

## EXPERIENCE EQUALS IMAGINATION - ARCH 4374

# INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL STUDY

An architecture student needs to experience actual buildings and cities in order to imagine them. One's ability to design is directly dependent on the amount and quality of experience observing others and their needs in buildings and urban spaces, whether contemporary or historical. Travel in the United States is of importance, but exposure to other international social groups and cultures and their varying approaches to the design of their buildings and cities is of inestimable value. Study Abroad with the School of Architecture is an immersive experience. It aims to foster a life-long desire for learning about people, culture, spaces, places, and urban networks. Students in this travel study course get an up-close experience with some of the most impactful moments in the history of art, culture, architecture, and cities in eastern and/or western societies.

### Learning Objective and Impact

The core learning objective of ARCH 4374 is to provide an international field study in historic and contemporary urban environments. The academic program of study for ARCH 4374 offers this hands-on, focused architectural experience by seeing, experiencing, and studying a wide variety of significant historical and contemporary architectural and urban conditions and their relationships to various human ideals, aesthetics, and cultural values - that are often very different from our own.

As part of the academic content of the travel study course, students develop their analytical skills through sketching, drawing, photography, and video, as well as hone their writing skills through travel journaling and a research paper. Finally, the experience of living in a significantly different cultural environment encourages the development of a broader world-view, personal maturity, and confidence.

Students often report that the immersive travel study experience, carried out with their faculty and peers from OSU, has a lasting impact on their development as a future design professional.

For more information, contact Professor Bilbeisi at [suzanne.bilbeisi@okstate.edu](mailto:suzanne.bilbeisi@okstate.edu).





*"The ARCH 4374 Urban Asia trip was one of the most eye-opening experiences of my life. We visited four different countries into a four week trip: Hong Kong, Macau, South Korea, and Japan. These travel abroad experiences, though perhaps perceived as expensive initially, are priceless in what they provide in the long run: knowledge that makes you a better designer, stronger relationships that make you a better classmate, and amazing experiences that you will never forget. Overall, you'll leave study abroad a more well-rounded human being."*

- Hope Bailey, Bachelor of Architecture 2020

## Academic Credit

The course provides 4 Credit Hours, and meets the School of Architecture study abroad requirement within the Bachelor of Architecture. Further, the course meets the general education requirement (H) for Humanities and (I) for International Studies.

## Estimated Costs

Students are billed approximately \$5,500 for the month-long immersive study. These costs represent the total charge in tuition and fees, and cover instruction from OSU faculty, program housing, in-program travel tickets, and entry fees for group activities. Not included are individual purchases that are discretionary and variable, such as airfare, food, additional travel, and other elective expenses.

## Scholarships

Students who qualify and are approved for loans, and who apply for scholarships may receive them to cover the costs of the program, in part or in full. Financial Aid may be used for a study abroad program, provided the course completes a degree requirement. OSU offers travel study scholarships from the Provost, and from the OSU Study Abroad Office. CEAT has scholarships for study abroad programs offered through our college. Most importantly, students in the School of Architecture enjoy the benefits of a substantial fund for travel study scholarships, made possible through the generous donations of alumni. Students are also encouraged to locate other sources of funding external to OSU. Applications are typically available in late fall and early spring, and awards are known well before the summer travel study courses commence.