

Available PhD Supervisors for intake October 2025

Name	Research Areas/interests
<p data-bbox="203 272 448 304">Dr Ronita Bardhan</p> <p data-bbox="203 352 533 384">Email: rb867@cam.ac.uk</p>	<p data-bbox="602 272 1935 384">Dr Bardhan encourages applications from highly motivated potential PhD students interested in interdisciplinary research on data-driven sustainable environmental design of urban habitats , public health, climate change, and computational sciences . Some indicative research areas include</p> <ul data-bbox="647 392 1447 576" style="list-style-type: none"> - Heat -health and built environment - Decarbonising built environment - Urban Microscale Urban Climatology & Modelling - Machine Learning, Artificial Intelligence; Computer Vision - Building Performance: Simulation; Energy Efficiency <p data-bbox="602 584 1935 735">A strong interest and skill in data-driven (quantitative and qualitative), experimental, and simulation methods is desirable. Interested applicants are expected to connect Dr Bardhan through email with (a) Brief research proposal, (b)Curriculum Vitae, (c)Transcripts, and (d)English test result (for international applicants).</p>
<p data-bbox="203 783 546 815">Professor James Campbell</p> <p data-bbox="203 863 501 935">Email: jwpc2@aha.cam.ac.uk</p>	<p data-bbox="602 783 1924 1126">Professor Campbell welcomes applications from any potential PhD students interested in researching any aspect of the history of building construction or the history of library design from all parts of the world. Unless they already hold a relevant research degree (an MPhil, not an MArch), successful applicants will normally be required to sit for an MPhil or MSt in the first instance (either an MPhil by Research or on the History of Architecture MPhil in the History of Art department or the MSt in Building History) on the successful completion of which they may be allowed to proceed to the PhD. Interested applicants should send a detailed research proposal. This should include a timeline for research and proposed sources. The potential student is expected to have visited the sources and established their accessibility before application.</p>

<p>Dr Ramit Debnath</p> <p>Email: rd545@cam.ac.uk</p>	<p>Dr Debnath welcomes applications from potential PhD candidates to join his Collective Intelligence & Design research group (https://camcid.github.io/). The candidate is expected to have proficiency in data science, ML/AI and statistical modelling relating to environmental and climate change applications in city, regional or global scales. Another area of interest is human-in-the-loop AI design that involves design thinking for responsible AI.</p> <p>It is highly desirable that the candidate has had previous demonstrable research experiences, which can be in the form of research papers (published or preprint), RAship or predoctoral training. If not, one can consider applying to our MAUS program or any other research-led postgrad program. Please send me your CV and 2-3 page research proposal.</p>
<p>Dr Tao DuFour</p> <p>Email: tns22@cam.ac.uk</p>	<p>Dr DuFour welcomes applications from potential PhD students who are interested in interdisciplinary approaches to spatial and landscape research grounded in the humanities. Areas of PhD supervision interest include: phenomenology of space and environmental experience; spatial and landscape research in postcolonial geographies; spatial ethnography and documentary film; spatial histories of the Caribbean and Guianas; spatial imaginaries, narrative and literature; intergenerational relations and environmentality. Potential applicants are encouraged to consider, in the first instance, applying for the MPhil in Architecture and Urban Studies (MAUS) degree program, unless they already hold an equivalent research degree. Interested applicants should send a detailed research proposal, which should include a short abstract, a research statement identifying their topic and thematic interests, a preliminary timeline for research which should include archival research and/or (ethnographic) fieldwork, and a concise list of relevant bibliographic and source material.</p>
<p>Dr Felipe Hernandez</p> <p>Email: fh285@cam.ac.uk</p>	<p>Dr Hernandez welcomes applications on the field of Urban Transformations in African and (South, Central and North) American Cities. As students interested in questions about Race, Poverty and the Urban Peripheries in those regions of the world. I am also interested in students exploring design questions in connection to social housing and its role in the construction of peace, reconciliation and sociability.</p>
<p>Professor Ying Jin</p> <p>Email: yj242@cam.ac.uk</p>	<p>Professor Jin welcomes applications in the field of urban data science, analysis and modelling at the neighbourhood, city, metropolitan, mega-city, national and international scales. There is no particular restriction regarding the field study of the first degree as he works in an interdisciplinary field spanning architecture, city planning, economics, transportation engineering, geography, investment finance and urban design. The applicants will have already demonstrated excellent skills in critical quantitative research and interdisciplinary engagement.</p>

Dr Michal Gath-Morad Email: mg2068@cam.ac.uk	Dr. Gath-Morad invites interdisciplinary research proposals exploring how architectural design impacts spatial cognition, behaviour, and social dynamics in diverse environments, from healthcare and workplaces to complex urban settings. Proposals can encompass empirical studies, the development of digital simulation tools for human-centred design, or action research investigating the influence of evidence-based design tools on design cognition. Prospective candidates with diverse academic backgrounds, including psychology, neuroscience, computer science, and architecture, are encouraged to reach out to me first and submit concise, one-page research proposals. These should include a summary, research questions, methodology, hypotheses, analysis plan, expected outcomes, and contributions, while referencing relevant state-of-the-art research.
Dr Irit Katz Email: ik300@cam.ac.uk	Dr Katz is not accepting applications for 2025 intake.
Dr Antiopi Koronaki Email: ak2260@cam.ac.uk	The continuous advancements in the development of computational design tools and fabrication methods enables us to deliver optimised comprehensive and inclusive designs, which can substantially reduce our impact on the environment. I welcome applications from any potential PhD student interested in this interdisciplinary research area, using computational design, architectural engineering and geometry, and design optimization principles. Potential topics may include, but are not limited to automation and design for disassembly, modular buildings and circularity in the construction sector, engineered timber construction, as well as advanced fabrication and robotics in architecture. Interested applicants should send a detailed research proposal, where they identify areas of interest, proposed research methods and a timeline. It would be recommended to contact me before the submission of their research proposal.
Dr Adam Menuge Email: am2075@cam.ac.uk	Dr Menuge is not accepting applications for 2025 intake.
Professor Michael Ramage Email: mhr29@cam.ac.uk	Professor Ramage is not accepting applicants for 2025 intake.

<p>Professor Flora Samuel</p> <p>Email: fbs22@cam.ac.uk</p>	<p>Prof Samuel's action oriented and pragmatic work focuses on affordable housing, participatory planning, community consultation, social value and mapping data with communities. She is setting up an 'urban room' for Cambridge - a place for communities, university, local authorities, industry and practice to come together to develop evidence based strategy for their city. She is also working in rural North Wales on developing data maps of the Isle of Anglesey. She will only accept PhDs that can augment these existing strands of work. She has a particular interest, as well as considerable experience, in the development of practitioner PhDs and is passionate about developing the research capability of architecture practice so applications by practitioners who are keen to research the reality of contemporary practice are also welcome.</p>
<p>Dr Darshil U. Shah</p> <p>Email: dus20@cam.ac.uk</p>	<p>Dr Shah welcomes applications from any potential PhD student interested in researching any of the following areas: Design and manufacture with biocomposites and low-carbon materials, Structure-property-processing relations in natural materials and structures, Biomechanics and biomimetics, History of natural materials & materials processing, and Design education and pedagogy. Proposals can range from experimental, computational, design work, amongst others, and from fundamental science to applied research. Prospective PhD students should hold a relevant Masters (e.g. Engineering, Materials Science) or a relevant research degree (e.g. an MPhil). Interested applicants should send a detailed research proposal (4-6 pages), which should include a timeline for research. It may be helpful to have identified or approached relevant (academic/industry) partners for potential collaboration. Dr Shah particularly welcomes applications from members of historically excluded groups.</p>
<p>Dr Fiona Smyth</p> <p>Email: fms54@cam.ac.uk</p>	<p>Dr Smyth welcomes applications from Potential PhD students interested in researching the history of environmental design, 20th century architecture and building construction, history of science and architecture, design for inclusion, sound studies and acoustics. Interdisciplinary proposals are very welcome and candidates from different academic disciplines are also warmly encouraged to apply. Interested applicants should send a detailed research proposal, including a short abstract, timeline for research, proposed research methods, and a preliminary bibliography. It is recommended to contact me prior to submission of the research proposal.</p>
<p>Professor Emily So</p> <p>Email: ekms2@cam.ac.uk</p>	<p>Professor So is not accepting applications for 2025 intake.</p>

Professor Minna Sunikka-Blank Email: mms45@cam.ac.uk	Professor Sunikka-Blank welcomes applications from any potential PhD students interested in researching areas of sustainable housing policy including domestic energy transitions. Unless they already hold a relevant research degree (an MPhil, not an MArch), successful applicants will normally be required to sit for an MPhil or MSt in the first instance on the successful completion of which they may be allowed to proceed to the PhD. Interested applicants should send a detailed research proposal. It is crucial that the research proposal should include plans for fieldwork.
Professor Koen Steemers Email: kas11@cam.ac.uk	Koen is happy to consider applications from potential PhD students interested in carrying out mixed-methods research into sustainable architecture and urban design. Topics can include energy, environmental and ‘circular’ performance of buildings and cities, particularly where this intersects with human behaviour, health and wellbeing. Please prepare a 1500-word research proposal including: topic, research question(s), literature review, methods, timeline and bibliography. Also note that my colleagues – Professor Minna Sunikka-Blank, Dr Ronita Bardhan and Dr Michal Gath-Morad – cover related themes of research and therefore may be appropriate for your interests.
Dr Maximilian Sternberg Email: mjg75@cam.ac.uk	Dr Sternberg welcomes applications from any potential PhD students interested in history and theory of architecture and urban studies. He has supervised doctoral students on a wide range of <u>topics</u> , including on diverse aspects of contemporary cities.
Dr Carolina Vasilikou Email: cv402@cam.ac.uk	Carolina invites applications from prospective PhD students interested to carry out research in the fields of sensory urbanism, environmental design, neurodiversity and spatial design, navigation and wayfinding, the intersection of architecture and through with for movement, lived experience and embodied knowledge and the making of participatory inclusive spaces. Projects with an interdisciplinary perspective are particularly welcome, as well as the engagement with creative hybrid methodologies and experimental approaches. In the first instance, please submit a CV and a research proposal with clear structure (for example: title, abstract, research question(s), review of key literature, research methods, reference list and timeline). Informal communication via email is recommended.
Dr Matteo Zallio Email: mz461@cam.ac.uk	Dr. Zallio invites applications from prospective PhD students interested in interdisciplinary research focused on Inclusive Design for the built environment, digital, virtual environments, product design, and service design. Applicants are encouraged to submit a detailed research proposal, including a timeline and expected sources of funding.
Dr Yu Zhang Email: yz488@cam.ac.uk	Dr. Zhang welcomes applications from prospective interdisciplinary PhD students interested in topics including, but not limited to, computational generative design, structural optimization for sustainable structures, uncertainty-based design optimization, AI-enhanced design, circular design, digital fabrication and construction, and sustainable design and construction in low-resource settings. Prospective candidates with academic backgrounds in architecture, engineering, computer science, and

	mathematics, or a combination of these fields, are encouraged to apply. Interested applicants should contact Dr. Zhang with a CV and a one-page research proposal outlining their research questions, methodology, timeline, expected outcomes, and scientific contributions.
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