

Kimia Erfani

Ph.D. in Architecture Candidate

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Education

2017- Present	Ph.D. in Architecture (Specialization: Design Studies), University of Michigan
2015- 2017	M.S. in Human-Environment Relations (Concentration: Environmental Psychology), Cornell University
2013- 2015	Master of Architecture (Concentration: High-Performance Building Design), University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
2006- 2011	Bachelor of Architecture , Tehran University of Art

Certifications

LEED Green Associate, Green Building Certification Institute (GBCI)

Evidence-based Design Accreditation and Certification (EDAC), The Center for Health Design

Advanced Course and Intensive Training in Morphology of Spatial Structures and Systems; Certified by Surrey University - UK

Fellowships and Awards

2020	Rackham Graduate Research Grant (Pre-candidacy)
2019- 2020	Taubman Summer Research Grant Funding
2019	Rackham Graduate School & Institute for Social Research (ISR)-Rackham Summer Training Award
2019	Nana Kirk Scholarship- Environmental Design Research Association
2019	International Making Cities Livable Conference: A Healthy City for All conference scholarship
2018- 2019	Rackham Conference Travel Grant
2018	Center for Health Design Scholarship: Putting Evidence-Based Design into Practice Workshop
2016	Cornell University Thesis Completion Grant
2014	University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Malcolm Joseph Fellowship
2014	The National Association of Women in Construction (NAWIC) Scholarship

Teaching Experience

- Fall 2020 **Graduate Student Instructor, University of Michigan**
ARCH 209 Freshman Seminar: Foundations in Design Learning. The course exposed students to the multifaceted thinking designers need in the development of a creative process. My role included facilitating discussion sections and assist in the design of course syllabus and reading materials.
Instructor: Anca Trandafirescu
- Winter 2019, 2020 **Graduate Student Instructor, University of Michigan**
ARCH 572 Architecture Criticism Theories. Drawing on key texts of architectural criticism and philosophy as well as a range of other discourses (art, media, and economics), this course established a framework for thinking about current architectural production through both disciplinary concerns and cultural conditions. My role primarily revolved around leading discussion sections and grading students' papers.
Instructor: John McMorrough
- Fall 2018, 2019 **Graduate Student Instructor, University of Michigan**
ARCH/URP 357 Architecture, Sustainability, and the City. The undergraduate course acted as an introduction to the planning and design of the built environment and focused on the contemporary problems and opportunities in sustainable, resilient building and urban design, including energy systems, transportation, and environmental justice. My role primarily revolved around leading discussion sections and grading students' papers and exams.
Instructor: Doug Kelbaugh
- Fall 2016 **Teaching Assistant, Cornell University**
DEA 2201 Magnifying Small Spaces Studio. In exploration of how design can respond to micro-environments, this studio experimented with operations of reduction, scale, and transmutation to speculate how these variants might impact social, environmental, and cultural systems. My role included assisting in teaching how to apply creative problem-solving techniques to develop innovative design solutions and helping students with 2D and 3D modeling software, rendering engines, and 3D prototyping.
Instructor: Roberta Militello
- Fall 2016 **Teaching Assistant, Cornell University**
DEA 1110/COGST 1111 Making a Difference by Design. By focusing on leadership, creative problem solving, and social change, the course explored values that the designed world around us carries to consciously and subconsciously alter our perceptions, behavior, and well-being. My role included leading individual and group critique sessions of students' projects and reviewing students' design progress and reflection papers.
Instructor: Sheila Danko

Publications

Book Chapter

Erfani, K., Brković Dodig, M., Groat, L. N., and Mankouche, S., (2019). Playing Pretend. In: M. Brković Dodig and L. N. Groat, ed., *The Routledge Companion to Games in Architecture and Urban Planning*, 1st ed. Routledge.

Conference Presentations

Erfani, K. (2019). Aging in Place and Resilience in the Age of Climate Change [Presentation]. *The 50th Annual Environmental Design Research Association Conference*, Brooklyn, New York.

Erfani, K. (2018). The Role of Urban Municipalities in Fighting Residential Health Inequities: A Case Study of West Loop Chicago [Presentation]. *Proceedings of the 49th Annual Environmental Design Research Association Conference*, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Erfani, K. (2018). Towards a Human-Centered Design for Mental and Behavioral Health Settings: A Case Study of Fountain House in Manhattan, NY [Presentation]. *Proceedings of the 49th Annual Environmental Design Research Association Conference*, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Erfani, K., & Momen-Heravi, A. (2015). Re-imagining the Environment of Care [Poster Presentation]. *Proceedings of the 46th Annual Environmental Design Research Association Conference*, Los Angeles, California.

Other Published Work

Erfani, K. (2017). *Post-Occupancy Evaluation of Fountain House: A Study on An Alternative Healthcare Facility*. Cornell University.

Funded Research Experience:

2020- Present	Michigan Medicine Funded Research- University of Michigan Research Assistant: Investigating the role of design in encouraging physical activity and healthy eating at multiple scales across the Design Continuum and the Socio-Ecological Model. PIs: Upali Nanda, Joyce Lee, Karen Peterson
2016	Academy of Architecture for Health Foundation (AAHF) Funded Research- Cornell University Research Assistant: manuscript preparation of “ <i>Mental and Behavioral Health Environments: Measurement of Building Performance</i> ” paper. PI: Mardelle M. Shepley
2015	Department of Energy Funded Research, Cornell University Research Assistant: 3D modeling for an innovative thermoregulatory clothing system for building energy saving. PI: Huiju Park

Research and Professional Experience

- 2018-2019 **Research Assistant:** Assisted in manuscript preparation and graphic coordination in the *Routledge Companion for Games in Architecture and Urban Planning* book. Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning, University of Michigan
Book Editors: Linda N. Groat and Marta Brković Dodig
- 2016 **Research Assistant:** Assisted in manuscript preparation of the book titled *Design for Mental and Behavioral Health*. Department of Design and Environmental Analysis, Cornell University
Book Authors: Mardelle M. Shepley, Samira Pasha
- 2015 **Research Assistant:** Assisted on manuscript preparation of the book titled *Meeting Children's Psychosocial Needs Across the Health-Care Continuum 2nd edition*. Department of Design and Environmental Analysis, Cornell University
Book Author: Mardelle M. Shepley

Professional Experience

- 2016 **Graphic designer,** Cornell Institute for Healthy Futures, Cornell University.
Graphic designer and coordinator for the “Healthy Futures” publication volume 1 Number 1. and other digital marketing materials
- 2014 **Architectural Intern,** Northwestern Memorial Hospital (NMH), Chicago, Illinois.
Assisted with coordinating project schedules, test fits, and creating programs and drawings for future clinical integration projects. I was also involved in the process of envisioning future health care space utilization and decision-making regarding healthcare master planning.
- 2011-2012 **Design Architect,** FKZ Consultants and Developers, Tehran, Iran.
As part of the Schematic Design team, I was responsible for producing 2D drawings, 3D modeling, and developing specifications required in the schematic design phase of residential villas and associated recreational facilities of *Dasht-e Noor Recreational and Residential Complex*.

Leadership and Professional Service

Invited Guest Critic

- 2017 Served as **Design Studio Critic** for “ARCH 374: Architectural Design in the City”, Illinois School of Architecture, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- 2016 Served as **Design Studio Critic** for DEA 3050 “Adaptive ReUse Studio: Recycling the Built Environment: Elmira Federal Building,” Department of Design and Environmental Analysis, Cornell University

Invited Lectures and Talks

2020 Presented a lecture titled “*Accessibility, spatial equity, and Successful Ageing*” for “SW616: Adulthood and Ageing” class at School of Social Work, University of Michigan

Professional Service

2020 Co-moderated a *Virtual Design Workshop: “Inventing Solution to Tackle Childhood Obesity”* – A multidisciplinary workshop to ideate interventions to tackle childhood obesity. Michigan Medicine and Taubman

2020 Doctoral student representative at “*Design Justice Actions*” at Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning, University of Michigan.

2020 Participation in the *Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Leadership Development Program*, University of Michigan

2019 Curating and moderating the doctoral colloquium conversation titled “*Architecture and Race in the Early American Republic*,” University of Michigan

2020-2019 Served as Ad Hoc reviewer for the peer-reviewed journal of “*Facilities*”

2020 Served as Ad Hoc reviewer for the peer-reviewed journal of “*Health Environments Research & Design (HERD)*”

Fall 2015 Served as the Team Leader for the *Cornell University’s Design Charrette Team at the Healthcare Design Conference, Washington, D.C.*

2015 Served as a volunteer to organize Career XPO 2015, Illinois School of Architecture, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

2014- Present Ad Hoc Reviewer of conference presentations, Environmental Design Research Association (EDRA)

Computer/Technical Skills

3D modeling	Rhino and Grasshopper, Revit, AutoCAD, Sketchup, V-Ray Rendering
Graphics and Editing	Adobe Acrobat Creative Suite (Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign), Microsoft Office Suite
Simulation and analysis	Formian 2.2: Space Structure Research Centre - the University of Surrey, Ecotect Analysis Sustainable Building Design Software, Therm Windows and Daylighting Analysis software
Virtual Reality	Oculus
Research Software	GIS, R studio, SPSS, Minitab Statistical Software, Dedoose

Professional Affiliations and Memberships

2015- Present	Associate AIA, The American Institute of Architects (AIA)
2014- Present	Environmental Design Research Association
2014- Present	Center for Health Design
2014- Present	Society for Evidence-Based Architecture (SEBA), University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
2014- 2015	Gargoyle Honor Society, Illinois School of Architecture, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
2014- 2015	Women in Architecture, Illinois School of Architecture, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
2013- 2015	Student member of UIUC Habitat for Humanity

Last update: August 31, 2020