the CityU Library.)

1.	Nil
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2.2 Additional Readings

(Additional references for students to learn to expand their knowledge about the subject.)

1.	Groat, L., & Wang, D. (2002) Architectural Research Methods. 2nd Edition, New York: NY, Wiley.
2.	Hays, K. M. (Ed.) (2000) Architecture Theory Since 1968. Cambridge: MA, MIT Press.
3.	Yin. R. K. (1994) Case Study Research: Design and Methods. Sage Publication.