

48-725 Real Estate Design & Development
Valentina Vavasis

Limited to graduate students from any school
9 credits with a 12-credit option

Undergraduates with instructor permission only

This course teaches the fundamentals of real estate development. You will learn both about the real estate development process itself and the context in which real estate development takes place. You will learn about project team members and processes; market research; site constraints and zoning; basic project budgeting and types of funding sources. We will also discuss the societal context in which real estate development and land use occurs, including social, political and economic systems. We will discuss affordable housing, racial segregation and pressing current issues, both in the U.S. and in other countries.

The primary objective of this course is for students to understand how these issues may affect their professional lives, whether they become designers, contractors, engineers or public policy professionals. Typically, the course includes a team real estate project in a Pittsburgh neighborhood with a nonprofit client.

Twelve credit students will complete additional work; students will have up to the first two weeks of class to select nine or 12 credits.