

# HealthbyDesign 2020

Arch 409-202/509-202 | Seminar

Alfred A. Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning Meeting

Time and Location: Thursday 9am-1pm. Online

Instructor: Dr. Upali Nanda (upali@umich.edu. 832.729.7652. @upalinanda)

Office hours: By appointment

The world is in crisis today. It has more than ever before- and more to lose as well. At the core of this crisis is our health as a planet, as people, and as a society. This course is set up to explore systemic issues of health and address them along the design continuum- from information, to product, to place, to policy, while being anchored on the environments we live in, and the human minds & behaviors that shape them. The built environment sets the stage on which the theater of life happens- how can we set the stage for better health, while fully understanding that we work in an interdependent eco-system?

## *How do we set the stage for better health, by design?*

This course is founded on the belief that design makes a difference. We will learn how to link design intent to health outcomes. We will understand what it means to truly improve health and wellbeing (physical and mental). What are the measures? Are they meaningful? Do they matter? Can we, as a community, link our design intent to meaningful outcomes, and honestly assess how (and why) we failed? We will learn about evidence-based design and evidence-challenging design. We will take on issues of health and design that are in debate across our industry today. We will learn about core areas like public health, clinical outcomes, safety, technology, and human perception- and then seek to bridge this insight, across disciplines, to three foundational concerns of our times: Contagion, Climate and Community.

Guest speakers will join some of these classes, and will include professionals- from private companies, health systems, and non-profit agencies. Each session will have a catalyst presentation, an interdisciplinary conversation, and a point of view generation. The outcome of the course will be a position paper (in any media chosen by the students) with a proposed intervention that is actionable, bridges disciplines, and addresses the design continuum. We encourage students from various disciplines to take this course- so we can have a rich dialogue and an actionable outcome.

<https://healthbydesign.cargo.site/>

*About the professor: Dr. Upali Nanda is an associate professor of practice at Taubman school of Architecture & Urban Planning, an adjunct faculty at School of Public Health, a fellow of the Institute for Health Policy Innovation, and the research director for HKS, a global architecture firm. She serves on the board of the Academy of Neuroscience for Architecture and was voted as one the 10 most influential people in Healthcare Design by Healthcare Design Magazine in 2015. In 2018 she was awarded the Women in Architecture Innovator Award by Architectural Record for her work linking human outcomes to the design of our environments. She sits on the nexus of many disciplines and believes that we have to put our disciplinary arrogance aside to effect real change, while leveraging the agency our unique skillsets give us.*