



**Harvard University  
Graduate School of Design**

Spring 2017

Dear Career Discovery Students,

Along with the architecture instructors, I would like to welcome you to Career Discovery 2017. We look forward to meeting you and to the engaging and rewarding work that lies ahead.

At the center of the Career Discovery program is the design studio. Deeply rooted in the history of design education, the studio format provides each student with an instructor and a smaller peer group, with whom they will work closely. Studio instructors will introduce their students to architectural design fundamentals, along with providing instruction in drawing and modeling techniques. Their role is also to offer guidance and support, foster conversations, and to provide constructive criticism to further each student's design work and thinking.

Studio projects provide the framework to engage with architecture's myriad considerations, from the history of art and architecture, to political and cultural contexts, technology, and the environment. Each studio will work through a series of design projects, progressing in scale and complexity. These projects will negotiate ever increasing sets of demands, from the scale of a space for a single occupant, to that which considers systems and infrastructures that extend far beyond its boundaries.

Along with your studio meetings, you will attend daily lectures, seminars, and workshops, designed to introduce you to a breadth of design thinking and to design professionals, not only in architecture, but in other design disciplines as well. This wide exposure is intended to both enrich your work in the program and to broaden your view of what role design may play in your own future. As further introduction, I have provided a list of suggested readings, which provide a view into the disciplinary thinking of architecture over the course of the last several decades.

Welcome to Career Discovery, we look forward to meeting you in June!

Sincerely,

Jenny French  
Lead Faculty for Architecture