

MINGJIA CHEN

+1 (857)-354-1357

mingjia@mit.edu

Detail-oriented graduate student currently working in teaching and editorial roles, with 2 prior years of professional experience in landscape architecture. Skilled in project management in design and academic settings.

Education

Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)

Master in City Planning, MCP

Master of Architecture, MArch

2021.09 - 2025.12

Cambridge, MA, USA

University of British Columbia (UBC)

Bachelor of Environmental Design
(Honours)

2015.09 - 2019.05

Vancouver, BC, Canada

Awards

MIT DUSP Graduate Fellowship

2024 - 2025

MIT Arch Full Tuition Fellowship

2021 - 2024

UBC Trek Excellence Scholarship

2016

Volunteer

Elected Trustee, UE Local 256 - MITGSU

2023.11 - Current

Board Member, NOMAS MIT Chapter

2023.11 - 2024.11

Bargaining Committee, UE Local 256 - MITGSU

2023.05 - 2023.11

Volunteer, Or Gallery DTES, Vancouver

2022.05 - 2022.08

Volunteer, Kitsilano CPC, Vancouver

2019.06 - 2019.12

Languages

- English
(Bilingual Proficiency)

- Mandarin Chinese
(Bilingual Proficiency)

Work Experience

Graduate Teaching Assistant

MIT Architecture

2024.01 - Current

Cambridge, MA, USA

I provide administrative support to classes in Course 4, managing tasks such as maintaining the class canvas, holding office hours, offering desk crits and processing legal paperwork for site visits. In my capacity as the 4.THG TA, I am also responsible for external critic outreach, review logistics planning and class material production.

I act as a friendly liaison between students, the instructor and guest reviewers, facilitating communication effectively.

Classes Include:

- 4.THG M.Arch Thesis, 2024 Fall (Rania Ghosn)
- 4.123 Architectural Assemblies, 2024 Spring (Adam Modesitt)

Landscape Designer II

Hapa Collaborative

2024.05 - 2024.08

Victoria, BC, Canada

I supported the first phase of the Victoria, BC <--> Port Angeles, WA international ferry terminal design build competition, where I produced contextual analysis, schematic presentations and illustrative site plans. Skilled in collaborating with consultants, developers, city employees and architects in a dynamic, fast-paced environment.

Projects include:

- Victoria <--> Port Angeles Ferry Terminal Design Build
- 1520 Blanshard St Development, Victoria, BC

Editor, *Thresholds* Issue 53

MIT Architecture

2024.03 - Current

Cambridge, MA, USA

Thresholds is a prestigious academic journal in Art and Architecture History by MIT Press. As its 53rd issue editor, I develop thematic concept, oversee production, manage budgets, solicit contributions, and coordinate peer review. I also manage a team of graphic designer, proofreader, and manuscript editor, ensuring seamless print media production with meticulous attention to detail.

Professional Skills

• Project Management

Efficient in managing multiple projects with overlapping deadlines. Able to work proactively and independently.

• Architectural Design

Extensive design experience in academic and professional settings. Fluent in site-and-context driven approaches to architectural and landscape design.

• Design Criticism

Approach projects constructively and capable of providing reflexive feedback based on careful listening.

• Teaching Assistantship

Experience in providing real-time feedback, facilitating productive group discussions and coordinating between students. Familiar with classroom technology, including Canvas.

• Microsoft Office Suite

Proficient in PowerPoint, Excel, and Word. Capable of processing complex data and crafting concise reports, slide decks or memos.

• Adobe Creative Suite

Skilled in Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign and AfterEffects. High level of graphic literacy and experienced in producing provocative renderings, attractive graphic layouts, and communicative diagrams.

• CAD and Drafting

Skilled in AutoCAD and Rhinoceros. Capable of drafting and 3D modelling at different scales. Strong familiarity with technical drawings.

• Data Processing

Familiar with spatial data processing using QGIS and R. Ability to interpret data descriptively and analytically. Capable of visualizing data through maps, plots and diagrams.

Editor, *Out of Frame*

MIT School of Architecture and Planning

2022.09 - 2023.09

Cambridge, MA, USA

Out of Frame is an online platform for students across the MIT School of Architecture and Planning to showcase their work and thoughts outside of school life. I designed *OOF*'s visual identity, its website, and hosted & edited student-submitted contents from 2022 to 2023. The platform is accessible at outofframe.mit.edu.

Landscape Designer I

Hapa Collaborative

2019.06 - 2021.06

Vancouver, BC, Canada

I supported and managed Landscape Architecture and Urban Design projects by providing graphics, drafting, and render production. Having worked across different scales ranging from a private courtyard to environmental planning, I assisted in drawing package preparation, project coordination, and office administration.

Notable Projects include:

- Capstan Village Development, Richmond, BC
- Northeast False Creek Plan, Vancouver, BC
- Burrard Exchange at Bentall, Vancouver, BC

Research Experience

Research Assistant

MIT Architecture

2023.12 - 2024.08

Cambridge, MA, USA

I collaborated with Prof. Caroline Murphy to support archival image management, including establishing folder structures and implementing an image-attribute tagging system using *Are.na* and Excel. I analyze manuscript drawings to accurately identify and tag images. This task requires meticulous attention to detail and strong organizational abilities.

Contract Research Team

UE Local 256, MIT Graduate Student Union

2023.05 - 2023.11

Cambridge, MA, USA

I worked with other Bargaining Committee members to conduct research on graduate worker wage information, program curriculums and collected pay information from fellow graduate workers. I then compile these information and present them during bargaining sessions in written briefs, and help with drafting relevant contract language reflecting the diversity in different graduate programs.

References

Caroline Murphy
Past RA Supervisor
cemurphy@mit.edu

Adam Modesitt
TA supervisor, MIT Architecture
amode@mit.edu