62-104 Design Ethics Introduction

3 units

Open to: Freshman from any department

Tuesday or Thursday 1:25 - 2:45

Instructors: VV & KG

*Freshman seminar is either Tuesday or Thursday and this course is the other

What is design ethics for architects? How does the work of architects relate to the human experience, human effort/labor, human rights and the planet? What are the contexts in which architects work? What responsibilities do we have as designers and architects?

We will start by defining "ethics" and "design ethics" and consider how ethics differs from morals or laws. We will explore the meaning of identity (including race, class, gender, ethnicity), economic class, diversity and social justice. Specific architectural issues may include accessibility, sustainability, labor practices, workplace discrimination, and urbanism.

This course will include small group discussions, readings from current events, and short reading responses. Class attendance and participation is required.