

**ARCH 591HG:
ARCHITECTURE AND IDENTITY
SPRING, 2021
PROF. HEATHER GROSSMAN**

**SYNCHRONOUS ONLINE
THURSDAYS 2-4:50PM**

This new seminar explores 'building identity' – the relationships between the designed environment and personal and group identities. How is identity embedded in architecture, and how do buildings, urban space/landscape, and monumental arts create, challenge, and/or reaffirm ethnic, racial, religious, and national identities? We will dissect theoretical and conceptual texts from multiple disciplines on the subject of identity, and examine architectural and design case studies from around the world to understand the roles of architecture in shaping identity within both distinct moments and across time. Topics will include architecture as cultural heritage, the designed environment of post-war and post-colonial settings, cross-cultural and transnational exchange, and decolonization and anti-racist practices in architecture and architectural history. Students together as a class will choose some weeks' topics of discussion, and each student will select the focus of their own research, which will culminate in a significant written, design, or other project (determined in consultation with the professor).

Requirement: Graduate standing; lively discussion of significant reading content and visual materials expected weekly.

Students from Architecture and other disciplines such as Art History, Landscape Architecture, Art and Design, Anthropology, History, etc., are all equally welcome.