

### I. ACADEMICS

#### A. STUDENTS

- Design Studio Juries
- 2. Designing to Enhance Saudi Arabia's Quality of Life: Dammam's Al-Murjan Island
- 3. Student-Faculty Research Collaboration: Maryam Bagaber and Dr. Shifana Kaafil's Research on Indoor Air Quality in Residential and Commercial Buildings in Jeddah

#### B. COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS

1. Signing an MOU with Bawtaqah

### II. AWARDS

#### A. STUDENT AWARDS

- 1. Architecture Students Win First Prize in Jeddah Designathon and the Mujassam Watan Competition
  - a. Naseem Hussein
  - b. Esma Abdullah
  - c. Maryam Bagaber
  - d. Raseel Al-Bokara
- 2. Architecture Students Win the Sheikh Khalid Al Turki Creativity Award for 2022-23
- 3. Maida Mehyi Al-Deen Award
  - a. Zein Ammar
  - b. Ruaa Omar
  - c. Maryam Bagaber
  - d. Noora Al-Rashedi

#### B. FACULTY AWARDS

- 1. Dr. Mohammed Gomaa, Research Award
- 2. Ms. Shatha Abualfaraj, Teaching Award
- 3. Ms. Sima Refae, Teaching Award

### III. TALKS AND EVENTS

- A. The Architecture Department Celebrates Saudi National Day
- B. Professor Adnan Adas: A Look Into the Urbanism and Architecture of Historic Al-Juhfa
- c. Bio Composite Material Architecture and Biology
- D. Studio VII: Urban Design Parkscape Mini Hackathon
- E. Achievement Day

### IV. FIELD TRIPS

- A. Dr. Shifana Kaafil's Field Trips
- B. Ms. Sima Refae's Field Trips

### V. STUDENTS: SPOTLIGHTS

- A. Lubna Shukri, A Week in Versailles: French Saudi Design Summer Camp
- B. Jana Alfase, Shaping the Future: The Role of Wind-Formed Architecture
- $\pmb{C}. \hspace{0.5cm} \textbf{Tala Al-Silani, } \textit{The Sound of Hope}$

### VI. CREDITS AND CONTACTS

## I. ACADEMICS

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### **B. COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS**

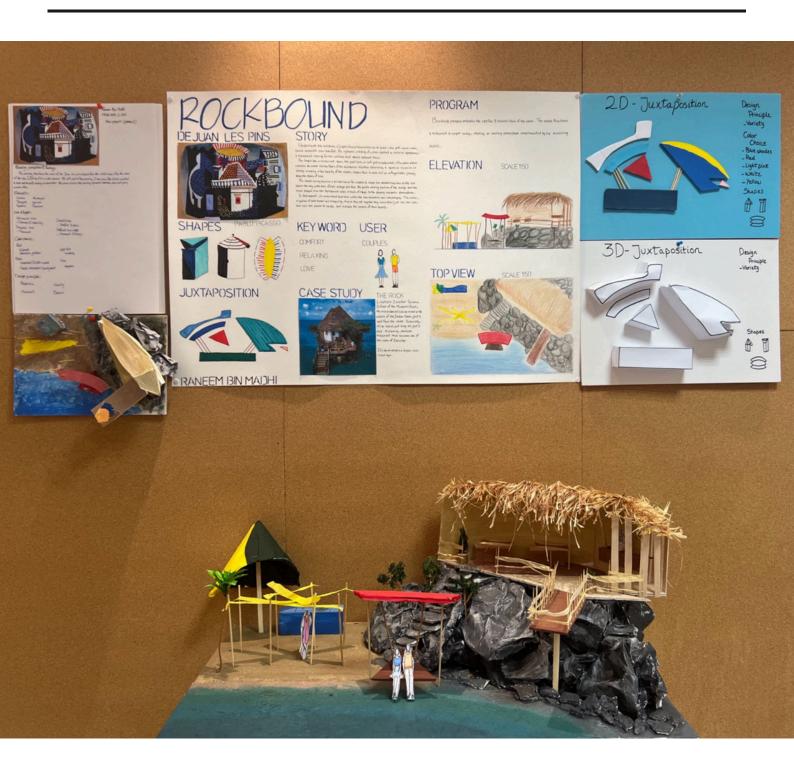
1. Signing an MOU with Bawtaqah

## Students

## FDSA 1305: Architectural Design Fundamental I Ms. Sima Refae

Humans and water have had a deep relationship from ancient civilizations until now. This project gives the students a chance to explore our human relationship with water and the high value of water by thinking more about this relation and how we can appreciate this valuable source of life and not fail to protect it and sustain the water or appreciate the water as a blessing on earth. In the midterm of Fundamentals of Design in Architecture, the students will design a 3-meter wall height and a 2-meter width with a water source, and the students should think about the relationship between them or any user and create the context and narrative of the wall and design used for the human and the water. In this assignment, the students will take the opportunity to create and design a wall and a space for humans to use the water or interact with it and appreciate it. The students will use 15 m2 to cut from and create volume to design over the wall and in front of it. The students must write a story for the wall context and the human passing or using the wall, allowing them to create a concept and meaning for their design.





**Instructor:** Ms. Sima Refae

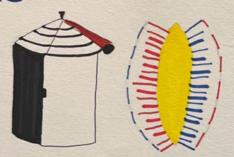
Notable Project: Raneem Bin Madhi

## ROCKBOUND DE JUAN LES PINS STORY



SHAPES

PABLO PICASSO



JUXTAPOSITION



Underneath the sunshine, Couples found themselves on a beach, the soft sand warm beach beareath their barefeet. The rythemic crashing of waves created a natural symphony, a background melody for the emotions that danced between them.

The beach has a restaurant above the giant rock, it isn't jost a restaurant, it's a place where memories are woven into the fabric of the sea breeze. Weather calcbrating a speacial occasion or simply levealing in the beauty of the ocean, couples feels in each visit an unforgetrable journey along the shores of love.

The small swing become a private haven for couples to share the mesmerizing view as the sun paints the sky with hues of pink, orange and blue. The gentle rocking motion of the swings and the music played from the background adds a kouch of magic to the already romantic atmosphere.

In that moment, its understood that love is like the sea, boundless and exerchanging. The water, , a symbol of both tormail and tranquility. And as they sat together they know that just like the sea, love had the power to shape and reshape the shores of their hearts.

### KEY WORD

COMFORT

RELAXING

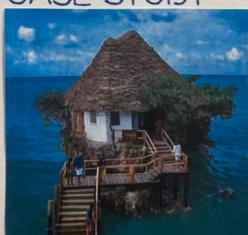
LOVE

### USER

COUPLES



CASE STUDY



THE ROCK

Located in Zanzibar Tanzania, Infront of the Michamii Beach, the rockrestaurant sits on a rock in the waters of the Indian Ocean, just a shot from the shore. Technically, it's an island, but truly it's just a rock. A chaming, exclusive restaurant that becomes one of the icons of Zanzibar.

It's decorated in a simple, local island style.

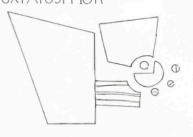
### PUMPKIN FARM PLAYGROUND SHATHA BAGBAID







JUXTAPOSITION.



**PROCESS** 









ELEVATION

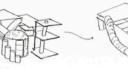
BEHIND

FRONT

TOP VIEW







CALM, PEACE, MOVEMENT

THE PLAYOROUND IS DESIGNED TO TELL A STORY ABOUT A YOUNG CHILD CALLED SALEH WHO USED TO VISIT HIS GRAND FATHER'S PUMPKIN FARM DURING AUTUMN. SO, THE PLAYGROUND SERVES AS A REF-LECTION OF SALEHSMEMORIES ON THE FARM. CAPTURING THE CALM AND PEACFUL MOME-HTS HE EXPERIENCED WHILE EXPLORING THE FARM TO TURN IT INTO A PLAYING SPACE. THE DESIGN REFLECT THE PUMPKIN FARM THROUGH THE CHILD'S PERSPECTIVE, WICH IS FULL OF BOUNDLESS IMAGINATION AMD CREATIVITY AS HE REPURPOSES DIFFERENT FARM TOOLS, INGENIOUSLY TRANSFORMING THEM INTO FUN GAMES AND INVITING SPA-CE DESIGNED TO SULT THIS YOUTHFUL SPIRIT.

#### USERS :-



CASE STUDY

RCM JOYCE CHILDREN'S HEALTH CENTRE, HAMILTON UNE CAPANA & ROCHEGUDE, CAMPING UNI VERSAL

#### PROGRAMS

PLAYGROUND PROVID SEVERAL KIND OF GAMES FOR KIDS HEE SLIDES AND SWINGS

Ms. Sima Refae **Instructor:** Notable Project: Shatha Baobaid





## Studio I: Form and Order in Cultural Context (ARCH 2401) Ms. Shatha Abualfaraj

Students will select a pioneer modern or contemporary architect to inspire the design of a house. The students must understand and analyze the architect's personality and his or her underlying principles and approach to learn how to think and design in the spirit of their architect of choice. Students will also develop the identity of their client and his or her unique needs and requirements, allowing them to showcase their talent and innovation. After analyzing site conditions, students will begin developing their house design.



Instructor: Ms. Shatha Abualfaraj Notable Project: Shumukh Algurashi

## RESEDENTIAL HOUSE PROJECT BRIEF

The design approach for the villa in Jeddah will be inspired by the architect Oscar Niemeyer, known for his distinctive style characterized by bold curves, organic forms, open floor plans, minimalism, and the integration of nature. The following elements will be incorporated in the design to meet the specific requirements of the family, ceating an inspiring environment

Oscar Niemeyer with their specific requirements.

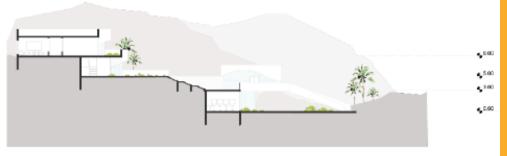




## Studio II: Small Scale Buildings and Sustainability (ARCH 2502) Dr. Djihed Berkouk

This studio focuses on concepts of program, site characteristics, climate and principles of sustainable design. These factors are explored through studio-based design problems, as well as their role in shaping small scale buildings. It also introduces site and climatic analysis, along with knowledge and application of conservation and sustainable practices while designing the projects. For the Jury, students are required to select a natural location in Jeddah (not an urban area) with a sloping topography and to provide a design answer that deals with the issue of integration with the environment. Student should demonstrate an excellent grasp of landscape and site analysis. In addition, students should come up with a philosophical idea inspired by the site to use in the process of developing their three-dimensional volumes.





SECTION

### Project brief

Design a research center for architectural and environmental sustainability. with visual and conceptual connections in a topographical setting, an integrated structure, vibrant and inclusive community within the space, fostering connections, collaboration, and a sense of belonging among its users

Instructor: Dr. Djihed BerkoukNotable Project: Farah Alqazlan





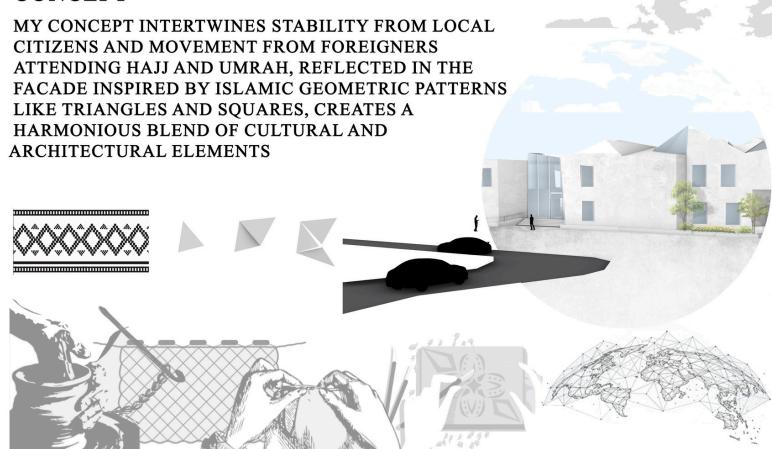
# Studio III: Contextual, Cultural and Environmental Design (ARCH 3501) Dr. Nader Azab and Dr. Djihed Berkouk

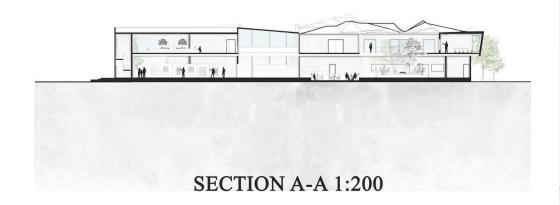
Students designed a craft center in the city of Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. The craft center house spaces to display traditional crafts from the Mecca region. The craft center will serve as a hub for locals and tourists alike to explore and enjoy the beauty of crafts as well as how to learn how to make traditional crafts from skilled artisans. The location for the craft center is near Al-Hamra facing the Red Sea





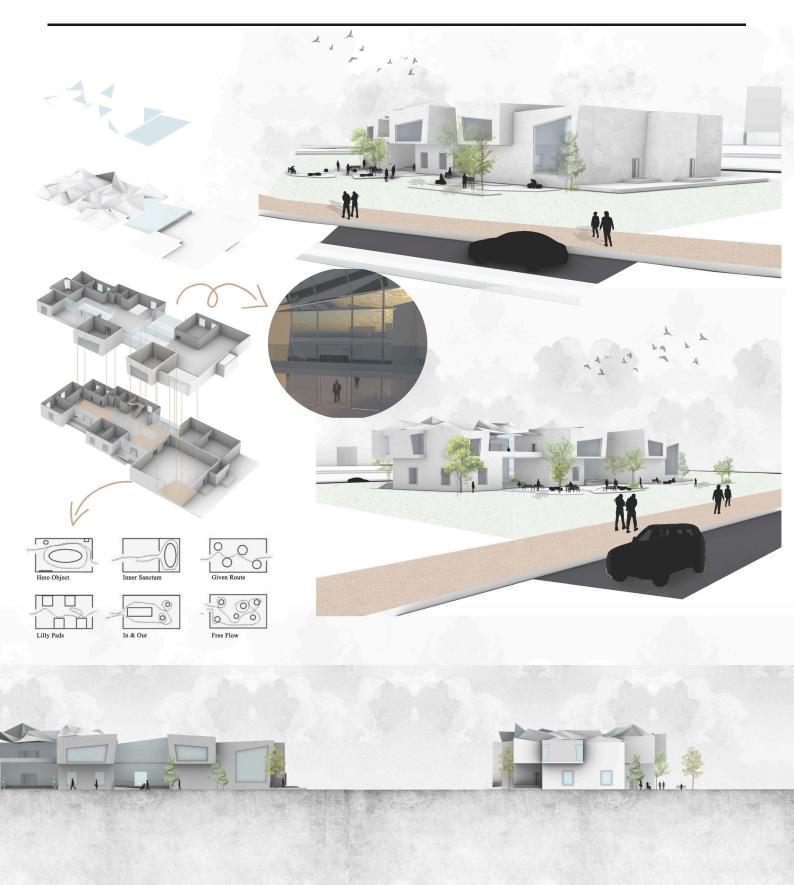
### **CONCEPT**





Instructor: Dr. Nader Azab and Dr. Djihed Berkouk

Notable Project: Nouran Al-Harazi



WEST ELEVATION 1:200

**NORTH ELEVATION 1:200** 

## Studio V: Mixed-Use Design (ARCH 4501) Ms. Suman Faruqui

Saudi railway stations designed by Buro Happold and Foster + Partners are aesthetically iconic buildings with designs that consider Islamic architectural traditions. These stations are physically and symbolically significant to the landscape of Jeddah. They not only connect the city to other cities, but also create a strong connection within the important parts of the city. In addition to waiting areas and the railway platform, they are equipped with shops, restaurants, VIP lounges and mosques as well as parking areas and a helipad. For Studio V, the students are asked to select a site next to one of the train stations and design a mixed-use building to serve travelers as well as local businesses. It will include a variety of functions, such as a hotel, residences, offices, and other necessary services which students can propose in the program development process. After understanding the site's needs, geometries, strengths and weakness, the students will address the site issues and select the best location for their specific building program.







**Instructor:** Ms. Suman Faruqui **Notable Project:** Hala Sultan





## Studio VI: Comprehensive Design (ARCH 4502) Dr. Nader Azab and Ms. Suman Faruqui

Students will design a craft center in the city of Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. The craft center will house spaces to display traditional crafts from the Mecca region. The craft center will serve as a hub for locals and tourists alike to explore and enjoy the beauty of crafts as well as how to learn how to make traditional crafts from skilled artisans. The location for the craft center is near Al-Hamra facing the Red Sea.





## THE ROOT Vertical City

A Glimpse to the Future

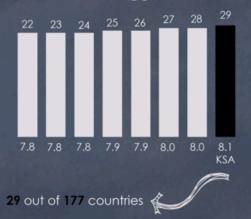
### **Brief:**

The Root high-rise, a co-living tower in Jeddah for young professionals, is a part of a strategy to curb "brain drain" by encouraging skilled technicians and scientists to remain in Saudi Arabia, or motivate young, educated people who have been trained abroad to return. The budling, positioned at an attractive location in North Obhur, aims to offer new opportunities and better living and working conditions that will attract talent and retain citizens.

### **Research Problem:**

A phenomenon that king Abdullah referred to as "
THE SAUDI BRAIN DRAIN"

Countries with Biggest brain drain (2007-2023)

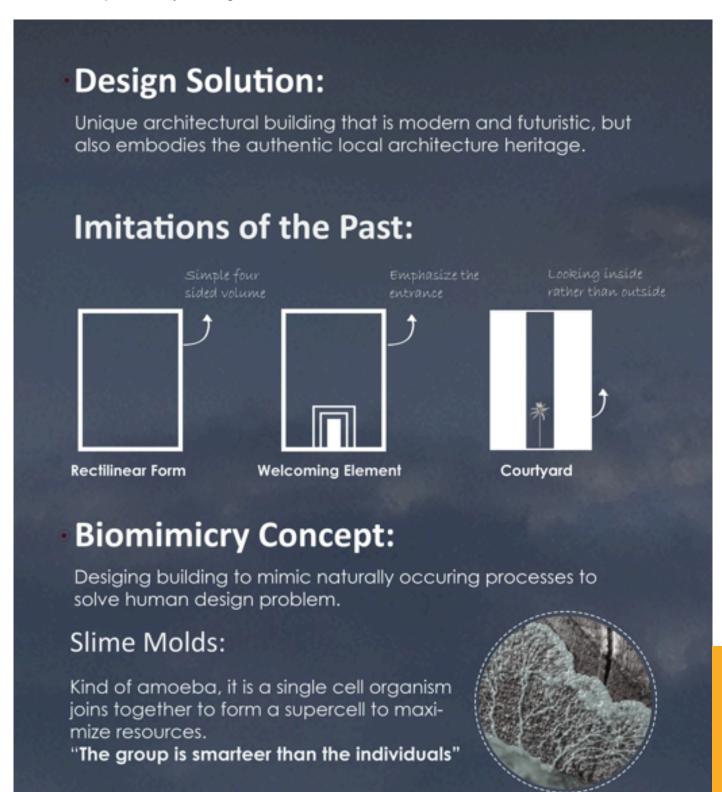




In 2023,Saudi Arabia reashed 8.1

Instructor: Dr. Nader Azab and Ms. Suman Faruqui

Notable Project: Maryam Bagaber





## Studio VII: Urban Design (ARCH 5501) Ms. Sima Refae

The midterm jury's instructor invited stakeholders to support the collaborative design approach through an interactive jury in their midterm stage. The urban design studio team from Amana Jeddah was invited. Ms. Zainab Alireza, the co-founder of Takween and Urban Designer, advocates for community engagement initiatives through a design hackathon involving children in designing parks and public realms in the city. I also invited Arch. Elaf Al-Aamri, a design manager in the public realm department with her team RCU, the Royal Commission of Alula, Dr. Adnan Adas, a Saudi ICOMOS – Royal Commission ALULA strategic partnership coordinator, and Dr. Nawaf Hajaj & Dr. Tarek Sajini from KAU, and the department chair Dr. Gomaa was the cross grader for the Jury. The jury was very active, and students got extensive feedback and insight to progress their strategies and master plan to reach the final.





Instructor: Ms. Sima Refae
Notable Project: Amna Sharif,
Layal Azan, Layal Danish, Lubna
Shukri, Ruba Mohamed, Susan Eid.

VISION

### INTEGRATING THE EDGE WITH THE CENTER

TO LINK NATURE TO THE INNER COMMUNITY OF THE SAKHRA AND TRANSFORM THE AREA INTO A LIVELY AND ATTRACTIVE ROUTE.



CONCEPT PHILOSOPHY

### **A DUAL ECHO**

FROM THE TOP OF ALSAKHRA TO THE BOTTOM OF THE VALLEY



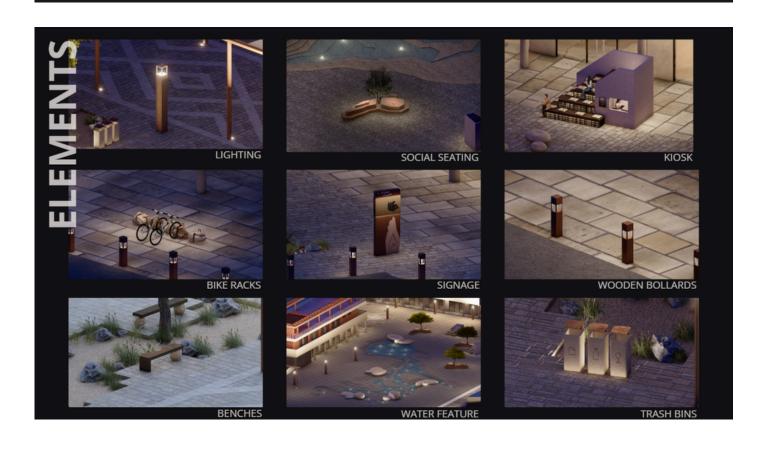


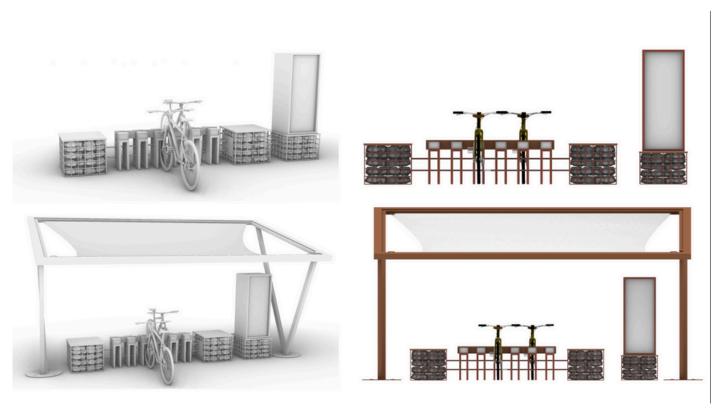












### Designing to Enhance Saudi Arabia's Quality of Life: Dammam's Al-Murjan Island

One of the noteworthy collaborations between the Architecture Department and community engage initiatives involved a practical project for students enrolled in the Livable Cities course led by Ms. Sima Refae. This project was conducted in partnership with the Saudi Ministry of Culture's Quality of Life Program. In March 2023, students visited Al-Murjan Island on Dammam's waterfront, the site of their final project. Drawing on their first-hand knowledge of the site, students worked collaboratively to develop proposals that addressed the challenges and opportunities of the site while keeping the needs and aspirations of the community closely in mind. In recognition of their contributions, the Quality of Life Program officials who attended the final jury awarded the students certificates for their design proposals. For students, the experience of working on developing a community-centered, sustainable design proposal for a real client was an invaluable opportunity, preparing them for professional practice in their future careers. The Quality of Life Program presented the students with certificates in recognition of their valued contribution.

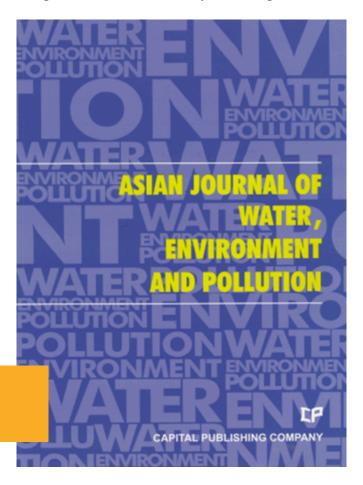




From left to right: Amna Sharief, Layal Danish, Ms. Sima Refae, Dr. Alsaleh Sugati, Mr. Ayman Alrefae, Mr. Salman Alkataaf, Lubna Shukri, Susan Eid and Amaal Alhifzi.

### Student-Faculty Research Collaboration on Quality of Life: Aligning with Vision 2030

In line with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030 and Dar Al-Hekma University's research priorities, the Architecture Department is focused on developing and expanding its research agenda by encouraging student research. Under the mentorship of Dr. Shifana Kaafil, senior Maryam Bagaber published a scientific article entitled "Assessment of Indoor Air Quality in Different Spaces of Residential and Commercial Buildings in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia" in the Asian Journal of Water, Environment and Air Pollution, which is indexed in the Scopus and Web of Science databases. Maryam assessed indoor air pollution in both residential and commercial buildings in terms of the air quality index (AQI), particulate matter PM2.5, particulate matter PM10, carbon dioxide, formaldehyde (HCHO), the total volatile organic compound (TVOC), humidity, and temperature.



To determine the effect of outdoor air quality on indoor spaces, she analyzed and compared different spaces within a residential building and a commercial building: one in a busy outdoor area and the other in a quiet outdoor area. From her research, she found that the indoor air quality of bedrooms in the apartment building and cafés in the commercial building are higher than the standards set by the World Health Organization (WHO) and, therefore, recommended providing proper ventilation to improve living conditions for the occupants. She also found a minimal effect of the infiltration of outdoor air pollutants on indoor air quality due to the provision of mechanical ventilation with air filters as well as an effective building envelope. To read the full article, please see: https://doi.org/10.3233/AJW230054

# Community collaborations

### Signing an MOU with Bawtaqah

On Wednesday, September 13th, a significant Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed between our esteemed institution and Bawtaqah, represented by its CEO, Architect Fahd Al-Lwaihan, and Dr. Sahar Shabana, the Dean of the Architecture Design and Computing Engineering Department. Bawtaqah, a remarkable non-profit organization founded in London in 2013, has been officially certified by the Ministry of Culture in Saudi Arabia as a training center with a noble vision of fostering architectural awareness within society.

This collaboration holds immense potential for our department, as we stand to benefit greatly from Bawtaqah's community engagement initiatives, which include a series of enlightening talks and workshops. By actively participating in these events, both our faculty and students can forge meaningful connections and gain valuable insights. Furthermore, Bawtaqah has graciously extended an invitation for our representatives to partake in juries and join the advisory board of the architecture department, allowing us to contribute directly to their noble cause.

The signing of this MOU marks a significant milestone for both parties involved, as it represents a shared commitment to the advancement of the architecture and interior design professions. Together, we aim to foster an environment of growth, innovation, and collaboration, ultimately contributing to the development of our respective fields.





## II. AWARDS

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- 1. Architecture Students Win First Prize in Jeddah Designathon and the Mujassam Watan Competition
  - a. Naseem Hussein
  - b. Esma Abdullah
  - c. Maryam Bagaber
  - d. Raseel Al-Bokara
- 2. Architecture Students Win the Sheikh Khalid Al Turki Creativity Award for 2022-23
- 3. Maida Mehyi Al-Deen Award
  - a. Zein Ammar
  - b. Ruaa Omar
  - c. Maryam Bagaber
  - d. Noora Al-Rashedi

### **B. FACULTY AWARDS**

- Dr. Mohammed Gomaa, Research Award
- Ms. Shatha Abualfaraj, Teaching Award
- 3. Ms. Sima Refae, Teaching Award

## Student Awards

# Architecture Students Win First Prize in Jeddah Designathon and the Mujassam Watan Competition

### Naseem Hussein, Esma Abdullah, Maryam Bagaber and Raseel Al-Bokari

In August 2023, senior architecture students Naseem Hussein, Esma Abdullah, Maryam Bagaber, and Raseel Al-Bokara won first prize out of a field of 18 entries in the Mujassam Watan's Designathon held in Jeddah. First inaugurated in 2018 by Al Fozan Social Foundation, the Designathon was established to foster a culture of creativity and design innovation amongst the Kingdom's talented youth. During the two-day competition, Naseem, Esma, Maryam and Raseel developed their design concept for a public landmark commemorating Saudi National Day. While participating in the Designathon, the students had the opportunity to meet an array of inspirational architects and designers, including Arch. Yousof Alomran, Al Fozan Holding's Operations Manager, who oversees the Mujassam Watan Competition; Arch. Abdulmohsin Adas, the founder of the Jeddah-based architecture firm of Adas & Gabson as well as a lecturer in architecture and engineering at Dar Al-Hekma University and the University of Business and Technology; Nawaf Al-Nassar, the founder of 3N Jeddah, as well as a member of the Saudi Arts Council and The Barakat Trust; and Arch. Mohamed Elghoneimy, the founder of Archma, an avant-garde firm specializing in urban design, architecture and interior design.





Following their success in the Jeddah Designathon, Naseem, Esma, Maryam, and Raseel once again triumphed in the competition against the top Designathon teams from Al-Khobar and Riyadh, winning the opportunity to have their landmark built in Al Qatif. Inspired by Saudi Arabia's history, the students' sculpture evokes the memory of Imam Turki bin Abdullah Al Saud, the founder of the Second Saudi State, who ruled Najd from 1823 to 1834. The base of the sculpture is composed of dynamically intersecting planes, suggestive of the fight for national unity. Towering above the base is a monumental, curved form, faceted into four white steel planes, symbolizing Imam Turki bin Abdullah Al Saud's famed Al-Ajrab sword as well as the four regions of Saudi Arabia.At the same time that it honors Saudi Arabia's proud history, the design also looks to the country's promising future.





## Architecture Students Win The Sheikh Khalid Al Turki Creativity Award for 2022-23

In October, the Architecture Department's alumna Toulin Tabbash and seniors Naseem Hussein and Maryam Bagaber were awarded the prestigious 2022-23 Sheikh Khali Al Turki Creativity Award.

### What inspires your creativity?

**Toulin Tabbash:** 

"My creativity is inspired by exploring diverse influences, embracing curiosity, collaborating with others and seeking their feedback, experimenting and taking risks, and engaging in multiple internships to further explore the world of architecture."

**Naseem Hussein:** 

"The world itself is my muse. My creativity is fueled by the boundless tapestry of life, where every thread has a story to tell."

Maryam Bagaber:

"I am inspired by how designers, both famous and unknown, apply their ideas to their work and solve problems creatively. I actively seek out inspiration from all sources, including buildings, art, and nature. I love to combine different concepts to create something new, complex, and unique. Nature is a particularly rich source of inspiration for me because everything in it is perfectly designed and beautiful. I appreciate its simplicity, calmness, and harmonious colors. The most important tool I use to be creative is a strong concept. I develop my concepts by imagining the user's experience. I ask myself, how will people feel when they experience this place? How will they interact with the design? Once I have a strong concept, I can start to compose the shape, elements, and materials of the project in a way that is both functional and aesthetically pleasing."

### What are your aspirations now that you have graduated or after you graduate?

#### **Toulin Tabbash:**

"After completing my studies as an architect, my aspirations are to immerse myself in the professional world with a zeal for creativity and innovation. I envision actively contributing to transformative architectural projects that not only redefine urban landscapes but also enrich the lives of the communities they serve. By collaborating with seasoned professionals and industry experts, I aim to refine my skills and broaden my knowledge base, while also striving to integrate sustainable practices into my design philosophy. Furthermore, I am committed to pursuing licensure and certifications to establish myself as a credible and responsible architect, capable of delivering projects that not only meet the highest standards of functionality and aesthetics but also prioritize environmental sustainability and social well-being. Overall, I aspire to leave a lasting impact on the built environment, fostering spaces that inspire and uplift individuals while promoting a more sustainable and inclusive future."

#### **Naseem Hussein:**

"I aim to sculpt extraordinary spaces that blend seamlessly with nature. Furthermore, I seek to bridge cultures through architecture, blending diverse influences into a tapestry of design that celebrates our shared humanity. Ultimately, I aspire to leave an indelible mark on the world, shaping environments that inspire, uplift, and stand the test of time."

#### Maryam Bagaber:

As a student in my twenties, I want to make the most of my time by educating myself and gathering as much knowledge as possible. I will not rely solely on the university curriculum, but will also seek out knowledge from other sources. I am eager to try new things and make mistakes, as I believe this is an essential part of the learning process. I know that as a professional architect, I will have more responsibilities, so I am also committed to learning from the experiences of others. After graduation, I want to work in the field to gain experience in both creativity and functionality. Once I have enough experience, I plan to pursue a master's degree."

## Do you have any advice for young architecture students seeking to develop their creativity?

#### **Toulin Tabbash:**

"It is important to remember that creativity is not a fixed trait, but rather a skill that can be nurtured and developed over time." By actively embracing these practices, younger architecture students can enhance their creative abilities and unlock their full potential. This will not only prepare them for a new chapter after graduation but also enable them to contribute innovative ideas and solutions to the field of architecture."

#### **Naseem Hussein:**

"Explore the world around you, embrace diverse influences, and fearlessly trust your unique vision. Seize opportunities to develop your passion and yourself. Embrace the arts in all their forms, for they are the soul's nourishment. Seek out diverse perspectives and engage in meaningful conversations. Embrace failure as a steppingstone to success, for it is through experimentation that innovation is born. Above all, never forget that creativity flows from the depths of your being, so trust your voice, embrace your unique vision, and let your imagination soar, for the world eagerly awaits the masterpieces only you can create."

#### Maryam Bagaber:

"My advice to architecture students is to always try their best and never give up. Their motivation should not be grades, money, or winning, but rather the experience of learning and growing. I encourage them to participate in everything, try new things, and learn from the people around them. It is important to be happy and enjoy the journey of learning. Students should not limit themselves to their surroundings but should go out and discover new things for themselves. Finally, I encourage students to make the most of their time by seeking out inspiration and reading widely, even on topics outside of architecture. Every new thing they try will stimulate their creativity."



Toulin Tabbash Receives the Sheikh Khaled Al Turki Creativity Award



Naseem Hussein Receives the Sheikh Khaled Al Turki Creativity Award

## Maida Mehyi Al-Deen Award

### Zein Ammar, Ruaa Omar, Maryam Bagaber and Noora Al-Rashedi

Established in 2023 by Mr. Mohieldin Saleh Kamel, the Mayda Mohieldin Nazer Award aims to encourage female students to innovate by creating a competitive environment. In the first round, the competition sought solutions in three categories: 1. Reviving the Arabic language; 2. Improving the quality of life for the elderly and the blind; and 3. Developing the competence of workers in the religious tourism sector (Hajj and Umrah). Senior architecture students Zayn Alsham Ammar, Maryam Bagaber, Ruaa Omar, and Noura Al-Rashidi won in the second category with their design of a smart stick (patent pending) to improve the quality of life of elderly and blind people by increasing their independence. "Sa'ed," the name of the smart stick name, has multiple meanings, including the area between the palm and the elbow, which expresses determination, achievement, and work. It is also the command for "help!." The Sa'ed stick's design combines ancient and modern features to ensure it meets a variety of users' needs efficiently and effectively while being reassuringly familiar in appearance. Helping elderly and blind people achieve independence will not only enhance their individual lives but also promises to enhance community cohesion and public safety.





# Faculty Awards

# **Architectural Excellence Shines: Honoring Our Outstanding Faculty**

The Department of Architecture is thrilled to announce the outstanding achievements of our esteemed faculty members in the field of teaching and research during the Academic Year 2022-2023. The Board of Trustees Annual Awards for Outstanding Performance has recognized and honored the exceptional contributions of our faculty.

- **Dr. Mohammed Gomaa** has been awarded the prestigious "Dr. Hussien Mohammed Al-Sayyed Award for Research" for his research work in the realm of architecture and sustainability in built environments. Dr. Gomaa's dedication and innovative contributions have left an indelible mark on our field.
- Ms. Sima Refae and Ms. Shatha Abualfaraj have been jointly honored with the "Mr. Ibraheem Julaidan Award for Teaching and Administration" for their unwavering commitment to educating the next generation of architects. Their passion for teaching and exceptional administrative skills have not gone unnoticed.

These remarkable individuals have not only enriched the academic environment but have also inspired and nurtured the future of architecture. We extend our heartfelt congratulations to Dr. Mohammed Gomaa, Ms. Sima Refae, and Ms. Shatha Abualfaraj for their well-deserved recognition. Their achievements reflect the exceptional standards of our institution and continue to elevate the world of architecture.



# Celebrating Excellence in Research: Dr. Mohammed Gomaa Receives "Dr. Hussien Mohammed Al-Sayyed Award for Research"

The Department of Architecture is thrilled to announce that Dr. Mohammed Gomaa, associate professor at the Department of Architecture at Dar Al-Hekma University, has been honored with the prestigious "Dr. Hussien Mohammed Al-Sayyed Award for Research" as part of the Board of Trustees Annual Awards for Outstanding Performance - Academic Year 2022-2023. Dr. Gomaa's remarkable work in the field of sustainable practices in the built environment has not only been recognized but celebrated.

Dr. Gomaa's commitment to sustainable practices in the built environment has left an indelible mark on our academic community. His dedication to research encompasses various aspects of urban design, urban planning, and environmental resilience, making him an invaluable asset to our department. Dr. Gomaa's influence extends beyond our campus, as he has published numerous research papers in renowned international journals and actively participates in specialized conferences worldwide.

This award is a testament to Dr. Gomaa's exceptional contributions to the field of architecture and his unwavering commitment to advancing knowledge in the areas of sustainability and urban planning. We heartfelt congratulations extend our Gomaa for Mohammed this well-deserved recognition and look forward to his continued impact on our department and the broader architectural community.



### Recognizing Exceptional Teaching: Ms. Sima Refae and Ms. Shatha Abualfaraj Win "Mr. Ibraheem Julaidan Award for Teaching and Administration"



The Department of Architecture is delighted to share the outstanding news that Ms. Sima Refae and Ms. Shatha Abualfaraj, two exceptional educators in the Department of Architecture, have been honored with the distinguished "Mr. Ibraheem Julaidan Award for Teaching and Administration" as part of the Board of Trustees Annual Awards for Outstanding Performance - Academic Year 2022-2023.

Ms. Sima Refae and Ms. Shatha Abualfaraj have consistently demonstrated their dedication to teaching and administration, setting a high standard of excellence within our department. Their commitment to educating and mentoring our students has not only been recognized but celebrated by the university community. We extend our warmest congratulations to Ms. Sima and Ms. Shatha for this well-deserved recognition of their exceptional contributions to our department's academic success.

This award is a well-deserved recognition of their exceptional contributions to our department and the broader university community. We extend our warmest congratulations to Ms. Sima Refae and Ms. Shatha Abualfaraj and express our gratitude for their dedication to excellence in teaching and administration.

### Ms. Sima Refae's Teaching Philosophy and Strategies



Congratulations to Ms. Sima Refae on receiving the prestigious "Mr. Ibraheem Julaidan Award for Teaching." It is evident that her teaching philosophies and strategies have greatly contributed to her accomplishment.

Ms. Sima's teaching philosophy revolves around motivating her students to play a meaningful role as future architects. She encourages them to be more aware of their surroundings and what is happening in their communities and environment. By doing so, she aims to inspire her students to initiate enterprise projects that address the needs of the community and the environment. This focus on improving the future quality of life in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia aligns with the goal of making it one of the most livable countries in the world.

To achieve these objectives, Ms. Sima engages her students in projects and assignments that expand their vision, foster adaptability, and promote critical analysis. She encourages them to think creatively and innovatively, enabling them to develop new approaches to design and a philosophy of change that can lead to a better lifestyle for the people of the Kingdom.

By prioritizing the motivation and sustenance of her students, Ms. Sima ensures that her impact as an instructor extends far beyond the classroom. Her dedication to empowering her students to make a meaningful difference in the field of architecture is truly commendable.

## Ms. Shatha Abualfaraj's Teaching Philosophy and Strategies

Congratulations to Ms. Shatha Abualfaraj on receiving the prestigious "Mr. Ibraheem Julaidan Award for Teaching."

This prestigious accolade recognizes Ms. Shatha's unwavering dedication, innovative teaching methods, and profound impact on her students' lives. Her commitment to fostering a love for learning and creating a nurturing environment has made her an invaluable asset to our educational community.

Throughout her career, Ms. Shatha has consistently gone above and beyond to ignite curiosity, instill confidence, and empower her students to reach their full potential. Her passion for education is infectious, as she continuously seeks new ways to engage learners and cultivate a lifelong love of knowledge.

Ms. Shatha firmly believes that education is not limited to textbooks and lectures alone. She understands that true learning happens when students are motivated, engaged, and inspired. With this philosophy in mind, she creates a dynamic classroom environment where creativity flourishes, ideas are exchanged freely, and students are encouraged to think outside the box.

Ms. Shatha's commitment to empowering her students extends far beyond the classroom walls. She takes the time to understand each student's goals and aspirations, guiding them toward opportunities that will help them grow both personally and professionally. Whether it's connecting them with industry professionals or providing invaluable mentorship, she ensures that her students have every chance to succeed in the competitive world of architecture.



## III. TALKS AND EVENTS

- A. The Architecture Department Celebrates Saudi National Day
- B. Professor Adnan Adas: A Look Into the Urbanism and Architecture of Historic Al-Juhfa
- c. Bio Composite Material Architecture and Biology
- D. Studio VII: Urban Design Parkscape Mini Hackathon
- E. Achievement Day

## The Architecture Department Celebrates Saudi National Day

In celebration of Saudi National Day, the Architecture Department contributed to Dar Al-Hekma University's Saudi National Day celebration on September 20. The project was conceived and developed by Ms. Shatha Abualfaraj, Ms. Sima Refae and Ms. Alanoud Aljadaani. The architecture students in Dr. Tamsen Anderson's History of World Architecture I (ARCH 2301), History of Islamic World Architecture (ARCH 2308), History of World Architecture II (ARCH 3301) and Theories of Contemporary Architecture (ARCH 4303) created designs inspired by of Saudi art, architecture, and culture in a variety of medias. Commemorating the 2023 Saudi National Day theme "We Dream and Achieve," the student's designs celebrated the Kingdom's past accomplishments while looking with enthusiasm to the future.







## A Look Into the Urbanism and Architecture of Historic Al-Juhfa Professor Adnan Adas

On September 27, Professor Adnan Adas spoke on the timely topic of the importance of historic preservation in Saudi Arabia. Professor Adas, Professor and past chairman of the Architecture Department at King Abdulaziz University, is an expert, advisor, and consultant on Saudi urban and architectural heritage. Among his many accomplishments, Professor Adas is a board member of the Saudi Arabian National Committee of The International Council on Moments and Sites and has been involved in developing heritage conservation plans for Makkah, Jeddah, Taif, and Asir. He is also the Director of Al Maqsura Center for Heritage Research and Studies as well as the author of many books and more than 50 research projects.



Professor Adas' talk focused on his recent work on Al-Juhfa, an ancient heritage site situated approximately 180 kilometers northwest of Makkah. Al-Juhfa's historic significance as well as its development and growth are closely tied to its strategic geographic location. For hundreds of years, caravans passed through Al-Juhfa annually, taking advantage of its plentiful supply of underground freshwater. It also served (and continues to serve) as the miqat from which Muslim pilgrims from North Africa, Turkey, Syria, Europe, and North America preparing to perform Hajj or Umrah are required to enter the sacred state of ihram, which further solidified its importance. To gain insight into Al-Juhfa's scale and layout, Professor Adas and his team used the latest drone technology and high-tech lab analysis of building materials along with countless hours of hands-on site analysis, which involved traversing 150 kilometers of arid land. Based on his extensive study, Professor Adas has been able to create a virtual model of Al-Juhfa, revealing the shape of its extensive perimeter wall as well as the location of a citadel, a mosque, residence districts, a bath and a souk. He is a strong advocate of using virtual modeling technology as a sensitive and sustainable strategy for Saudi Arabia's heritage sites.









# **Bio Composite Material Architecture and Biology**

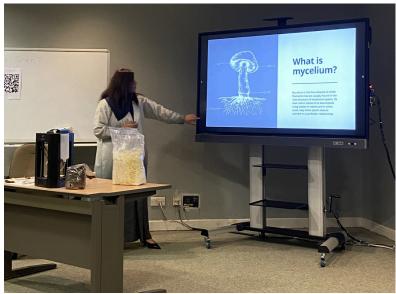
On October 25, Ms. Wiam Zaki Kafyah, Project Architect at IHCC and co-founder of Biotech Design, delivered a guest lecture on innovations in bio-based materials. Bio-based materials can be biodegradable, breaking down naturally over time and thus reducing the burden of waste and landfill disposal. After introducing students to different types of bio-based materials, Ms. Wiam shared her personal experience developing mycelium (the vegetative component of fungi) in a controlled environment for use as insulation, packaging and art works. In addition, she shared her own mycelium-based sculptural artworks and showcased a 3D printer that works with mycelium, which she developed on her own.











## Studio VII: Urban Design Parkscape Mini Hackathon

During the fall semester break, Ms. Sima Refae organized a three-day Parkscape Mini Hackathon (a neologism that combines the words "hack" and "marathon"), which offered her Studio VII: Urban Design students with the invaluable opportunity to engage in community outreach and make a meaningful social difference through design. Held at Hayy Jameel, a dedicated arts complex and creative hub in Jeddah, the hackathon was organized in collaboration with Takeen, a collaborative social enterprise that provides children access to leaders in architecture, science, and technology. It aims to produce a generation that thinks big, innovates, and reimagines new futures for themselves and their environments. Takween children have the opportunity to experiment with creative and technical tools in a variety of fields, including architecture and urbanism design.

Under Ms. Sima's supervision, Urban Design students Khuzama Alogail, Lial Azan, Layal Danish, Susan Eid, Sara Hakmi, Sarie Lababidi, Lubna Shukri, and Ghalia Tawakul collaborated with Al-Salamah district's youth to develop creative urban design solutions for the community. Additional assistance was provided by architecture student volunteers, including Zien Ammar, Sarah Ismail, Rafal Makki, Sedrah Mando, and Reem Zannoun. Five groups, made up of young participants, showcased their designs and ideas for the Al-Salamah neighborhood park to a panel of judges, who included esteemed architects Architect Nawaf Nassar, Chief Executive Officer of the prominent design firm 3N Jeddah as well as architects Ms. Rasha Farsi and Ms. Suman Faruqui, who lecture Dar Al-Hekma University. All participants were awarded certificates, but prizes were exclusively given to the top three entries. The judging criteria emphasized creativity, critical thinking, problem-solving, contextual reasoning.













## **Achievement Day**

On November 6, Dr. Mohammad Gomaa, Chair of the Architecture Department, organized a special Achievement Day to celebrate outstanding accomplishments of architecture students, who recently won the Jeddah Designathon and the Mujassam Watan Competition, the Sheikh Khalid Al Tuki Creativity Award and the Maida Mehyi Al-Deen Award. Students who participated in the Parkscape Mini Hackathon also received certificates. Dean Dr. Sahar Shabanah, Dean of the School of Engineering, Computing and Design, joined the celebration along with Dr. Nader Azab, Program Director, Dr. Djihed Berkouk, Zainab Aliriza, Ms. Sima Refae and Ms. Suman Faruqui.



## IV. FIELD TRIPS

A. DR. SHIFANA KAAFIL'S FIELD TRIPS

B. MS. SIMA REFAE'S FIELD TRIPS

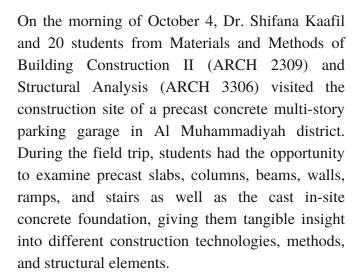


### On-Site Learning: A Field Trip to Visit Precast Concrete Building Construction Sites

The construction industry plays a vital role in the economic growth of a country. In Saudi Arabia, the construction sector accounts for 6 percent of the country's gross domestic product, which translates to approximately 255 billion SAR. As in much of the world, precast concrete is widely used in Saudi Arabia. Precast concrete is produced in a plant using reusable molds, resulting in standardized, mass-produced structural components, which are then transported to the site for assembly, speeding construction time.











### A Field Trip to the Saudi Red Bricks Co. Factory







Brick has been used to construct buildings in Saudi Arabia for thousands of years. Originally, brick was made by hand, a laborious and time-consuming method. However, by the 1950s, rapid urban growth led to the establishment of modern brick factories, which could mass produce large number of bricks to meet construction demands. On September, Dr. Shifana Kaafil and 13 students from Materials and Methods of Building Construction I (ARCH 2305) visited the Saudi Red Brick Co. factory, founded in 1956. During the field trip, students witnessed different stages of brick manufacture, which include mixing different types of clay (the raw materials of brick) and extruding the clay mixture into a continuous strip, which is then cut into desired shapes with wire, a process supported by computer technology. After being cut, the bricks are placed in drying shreds heated with hot compressed air. The dried brick is then burned in a kiln to remove the remaining moisture, helping to ensure its longevity and structural stability.

### Lessons from the Past and Present: A Field Trip to AlUla and Riyadh

In October, Sima Refae and the students of Studio VII: Urban Design embarked on a trip to AlUla and Riyadh. Il AlUla, they focused on neighborhood intervention strategies and public realm activation in the Alsukurat neighborhood. They met with the Royal Commission of AlUla's Public Realm team and visited an exhibition showcasing its future development plans and projects. The students also visited Daymoma, an art exhibition curated by the Royal Commission of AlUla's Art Department, which offered an immersive experience with nature. Additionally, they saw an activated park with an event, Anwar Alula, where they engaged with the local community. The students conducted interviews and distributed surveys to better understand the aspirations and challenges of the community.









After their time in AlUla, they traveled to Riyadh, where they attended the Cityscape Global Exhibition 2023, where they gained insights into urban projects and the future of living. While attending the exhibition, they visited the booths of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Saudi Arabia's Heritage Commission and the Royal Institute of Traditional Arts (TRITA).

Lastly, the group visited the Quality of Life Program at the Ministry of Culture to understand the program's workflow and the intersection between different stakeholders in the field of urban design, celebrating registered Saudi's crafts and historic sites. This visit allowed the students to observe and learn about Saudi Arabia's rich culture and unique identity.

Overall, the trip provided the students with diverse experiences, ranging from engaging with local communities to exploring urban projects to celebrating Saudi culture and understanding the importance of quality of life in urban design.





## Urban Students Visit Amana in Jeddah

On Thursday, September 28th, the urban design students, accompanied by Ms. Sima Refae, had the opportunity to visit the Amana site office for the development of the waterfront public realm in north Obhur. During the visit, the students presented their analysis of the AlAsalama neighborhood and raised questions regarding missing information that could aid them in their analysis and the creation of their vision and masterplan.

The Amana team, led by Arch. Yaser Ghazi Mufti, demonstrated a strong commitment to supporting the students. They shared additional information regarding the guidelines for the neighborhood, including details about façade treatment and the visual approach for future developments in Jeddah.

Arch. Yaser Ghazi Mufti and the Amana team expressed a keen interest in assisting the students by providing all necessary documents and offering their presence at the students' future jury sessions.



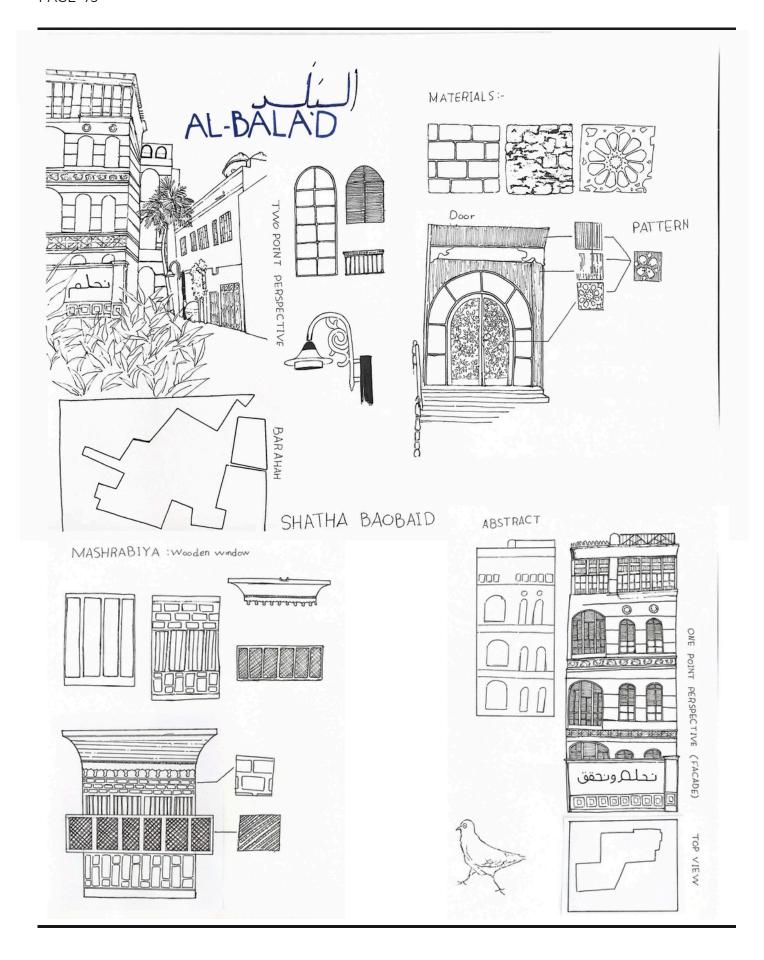
### **Al-Balad Trip**

On November 12, 2023, Ms. Sima Refae organized a field trip to the UNESCO World Heritage site of Al-Balad for the Freehand Drawing (FDSA 1304) course. Fifteen students had the unique opportunity to sketch the distinctive historic architecture of Jeddah, which serves as a testament to the Red Sea architectural tradition. The monumental buildings are renowned for their grand scale, construction using coral stones and ornate wooden rawashin.

At Barahat Nasif, students took visual notes of their surroundings, aiming to capture the essence of their environmental experience and the intricate details of the architecture and urban spaces in their sketchbooks. Through this exercise, students delved into the mindset of an architect, learning how to think critically, sketch effectively, and analyze like an architect.









A. LUBNA SHUKRI, A WEEK IN VERSAILLES: FRENCH SAUDI DESIGN SUMMER CAMP

B. Jana Alfase, Shaping the Future: The Role of Wind-FormedArchitecture

C. Tala Al-Silani, The Sound of Hope

## A Week in Versailles: French Saudi Design Summer Camp Lubna Shukri

I am excited to share my memorable journey as a participant in the first-ever French Saudi Design Summer Camp, which was organized by the Saudi Ministry of Culture in collaboration with CY Cergy Paris University from July 7 to 25. This extraordinary cross-cultural educational experience was held at the Queen's Stable opposite the famed Palace of Versailles. Throughout the week-long program, I discovered that design is not a solo practice merely about rushing to find a solution but a team endeavor that involves eliminating judgments and questioning beliefs to shift paradigms.

The program for the design project was inspired by the stunning Saudi desert landscape, with an emphasis on the allure of the oasis, prompting us to reimagine tomorrow's city as an urban oasis. We were divided into four teams, each with four students (two Saudi and two French students), only one of whom was an architecture student. I was the architecture student in my group. Two of my teammates were interior design and global design majors while the third was a double major in design and computer engineering. We spent the first two mornings questioning the paradigms of existing cities while linking it to the program's concept of an oasis. My teammates and I proposed creating city pockets in existing urban fields to serve as an oasis. Our inspiration drew from the contrast of an oasis amidst the desert. We developed this idea throughout the week to maximize its potential locations within the city and how it interacts with the community.

What truly made this experience remarkable was the spirit of collaboration. I had the pleasure of working alongside fellow students from diverse backgrounds and cultures. We quickly formed close-knit teams, sharing our visions, and learning from each other. This dynamic fostered an environment of curiosity and mutual interests, making the design process a heartfelt journey. During the week, we freely shared our insights, ideas, and unique design approaches while keeping the communities' needs at the forefront of each decision in the design process. The flow of knowledge empowered us to approach challenges with fresh perspectives, encouraging us to push the boundaries of traditional urban planning as we sought to include our diverse knowledge and experiences into the process. The summer camp became a melting pot of cultures and perspectives. As we delved into our shared passion for design, we discovered that our differences in culture and the media's distorted representations of us were not barriers to collaboration. Instead, they enriched our discussions and fueled our collective creativity.



As we reached the end of the program, I was impressed by how each of the four teams presented entirely unique and creative solutions. It was inspiring to witness the diverse approaches taken to address the same challenge. From designing a new city as a vertical garden to creating urban water features to serve as children's gathering spaces, each team's design concept was remarkable. With guidance from our mentors and the support of our peers, we questioned urban paradigms that had confined our imaginations. Liberated from these constraints, we envisioned cities that breathed with life, radiated harmony, and celebrated the essence of being human.

This unforgettable week has left an indelible mark on me. Armed with newfound knowledge, skills, and a fresh perspective, I am eager to incorporate the lessons learned into my ongoing design projects. The summer camp has given me a renewed sense of purpose, inspiring me to be an agent of change in the world of design. Reflecting on this incredible journey, I am immensely proud of my fellow participants for their passion, creativity, and the friendships we forged. The French Saudi Design Summer Camp has reaffirmed my belief that design is a powerful force that can reshape the world and bring people together, regardless of our differences.

### JANA ALFASE, SHAPING THE FUTURE: THE ROLE OF WIND-FORMED ARCHITETURE

Wind-formed architecture, also known as aerodynamic architecture, is an approach to design and construction that considers the natural forces of wind when shaping and optimizing buildings and structures. This revolutionary approach goes beyond aesthetics, aiming to create buildings that are not only visually captivating but also energy-efficient and environmentally friendly. By harnessing the power of wind, architects and designers can redefine the boundaries of sustainability and take the performance of buildings to new heights.

At the heart of wind-formed architecture lies the understanding of the dance between wind and structures. When considered, wind behaviours such as speed, direction, turbulence, and pressure allow architects to design while understanding the potential impacts on their building.

Imagine a building that breathes in harmony with the wind, guiding its occupants through a symphony of natural ventilation. By strategically orienting the building in relation to prevailing winds, architects unlock the secrets of harnessing wind to reduce the need for artificial cooling systems. Every breeze becomes an opportunity, a chance to create a harmonious indoor environment.

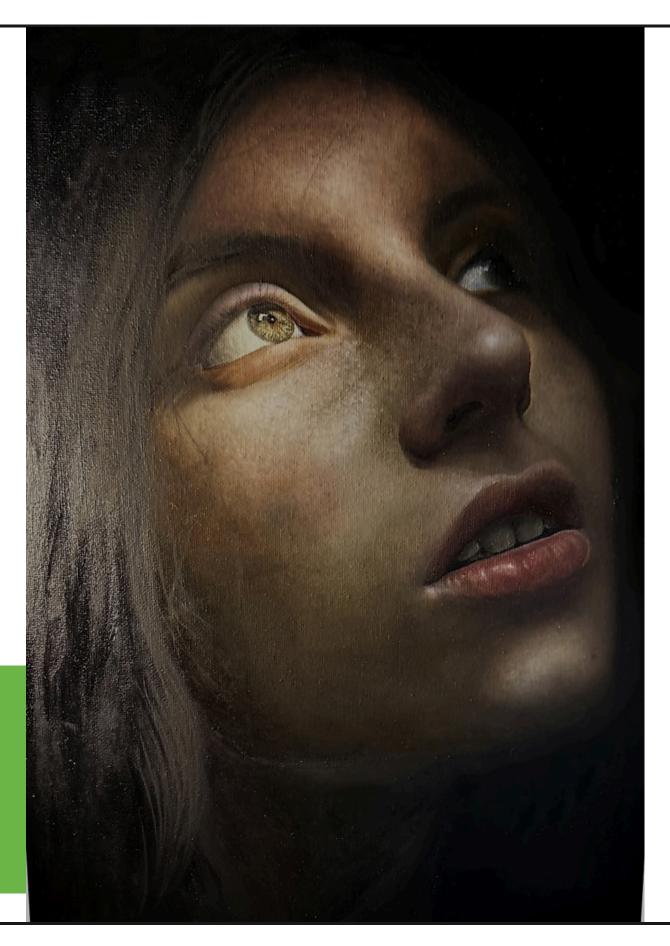
It doesn't stop there; the shape and form of structures can be meticulously crafted to defy the wind's resistance. With its sleek and aerodynamic shape, the Pearl River Tower, an architectural gem nestled in Guangzhou, China, stands tall as a testament to the limitless possibilities of wind-formed architecture. Integrated wind turbines gracefully adorn its crown, capturing the kinetic energy of the swirling air currents that envelop its surroundings. This ingenious innovation breathes life into renewable energy, reducing the building's carbon footprint and propelling us towards a greener future.

Wind-formed architecture embraces the very essence of wind as a partner in design. Iconic landmarks like the Bahrain World Trade Centre bear witness to this extraordinary union. The twintower complex which features three massive wind turbines integrated between the towers harnesses the strong winds of the Arabian Gulf to generate electricity, providing about 15% of the building's energy needs.

With every gust of wind in the direction of these buildings, we witness a transformative shift in the architectural landscape. Wind-formed architecture is an embodiment of sustainability, a testament to the power of integrating environmental considerations into the design process. By harmonizing with nature's elements, architects minimize reliance on mechanical systems, curbing energy consumption, and leaving a lighter footprint on our planet, while shaping a future where design and sustainability intertwine, and innovation reigns supreme.

# Tala Al-Silani *The Sound of Hope*

(Medium: oil)





### **NEWSLETTER CREDITS**

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