



# L ARCH 361 HUMAN EXPERIENCE OF PLACE DESIGN OF CITIES

**L ARCH 361A Winter 2021: TTh 10:00-11:20am, 3 credits  
VLPA, I&S + DIVERSITY**

Instructor: Jeff Hou

The version of L ARCH 361 this year will examine the human experience of place in the context of city design. The complexity of cities today requires design investigations that address not only the physical forms but also the social and political forces that shape the built environment. This course examines the multiple and often competing forces that influence the making of contemporary cities and human experience of place. As a survey course, it investigates different paradigms and visions of cities, contested meanings and understandings of urban space, the social and political processes of placemaking, and the everyday experiences and imaginaries. It sees the urban environment, or cityscape, as a continuum of ideas, movements, processes, and change. Furthermore, it questions the conventional notion of design and examines a wider repertoire of spatial practices. Cases around the world including North America, Asia, Europe and Latin America are introduced to contrast and compare design practices and cultural contexts. While exploring the broader processes of city making, the course also explores specific design strategies and tactics that could begin to negotiate the competing social and spatial forces in the contemporary urban environment. For question, please contact Jeff Hou at [jhou@uw.edu](mailto:jhou@uw.edu).