

# Benjamin A. Bross, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor (fall 2018-present)  
Illinois School of Architecture  
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign  
bbross@illinois.edu

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## Education

- Universidad Iberoamericana, Ph.D. History, Ciudad de México, México, 2016.
- University of California, Berkeley, College of Environmental Design, M. Urban Design. Berkeley, California, 2006.
- Harvard University, Graduate School of Design, M. Arch. Cambridge, Massachusetts, 2001.
- University of California, Berkeley, College of Environmental Design. B.A. Architecture, Berkeley, California, 1996.

## Areas of Expertise

- Architecture, Urban Design, Urban History and Theory; Urban Morphology and Geography
- Building, City and Regional-Scale Sustainable Practices
- Commercial, Mixed Use, and Large Scale Architectural and Urban Design Projects, Reg. Architect Cal. Lic#29311
- Land Use Planning and Entitlements (Mexico, California, and New York).

## Selected Publications

### Books

- *Mexico City's Zócalo: A History of a Constructed Spatial Identity*. Routledge Publishers, Abingdon, UK. December 2021.

### Booklets

- "An evaluation of the urban design and architecture of selected housing developments." Cambridge, Mass: Leland Cott, Benjamin Bross, and Peter G. Rowe. Harvard University Graduate School of Design, 2000.

### Peer Reviewed Journal Articles

- "Essentialism and Spatial (Re)production" *Architecture Philosophy Journal*, Open Journal Systems, (November, 2021).

### Peer Reviewed Journal Articles Currently Under Review

- "Energy Investment, Burden Distance and Phenomenology of Place," *Environment, Space and Place* (Revised and Resubmitted).
- "Urban Synecdoche and the Disappearing City," *Online Journal of Art and Design* (Submitted for Initial Review).

### Conference Articles

#### *Accepted:*

- "Spatial History and Identity in Tripartite Sustainable Development: The Mining Town of El Triunfo, Baja California Sur." 12<sup>th</sup> International Conference on the Constructed Environment, Monterrey, NL, Mexico 2022.
- "Museo de Medicina Laboral: Curated Conflux of Modern Identities," SAH 2022 Annual International Conference, Pittsburg, PA.

#### *Published:*

- "The Taxonomy of Spatial Typologies: A proposal for an Analytical Language," ACSA 108<sup>th</sup> Conference Proceedings 2020, San Diego, California.
- "Theseus' Paradox: History, Authenticity, and Identity." *ARCC 2019: Future Praxis: Applied Research as a Bridge Between Theory and Practice*. C. Jarrett, P. Plowright, H. Rashed-Ali, Ryerson University, Toronto, ON, Canada. May-June 2019. p.128-137
- "Mediatic Surfaces: Shaping Urban Environments." In: J. Bean, S. Dickinson, A. Ida (ed.s), *AMPS Proceedings Series 12. Critical Practice in an Age of Complexity*. University of Arizona, Arizona, USA. 22 – 23 February (2018). pp.96-103.
- "The Good Governance of Mexico City's Zócalo: A Recent History of Spatial Use and Morphological Transformations." In: K. Wingert-Playdon, H. Rashed-Ali (ed.s), *ARCC-EAAE International Conf. Proceedings, Happiness. The Built Environment: Shaping the Quality of Life*. Volume 1. Temple University, Philadelphia, PA (2018). pp. 379-387.

### Book Review

- *Eugenics in the Garden: Transatlantic Architecture and the Crafting of Modernity*, by Fabiola López-Durán. CAA reviews. May 27, 2020.

### Accepted/Published Abstracts

- "Embodied Energy, Burden Distance, and the Phenomenological Origins of Place," ARCC, Uni. of Arizona, April 7-10, 2021.
- "El Caballito: A Case Study in Spatial Discourse." AMPS. Cities in a Changing World: Questions of Culture, Climate, and Design. New York. City Tech, CUNY, June 16-18, 2021.
- "A Dialectical Essay on the Decision Parameters for Monument Removal," ACSA 109<sup>th</sup> Conference 2021, St. Louis, Missouri

- “The Taxonomy of Transnational Typologies.” Tenth International Conference on The Constructed Environment, UC Berkeley, USA (May 2020).

#### Grants, Awards, and Financial Awards

- 09/2021- Emerging Scholar Award, 2022 Emergent Scholar Award, Common Ground.
- 08/2018-Present, \$30,000 UIUC Research Funding
- 07/2017-07/2018 \$5000, Illinois Distinguished Postdoctoral Research

#### Editorial Boards

- 09/2020- 12/2021 *informa*, Peer Reviewed Journal of the University of Puerto Rico.

#### Invited Lectures and Conference Presentations

- 12/2020 “Preserving the Past, Fortifying the Future: The Power of Place and People,” US Chamber of Commerce Foundation
- 12/2020 “Modernism as Social Engineering,” University of Toronto, Canada.
- 10/2020 “What Makes a House Feel Like Home?” Champaign-Urbana Jewish Federation.
- 09/2020 “A Brief History of Mexico City’s Zócalo,” Universidad La Salle (Mexico City), University of Arizona, Tucson.
- 01/2019 “México City’s Zócalo: the Spatial Construction of a National Identity,” University of Arizona, Tucson.
- 02/2017 “Human Territoriality and the Construction of Spatial Identity,” Conferencias, Universidad Anahuac, Ciudad de México, México.
- 05/2015 “Between the Private and Public Realm in Architecture,” Key Note Lecturer, Universidad Iberoamericana, Ciudad de México, México.
- 11/2011 “The City in the Future,” Universidad Iberoamericana Lecture Series, Ciudad de México, México.

#### Invited Panels and Interviews

- 04/2021 “Revisiting Urban Design Education for Cities of Collaboration.” Institute of Urban Designers India (postponed).
- 12/2020 “The Future with COVID-19,” Office of the Provost, UIUC Content Produced for General Audiences.
- 10/2020 “Cities of the Future in a post-Covid-19 World: Does sustainable development need to change as a result of the pandemic?” Austrian Cultural Forum, NYC.
- 06/2020 “The Future of Commercial Space Post- COVID 19,” Expert View Points, UIUC News Bureau.
- 02/2019 “AIAS Panel on Internships” AIAS, Illinois School of Architecture, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

#### Honors, Recognitions, and Achievements

- 05/2021 Presenter, Commencement Ceremony , UIUC ISoA
- 05/2019 Presenter, Commencement Ceremony (selected by undergraduate students), UIUC ISoA.
- 07/2017 Illinois Distinguished Postdoctoral Research Associate and Visiting Scholars Program
- 09/2016 Highest Honors, (*Mención Honorífica*), Universidad Iberoamericana, Ciudad México, México.
- 05/2015 Key Note Lecturer, Graduate School Day, Universidad Iberoamericana, Ciudad de México, México.
- 06/2005 Gadsby-Trudgett Fellowship, CED, UC Berkeley. Berkeley, California.
- 06/2005 University Fellow 2005, UC Berkeley. Berkeley, California.
- 01/2000 Graduate Student Associate, David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies, Harvard University. Cambridge, Massachusetts.
- 05/1996 Departmental Citation, 1996, for excellence in Architecture, CED, UC Berkeley. Berkeley, California.
- 05/1996 *College of Environmental Design* Scholarship (merit based), CED, UC Berkeley. Berkeley, California.

#### Academic Service

- 08/2021- Present, NAAB Accreditation Committee
- 08/2021- 08/2024, ACSA Faculty Councilor
- 08/2021- Present, Architecture Faculty Representative: Coordinator of Student Services and Advising Search Committee
- 08/2019-05/2022, Chair, International Programs Committee, Illinois School of Architecture, UIUC.
- 08/2018-Present, Chair (as of fall 2019,) Lecture Series Committee, Illinois School of Architecture, UIUC.
- 01/2018-Present, Architectural Juries: Princeton University (2), Florida International University.
- 01/2018-Present, Faculty Advisory and Founder, Hispanic Organization for Urban Studies and the Environment (H.O.U.S.E.), UIUC.
- 12/2020-03/2021, Diversity Advocate and/or search committee member for the search to fill the College of Fine + Applied Arts: Teaching Assistant Professor/Teaching Associate Professor - School of Architecture

### Academic/Teaching

- 08/2018-present Assistant Professor, Illinois School of Architecture, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.
- 07/2017-08/2018, Post-Doc. Illinois Distinguished Postdoctoral Research Associate. Illinois School of Architecture, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. Champaign, IL.

### Regular courses:

ARCH-517, Architecture History 1850 to Present, Graduate Course (ongoing).

ARCH 371, Architecture and Urbanism Design Studio (Fall 2020).

ARCH-475, Architecture Studio, Capstone. (Fall 2018)

ARCH-57X, Graduate Architecture/Urban Design Studio. (Spring 2020)

ARCH-57X, Seminars:

- The Spatial Practice of Placemaking (Fall 2020, Fall 2021)
- Urbanism in the Global South: Contesting Modernist Models of City Making (Fall 2019).
- Design and Authenticity: Placemaking in the Age of Globalization (Fall 2018).

### Selected Professional Work Experience:

10/17-12/17 With John C. Stallmeyer, The Chabad Center for Jewish Life Chanukah Menorah.

10/05-07/17 Planigrupo LatAm S.A. de. C.V. *Chief Development Officer*

- Over 25 Retail, Industrial, Office and Mixed-Use Projects in 12 cities across México.

08/04-9/05 JRDV *Project Architect/Designer*.

- Value Retail LLC, Shopping Centers in Belgium and Germany.

11/03-08/04 Greenberg Farrow *Project Architect, Designer*.

- GATX Master Plan, Staten Island, New York.
- Bronx Terminal Retail Center (BTM), New York.
- City Hall East, Atlanta, Georgia.

07/03-10/03 Cook + Fox. *Job Captain/Designer*.

- One Bryant Park, Bank of America NY Headquarters.

10/01-06/03 KMD Architects

- Value Retail LLC, shopping centers in Italy, Belgium, Germany, and Spain. *Job Captain*.
- Wellness Center in Crescent City, California. *Job Captain/ Lead Designer*.
- Campus and Facility Master Plan for The Head Royce School, Oakland, CA. *Job Captain/Designer*.
- Juvenile Detention Facility for Fresno County, California *Designer*.
- Punta Cancun Residential Towers, *Designer*.
- FBI headquarters in Woodlawn, Maryland. *Designer*.
- IRS regional office in Fresno California. *Designer*.
- Women's Medical Center in Gastonia, North Carolina. *Designer*.

07/97-12/97 Department of Housing And Urban Development (SEDUVI), México City. Technical Assessor and Advisor.

- México City Zoning and Ordinances