Eadweard Muybridge, Woman Jumping Over a Chair (1887). Metropolitan Museum of Art.

48-620: Graduate Seminar: Situating Research
Units: 3
Instructor: Nida Rehman

Situating Research will introduce incoming graduate students to a range of research approaches through introductions to and conversations with School of Architecture faculty, PhD researchers, and other invited guests. The course is aimed at helping students develop an understanding of the varied modalities of architectural research, while creating opportunities for cohort building, social exchange, and exposure to faculty activity particularly within the areas of climate change and sustainability, social and spatial justice, and design computation and artificial intelligence. The course is structured into three modules—Contexts, Epistemologies, and Futures. Over the course of the semester we will host a series of cross-disciplinary discussion panels in which students will dialogue with invited guests about a broad range of issues, frameworks, and methods including building and geospatial analysis, fieldwork, prototyping, research and scholarly ethics, archival methods and textual analysis, automation, human-machine interaction, systems analysis, social justice, building performance and diagnostics, commoning, data analysis and visualization, design-build, curatorial practices, public interest design, and more. These conversations will provide a springboard for students to start situating themselves and their work within the landscape of architectural research and scholarship at CMU and beyond.