



SAH Data Project Report

Student Survey

Narrative Responses

SOCIETY OF
ARCHITECTURAL
HISTORIANS

Q19

Which of the following ways to learn about architectural history piqued your interest most before college? (select up to 2)

Family influence.

Race/Ethnicity: Declined to provide demographic data

Going on a 500-mile backpacking trip through Spain.

Race/Ethnicity: Asian, White

I had an engineering internship working on potable water off the grid and met architects working on tiny homes and I realized I enjoy design and construction.

Race/Ethnicity: Declined to provide demographic data

Minecraft.

Race/Ethnicity: Asian

My father studied architecture and is a designer. I am also South African and am as a result very interested in social justice and the built environment.

Race/Ethnicity: White

My father was an architect and introduced me a little to his world.

Race/Ethnicity: Declined to provide demographic data

My parents are both architects and our vacations were often road trips to Frank Lloyd Wright houses.

Race/Ethnicity: Declined to provide demographic data

Parent was a structural engineer.

Race/Ethnicity: White

Parents' involvement in construction industry.

Race/Ethnicity: White

Study abroad in high school.

Race/Ethnicity: White

Travel; spent a gap year in Europe and Southeast Asia.

Race/Ethnicity: White

Traveling to foreign countries.

Race/Ethnicity: White

Traveling abroad.

Race/Ethnicity: White

While working as an architect.

Race/Ethnicity: White

Working for a carpenter/painter summers in high school.

Race/Ethnicity: Declined to provide demographic data

Q21

Which of the following most impacted your decision to enroll in your first architectural history-focused college course? (select up to 2)

- ***Elective for art history major.***
Race/Ethnicity: White
- ***First-year seminar program.***
Race/Ethnicity: White
- ***General education curriculum class.***
Race/Ethnicity: Prefer not to answer
- ***I applied into a specific art/architectural history degree so it was always assumed I'd be taking architectural history-focused college courses.***
Race/Ethnicity: White
- ***My father studied architecture and is a designer. I am also South African and am as a result very interested in social justice and the built environment.***
Race/Ethnicity: White
- ***Interested in the professor.***
Race/Ethnicity: White
- ***Professional experiences.***
Race/Ethnicity: White

Q19

If desired, use this box to add other reasons for your decision to seek an architectural history-related degree.

Contribute to social justice.

Race/Ethnicity: Prefer not to answer

I am interested in how art works in space and communities.

Race/Ethnicity: White

I believe in architecture, I believe in history, I believe it is necessary to understand space, and I have fun doing it!

Race/Ethnicity: Declined to provide demographic data

I specialized in this during my undergraduate degree. If I'm being honest I might have done a history PhD in retrospect because I've learned my main interest is in intellectual and cultural history.

Race/Ethnicity: Declined to provide demographic data

I'm not pursuing a degree in architecture.

Race/Ethnicity: White

Increasing cross-cultural understanding through teaching art/architecture of the Middle East.

Race/Ethnicity: White

It is unlikely that I could receive a quality education regarding the history of architecture in my country.

Race/Ethnicity: Asian, Other races/ethnicities that are not listed here: East Asian

It was the one area that brought me more joy than any other, and I love teaching too, so getting a PhD seemed a good route to make that a career.

Race/Ethnicity: White

It's a way to study art history in some of its most effective and longest lasting forms.

Race/Ethnicity: Declined to provide demographic data

My interest and belief in its importance were equal in that decision.

Race/Ethnicity: White

Not seeking architectural history-related degree.

Race/Ethnicity: Asian

Opportunity to write about architecture. I love teaching. Visiting buildings and cities is an essential part of the work.

Race/Ethnicity: White

The survey let me pick only one answer per box, but I think that architecture is very important for society.

Race/Ethnicity: White

While I don't think so today, I think originally I thought an architectural history degree would "legitimize" my hopes of being an architectural critic and curator.

Race/Ethnicity: Declined to provide demographic data

Q24

Is there anything else you'd like the SAH Data Project to know about your professional passion/drive?

Architectural history is a tough profession. Writing, while all historians enjoy it, is a taxing process. Without professors that inspired confidence and passion in my work, I would not have succeeded in this field.

Race/Ethnicity: White

Architectural history is so great I just fell in love with it, it is so fulfilling to learn about.

Race/Ethnicity: White

As I have advanced in my training, I have discovered the pleasures of the archive and the thrill of sharing knowledge with colleagues in my program, at conferences, etc.

Race/Ethnicity: White

As I have said earlier, I am an aspiring aerospace engineer, but I have an interest in architecture. This survey is aimed toward architecture majors, but lots more people are interested that aren't majoring in it.

Race/Ethnicity: Asian, White

As long as people live, architecture will keep on.

Race/Ethnicity: Latinx/Hispanic

From a formative age I've been struck by the tragedy of losing venerable objects, buildings, and sites. Thus, it surprises me little that I ended up working as an architectural historian and historic preservation professional.

Race/Ethnicity: White

I am committed to the preservation and rehabilitation of architectural infrastructure as a means to combat primary, secondary, and tertiary levels of homelessness. I have experience in hand-drafting and computer-based architectural design. Using an interdisciplinary approach to solving problems, a dedication to moving both onward and upward, and a bold curiosity for the infinity of possibilities, I hope to participate in all levels of community development, emergency housing, and adaptive reuse.

Race/Ethnicity: Prefer not to answer

I am currently pursuing two master's degrees, one in architecture and the other in civil engineering with a concentration in construction management.

Race/Ethnicity: African American or Black

I am interested in the ideas of aesthetics embodied by material cultures, especially architecture.

Race/Ethnicity: Declined to provide demographic data

I am looking forward to utilizing architectural history, and the knowledge of failing practices and policies, to create innovative solutions for the future of the built environment.

Race/Ethnicity: African American or Black

I am most interested in the integration of historic preservation into city planning through local regulations and incentivizing rehabilitation and reuse of historic structures.

Race/Ethnicity: White

I am most interested in understanding how the protection of our cultural and historic resources can and should change in the face of climate change in a way that offers more holistic, equitable forms of protection and community empowerment.

Race/Ethnicity: Declined to provide demographic data

I am passionate to create beautiful architecture and take part in the evolution of the current architectural system because I think the beauty of architecture has hit a plateau, which causes under-appreciation and it is often disregarded.

Race/Ethnicity: Asian

I am pursuing a Master's of Science in Historic Preservation, focusing on architectural conservation, because I strongly believe that if a broader subset of society had access to information about traditional building technology, materials and types, they would be more self-sufficient, appreciative of the building trades, and become more engaged with their own histories in a meaningful, forward-looking way.

Race/Ethnicity: White

I find that it's challenging to explain my interest in preservation to people that I don't know. There are several misconceptions about what preservation is and can be, and I feel like I spend most of my time explaining to people what I don't do. Specifically, having to say something along the lines of "I'm not interested in saving pretty Frank Lloyd Wright buildings—I'm interested in saving places that matter to Black and Indigenous communities."

Race/Ethnicity: White

I first trained as an architect, not knowing that architectural history was a field of study one could actually pursue.

Race/Ethnicity: Asian, White

I get so excited over what I do and what I study that I find it hard to convey that enthusiasm with somebody who can barely comprehend the idea of a career in architectural history. For that reason I often find myself dumbing it down, and not acknowledging all that I do in order to make my work seem more accessible and less elite.

Race/Ethnicity: White

I had a BA in architecture then got interested in history of architecture.

Race/Ethnicity: Declined to provide demographic data

I have attended history-focused seminars that were supposed to deal with broader contexts that have shaped history. All the while, I have noticed that the seminars only focus on a half side of the globe (geographically speaking and culturally speaking, both positive and negative) even though they often openly announce that the aim is to understand the intertwined history of global interrelations. Also, even when I speak up to tell different perspectives and phenomena, there appears the silence and sort of indifference mainly because it is something they do not know and are not familiar with. From some points on, I began to be silent and passive as I know that my voice won't attract attention and affect anything.

Race/Ethnicity: Asian, Other races/ethnicities that are not listed here: East Asian

I like to do research on the history of stadium architecture and skyscrapers.

Race/Ethnicity: Latinx/Hispanic

I love history, I love being in incredible spaces, and I want to influence the world to be more aware of the impact architecture has on their lives.

Race/Ethnicity: Declined to provide demographic data

I may be a rare case, but architectural history is a side major. I'm studying dance and plan to continue in that field post-grad; architecture is just a way to diversify my degree.

Race/Ethnicity: Declined to provide demographic data

I study architectural history because it is the only art form/expression of culture that explores a kind of art that every human being experiences—architecture.

Race/Ethnicity: White

I want to learn about the ancient architectural methods, understand them, and try to use them in a modern ways in our current times.

Race/Ethnicity: Declined to provide demographic data

I was a practicing architect at several Pritzker Prize-winning offices before deciding to return to the academy and work on medieval architectural questions.

Race/Ethnicity: Prefer not to answer

I'd like to teach either in a department of architecture, art history, or history. I seek out research projects and opportunities that tend to be at the intersection of architecture history and other disciplines.

Race/Ethnicity: Declined to provide demographic data

I'm also interested in unionizing of grad students/faculty as well as architects.

Race/Ethnicity: White

I'm not in it for the money, that's obvious. After being shown how to view the world through the built environment, I knew this was something that I wanted to share with others.

Race/Ethnicity: Declined to provide demographic data

I'm trying to correct serious public ignorance about the buildings I write about.

Race/Ethnicity: White

It has been a slow process for me because I worked as an architect and was primary caregiver for my children.

Race/Ethnicity: White

My case is unique is that I received my BA and went to work immediately. I struggled to get a job in the field because I didn't have a graduate degree. It would have been helpful for that information to be relayed when I was a student so I could have made plans. Instead I had to work for ten years to get the right job and be in a position where I could afford to go back to school.

Race/Ethnicity: White

My experience with architectural history in the US was alienating and frustrating. The classes seemed actively disinterested and discriminatory toward architecture outside of the West, and was uncritical when it came to essentialist ideas about the non-Western such as Orientalism and Primitivism. I had little to no institutional support in asking the questions I wanted to ask and instead was made to have uncritical and pretentious conversations about cultish personalities and their mythologies of reflection, etc. In the end I turned to urban studies to make up for what I felt was so missing in the history classes, and felt much more supported to pursue my interests.

Race/Ethnicity: White

My main interest in architecture is being able to create a whole new look in designing residential homes that's different and unique from what we see today in your typical residential neighborhood.

Race/Ethnicity: African American or Black

My passion for architectural history grew from an interest in women's history/feminist history of the built environment.

Race/Ethnicity: White

My passion for architectural history strives to survive in a context where I'm an alien in the US (where this field is revered), but the country that I come from doesn't acknowledge its legitimacy.

Race/Ethnicity: Asian

My work and studies in architectural history are driven by a belief that our current moments are informed by our past as well as a fundamental understanding that we are shaped by the spaces we are situated in.

Race/Ethnicity: Latinx/Hispanic, White

N/A.

Race/Ethnicity: Latinx/Hispanic

No.

Race/Ethnicity: Asian

No.

Race/Ethnicity: Latinx/Hispanic, White

No.

Race/Ethnicity: White

No.

Race/Ethnicity: Latinx/Hispanic

No.

Race/Ethnicity: Asian

No.

Race/Ethnicity: Prefer not to answer

No.

Race/Ethnicity: Asian

No.

Race/Ethnicity: Latinx/Hispanic, White

No.

Race/Ethnicity: Asian

No, I think that is enough.

Race/Ethnicity: Declined to provide demographic data

No.

Race/Ethnicity: White

No.

Race/Ethnicity: Latinx/Hispanic

Not at the moment.

Race/Ethnicity: White

Understanding the history of architecture is key in understanding how to improve the built environment going forward. Learn from the past.

Race/Ethnicity: Latinx/Hispanic

Urgent need to include US Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, and the other territories in the project. History of American architecture is also present in the American colonies/territories.

Race/Ethnicity: Declined to provide demographic data

Q31

If desired, please use this comment box to list other social justice-themed courses you have taken and/or suggest meaningful ways the SAH Data Project could analyze the social justice-related data that we collect on this page.

"This class assumes a broad scope in both its definition of architecture and of evidence. This year's class will take as its topic the later nineteenth- and twentieth-century landscapes of urban and rural African American life [...]. To that end, "architecture" in this class is taken to be inclusive of both buildings and landscapes. And because the history of white supremacy [...] has resulted in the erasure or at least suppression of the Black presence in this community, evidence for this subject will necessarily be as all-encompassing as possible." "Empathetic Design" [Phrases or words from this response have been redacted due to privacy concerns.]

Race/Ethnicity: Declined to provide demographic data

(De-)Constructing Whiteness

Race/Ethnicity: White

A course focusing on labor history and workers' rights in relation to the built environment and the practice of architecture is essential.

Race/Ethnicity: White

[In my university] architectural history and theory is extremely focused on the West and is extremely elitist and classist. Social justice themes are looked down upon when students suggest classes or readings. Non-western topics are dismissed as being inferior areas of study, and there is no space for political engagement historically or in the present. [Phrases or words from this response have been redacted due to privacy concerns.]

Race/Ethnicity: Asian

Environmental justice research lab.

Race/Ethnicity: African American or Black

Finding connections to projects related to BLM or movements similar to BLM but in the past would be interesting.

Race/Ethnicity: White

How architecture can be used to combat anti-blackness, misogyny and misogynoir, xenophobia, transphobia, classism, and any other form of oppression against any group of people. Also analyzing how these things are present in the built environment. Proactively and rigorously analyzing if Euro-American ways of producing architecture are necessary or even still productive, looking at other ethnic groups for ways of designing.

Race/Ethnicity: African American or Black

I believe that the only way to effectively deal with social justice issues in the environment in undergrad and graduate courses is through interdisciplinary histories. Those that address architecture, landscape architecture, urban planning, environmental science, cultural and literary contexts. NAAB criteria and curriculums need to be rethought from the ground up and not taught in isolation. This means faculty appointments as well.

Race/Ethnicity: White

I did take a fantastic class about architecture and the environment in 2016.

Race/Ethnicity: White

I have participated in an architectural history course that partners with local organizations and communities to contribute research that is helpful to their work; i.e., research of history of historically Black neighborhoods and cemeteries in Charlottesville, or working with directors at Monticello to learn more about history of African-American men who gave tours in early 20th century.

Race/Ethnicity: White

I have taken a class on economics of public issues which I thought was very interesting. The class was done in the context of American society/history.

Race/Ethnicity: White

I think cultural landscape and vernacular study is inherently about social justice. They are motivated by an urge to uncover marginalized voices, and also to look at spaces/building practices beyond major capital flows. We need more of this.

Race/Ethnicity: White

I took a class called gentrification/urban change that gave an in-depth history of real estate and policymaking and how it shaped New York City.

Race/Ethnicity: White

I took an elective course called "Social Justice through Historic Preservation," but it was not exclusively about architectural history, rather social justice issues manifesting in the built environment.

Race/Ethnicity: White

I took an urbanism course that had a large amount of content focused on social justice regarding the development of cities and other urban forms.

Race/Ethnicity: Latinx/Hispanic, White

I wish I could take a course on how current architectural and preservation practices continue to uphold oppressive systems. Too often in architectural history courses, I think we historicize those things and miss out on more meaningful conversations.

Race/Ethnicity: White

I would like to see classes that explore the psychological effects of the built environment on the people living in those environments. Specifically, how architecture can be utilized to foster a sense of community and as a means to lift people out of poverty by providing them with spaces that actively encourage the elevation of their own dignity.

Race/Ethnicity: Prefer not to answer

It is important to understand how renters and owners can have diverging and uniting interests in historic preservation of neighborhoods.

Race/Ethnicity: Latinx/Hispanic

It would be interesting for a class to focus on the ways architecture has been used to oppress and control.

Race/Ethnicity: White

Just offer them, my institution and many almost exclusively offer courses that look at the canon with little to no interest in BIPOC voices or anything outside of Europe and the US.

Race/Ethnicity: White

Latinx politics. SAH could help bring architecture courses to areas with less funding.

Race/Ethnicity: Latinx/Hispanic

Moreover, most Asia-related history courses focus on Japanese architecture, as if Japan represents cultures and societies of other East Asia countries.

Race/Ethnicity: Asian, Other races/ethnicities that are not listed here: East Asian

Most courses in my program have social justice focuses. I will take race and space and Black environmental theory in the fall.

Race/Ethnicity: White

My study has been devoted to marginalized voices.

Race/Ethnicity: Declined to provide demographic data

Most courses at my university that have facilitated a point of entry into architectural history that engages with the politics of climate change, non-Eurocentric architecture, and from marginalized voices have come from OUTSIDE of the architecture department. (i.e., in the History/Anthropology departments).

Race/Ethnicity: Asian

Our history course during study abroad in Spain dealt some with social justice. I think that had more to do with Spanish educational culture than a deliberate curriculum.

Race/Ethnicity: Latinx/Hispanic

Placemaking; effects of cultural tourism and mitigating its impacts.

Race/Ethnicity: White

Political science.

Race/Ethnicity: Latinx/Hispanic

Provide a bibliography of work addressing the above topics to students. Too often, architectural history can seem like a field obsessed with itself and woefully ignorant of the realities faced in the world.

Race/Ethnicity: White

This is not applicable to the questions on this page, but I suggest consulting with Professor Nnamdi Elleh and other deans of architecture schools in the global south. You ought to be involving knowledgeable people from the global south in this process.

Race/Ethnicity: White

Took an interesting class on the socio-political dynamics of urban public space; explored protests movements, temporary occupation, and encampment. Primarily a seminar with an emphasis on representation. Conducted by a visiting professor and I do not see any other classes that addresses social justice. For almost every other architectural class that addresses history during and before modernism, they rarely mention the controversy of those buildings or the site they are in. The content of the class remains stubbornly about the structure or the form of the buildings, but not the colonial/political/socio-economic context the buildings are situated in. These classes are mostly taught by white instructors with a Eurocentric understanding of global history in architecture. They are often ill-equipped when students ask more about the historical/social context of the buildings they are talking about. For the few non-white architectural history instructors, their voice and presence are often marginalized in the school.

Race/Ethnicity: Asian

Urban planning coursework is my second concurrent master's degree.

Race/Ethnicity: White

We have not had any social justice-related classes available to take in our program, so it might be helpful to have an option that says "No, but I would take them if they were available" as a way to separate those who aren't taking those classes for any other reason (scheduling, requirements, etc.).

Race/Ethnicity: White

Q34

Is there anything else of a general nature you'd like the SAH Data Project to know about your architectural history coursework?

Architectural history course offerings were the primary determinant in my decision of graduate program.

Race/Ethnicity: White

The architectural history curriculum should really include more women and minorities. It should be part of the general classes and not just reserved for special topics classes.

Race/Ethnicity: White

Courses do (thankfully) seem to be moving away from solely focusing on Eurocentric traditions.

Race/Ethnicity: White

Eurocentrism in architectural history coursework is triggering to learn for students who come from countries with colonized pasts.

Race/Ethnicity: Asian

Even though I am enrolled in an Art History program, my professors allow opportunities of individual research within my courses and encourage the study of architectural history.

Race/Ethnicity: White

Fundamentally, I felt many classes were not helping me learn about how to understand buildings. A focus on typology made many classes simply about memorizing. Architectural history is more than that and I hope more educators learn to adjust their pedagogical methods.

Race/Ethnicity: White

I believe I received a stellar architectural history education in Turkey but was disillusioned by the survey courses we taught in the US.

Race/Ethnicity: Other races/ethnicities that are not listed here

I completed my associate degree at a community college, which meant that I had to independently pursue any and all architectural history information I wanted to learn. Luckily the public library, historical society, and online courses allowed me to do so to a great extent. Personally, I feel that this independent mode of study has allowed me to fully utilize any and all resources available to me, teaching me discipline in research and encouraging me to network professionally.

Race/Ethnicity: Prefer not to answer

I firmly wish there were more courses in architectural history that address topics of current concern. I understand the need for a common canon, but disagree with rote memorization of buildings and dates. Architectural history should address critical thought and analysis of the human experience in order to engage students in seeing the world critically. I could care less about when the Duomo was built and by whom. What I do care about is why that building mattered in the scheme of the human experience? Also, there is a need for more study of vernacular architecture and landscape.

Race/Ethnicity: White

I heard from a very acute friend that it is fascinating that the architecture of East Asia seems to have been very homogeneous without such changes that happened in the so-called West—this was kind of insulting. Also, in a seminar that was called the foundation of architectural history, the very well-known professor only discussed European contexts and only talked with those who have something to do with those areas. Others who are from East Asian countries could not help but be silent.

Race/Ethnicity: Asian, Other races/ethnicities that are not listed here: East Asian

I think in a class where we analyze a structure in its historical context class discussion is extremely important and beneficial.

Race/Ethnicity: White

I took part of my coursework while being trained as an architect. While being trained as an architectural historian, I shared most courses with students being trained as architects. Only a few courses were exclusive to my specialized program—mainly methods courses.

Race/Ethnicity: White

In my master's-level intro courses, the information presented was mostly rote name and date information, and didn't get into the why or how of architectural history, which I could see being much more useful than memorizing styles and dates.

Race/Ethnicity: White

Learning to identify errors of research, reasoning, and conclusions in research and writing published by others.

Race/Ethnicity: White

Looking back I realize how incredibly limited my knowledge of certain topics is: Asian and Middle Eastern architecture, Central and South American, African, etc. There are serious flat areas in my knowledge.

Race/Ethnicity: White

Most of my coursework has been from a Western perspective. Although I am finished with my course requirements in my program, I would have liked the opportunity to take courses on global topics, issues of race and gender in architecture, sustainability, etc.

Race/Ethnicity: White

My architectural history course, in a graduate program at an Ivy League institution taken in 2019, was taught entirely from a Eurocentric, wealthy, privileged, and status-driven perspective. The seeming only things that my instructor valued were if we could name the person who commissioned it or designed it, naturally a man, where it was located (almost exclusively in New England or the Mid-Atlantic) and what identifiable European style it was or referenced. I was deeply disappointed in this course and disgusted that this perspective is being taught as fact. I'm ashamed to have been forcibly inculcated with these values.

Race/Ethnicity: White

My architectural history coursework was at a European university so its Eurocentrism felt a bit more appropriate than I think it would have at a comparable American institution.

Race/Ethnicity: White

My coursework is very cross disciplinary. Our program encourages students to take courses outside of the department. Most of our courses are seminars rather than surveys.

Race/Ethnicity: White

My coursework included deep dives of specific works of architecture that assisted me in learning key terms and rules of design that grew my architectural knowledge base.

Race/Ethnicity: White

My undergrad BArch curriculum included three years of history/theory seminars connected with history/theory design studios. This was the foundation of my interest in architecture and landscape history.

Race/Ethnicity: White

No.

Race/Ethnicity: White

No.

Race/Ethnicity: White

No.

Race/Ethnicity: Latinx/Hispanic

No.

Race/Ethnicity: Asian

No.

Race/Ethnicity: Asian

No.

Race/Ethnicity: Latinx/Hispanic, White

No.

Race/Ethnicity: White

There is so much to incorporate into architectural historical study that relates to social justice, labor, race, environment, gender, geopolitics—somehow this was all made secondary and deemed undesirable/unsexy next to Euro-centric formalism.

Race/Ethnicity: White

What is architectural history? Jürgen Osterhammel writes that the history of cities is inseparable from the history of society, more generally. The same could be said about architectural history.

Race/Ethnicity: White

Q44

Which of the following have been most helpful to your ability to engage in architectural history-related research and writing? (select up to 2)

- ***I don't have these opportunities.***
Race/Ethnicity: White
- ***My obligation to study architectural history in order to get ideas and awareness for my practical designs.***
Race/Ethnicity: Asian
- ***None.***
Race/Ethnicity: Declined to provide demographic data
- ***Not currently in academia.***
Race/Ethnicity: Declined to provide demographic data
- ***Not pursuing that topic of study.***
Race/Ethnicity: Prefer not to answer
- ***Online opportunities.***
Race/Ethnicity: Prefer not to answer
- ***Part of the course.***
Race/Ethnicity: Declined to provide demographic data
- ***Required class.***
Race/Ethnicity: African American or Black

Q45

What are the major barriers to your ability to engage in architectural history-related research and writing? (select up to 2)

- **Age.**
Race/Ethnicity: White
- **Amount of electives available/time.**
Race/Ethnicity: White
- **Architecture is just a hobby for me and I like to learn about it.**
Race/Ethnicity: Asian, White
- **Course requirement focus on developing skill sets and credits for practicing in a firm.**
Race/Ethnicity: Asian
- **Coursework has been the primary focus of my research activities, rarely related to my interests.**
Race/Ethnicity: White
- **Covid has made access to museums much harder, but previously I had fantastic access to archives.**
Race/Ethnicity: White
- **I have to have a full-time job to earn a living.**
Race/Ethnicity: Latinx/Hispanic
- **Lack of funding structures in department/lack of endowments, low stipends.**
Race/Ethnicity: Declined to provide demographic data
- **None.**
Race/Ethnicity: Declined to provide demographic data
- **Not in academia anymore.**
Race/Ethnicity: Declined to provide demographic data
- **Not pursuing that topic of study.**
Race/Ethnicity: Prefer not to answer
- **Sexual harassment by faculty.**
Race/Ethnicity: Asian

Q47

Is there anything else of a general nature you'd like the SAH Data Project to know about your architectural history-related research, writing, and publishing?

I have nothing published—I am but a humble undergrad.

Race/Ethnicity: White

One manuscript in review.

Race/Ethnicity: Declined to provide demographic data

Five to six ongoing major projects, but that work is being slowed or prevented by time spent writing a dissertation.

Race/Ethnicity: White

After graduating college, much of my professional work has been conducted for a private CRM firm.

Race/Ethnicity: White

Completed graduate thesis, then worked professionally in architectural history for 1.5 years, and I am now back in construction. I devote hobby and volunteer time to historic preservation research and writing on social media and for a local preservation society.

Race/Ethnicity: Declined to provide demographic data

I do not think there is enough or adequate incentive to publish in our field. Publishing (especially for early career academics like me) is mostly made into a unicorn: if you have it, good for you; if you don't, stakes are impossibly high.

Race/Ethnicity: Other races/ethnicities that are not listed here

I feel like the snobbery against social media and mass consumption books in the academy is a major issue. Social media posts have gotten me into more private archives and privately-owned structures than any professor, and for that reason I think that it's very important. Far more than my advisor in fact.

Race/Ethnicity: White

I'm good.

Race/Ethnicity: Asian

It has been difficult for me to present my interdisciplinary work as valuable for teaching and publication.

Race/Ethnicity: White

Most of my architectural history-related research has been in partnership with the National Park Service. I have not found any opportunities in school to work with state or local preservation entities.

Race/Ethnicity: White

My master's program is very concretely prescribed so independent research isn't possible except for a 1–3 credit thesis. I wish it was a larger part of the curriculum.

Race/Ethnicity: White

No.

Race/Ethnicity: White

No.

Race/Ethnicity: White

No.

Race/Ethnicity: Latinx/Hispanic

No.

Race/Ethnicity: Asian

No.

Race/Ethnicity: Latinx/Hispanic

Seeking more support for emerging BIPOC architectural historians in their endeavors to undertake research, writing, and publishing.

Race/Ethnicity: Asian

The majority of my digital humanities projects were undertaken as an undergraduate student. I have a continued interest in the field, but have only completed one such project as a graduate student.

Race/Ethnicity: Latinx/White

The most significant output that I completed is related to research and writing National Register nominations and producing episodes for a historical podcast.

Race/Ethnicity: White

Q61

Is there anything else of a general nature you'd like the SAH Data Project to know about your finances related to your architectural history studies?

Architectural history is an elitist field overrun by individuals who can pursue their interest due to the financial security provided by parents/families with wealth and/or advanced degrees.

Race/Ethnicity: White

As a student in architecture and urban planning programs, it has always been a challenge to learn about funding opportunities for architectural history studies.

Race/Ethnicity: White

I am SCARED that there will not be enough full-time appointments this year for the pool of PhD graduates (competition is already fierce). Adjunct appointments are not a living wage or support research. I am already looking at other kinds of jobs.

Race/Ethnicity: White

I believe architectural history fellowship packages must be at least for five years, and the latter two should not be contingent upon teaching to allow research and writing.

Race/Ethnicity: Other races/ethnicities that are not listed here

I do not receive dedicated research funds from my university, so I shape my research by which external grants and fellowships I can successfully apply for.

Race/Ethnicity: Asian, White

I receive financial aid.

Race/Ethnicity: Latinx/Hispanic

If I had not received the scholarship I hold, I would not have been able to pursue my PhD in the US. The struggle for funding and the lack of support from the school severely impairs the exchange within the cohort.

Race/Ethnicity: White

It's hard. I'm paying for my master's out of pocket and it's a huge financial burden.

Race/Ethnicity: White

Like many students, I am concerned about being able to recoup the costs of my education given that salaries for architectural historians are not the best.

Race/Ethnicity: White

Limited funding available owing to international student status and biased distribution of travel grants and other additional funding opportunities.

Race/Ethnicity: Asian

My university offers \$200/year for childcare. This amount is ridiculous.

Race/Ethnicity: Prefer not to answer

No.

Race/Ethnicity: White

No.

Race/Ethnicity: White

No.

Race/Ethnicity: Latinx/Hispanic

No.

Race/Ethnicity: Asian

No.

Race/Ethnicity: Asian

No guaranteed summer funding! If I had known I would have such a hard time getting the funding, I would not have pursued a PhD.

Race/Ethnicity: White

Nope!

Race/Ethnicity: White

The costs of certain archives to use images in non-academic work is prohibitively expensive, and when that sort of article has to be abandoned because the costs are too high, it's unfortunate. Those are the articles that help get you some recognition in the real world, not academia.

Race/Ethnicity: White

There are no 6th year or finishing fellowships available at my school.

Race/Ethnicity: Asian

There is extremely limited funding for master's students who are working on history projects available at my institution, making it difficult to pursue research that would allow me to write papers for PhD applications.

Race/Ethnicity: White

There is little to no funding available for language development. Languages are critical to students and researchers working on non-American architecture.

Race/Ethnicity: Latinx/Hispanic, White

While my university offers teaching assistantships, the funding is disproportional to the cost of living in our city and state. There is little affordable housing in the city, and often grad students have to have several "side hustles" to make ends meet, including readerships (grading) for multiple classes if possible, work-study, working multiple summer teaching jobs to save up during the academic year, and part-time jobs. While the university offers some good research funding and conference travel, the first several years are financially extremely difficult, especially if a student is single and does not have a partner to help them make ends meet.

Race/Ethnicity: White

While there are employment opportunities at my school, these are not sufficient to support even half of the doctoral students. In addition, childcare benefits are nowhere near sufficient.

Race/Ethnicity: White

Worked for [a government organization] for 30 years, retired with a good retirement income. [Phrases or words from this response have been redacted due to privacy concerns.]

Race/Ethnicity: White

Q70

Is there anything else of a general nature you'd like the SAH Data Project to know about your jobs/careers situation?

Although professional development has been a recent topic of discussion in my program, efforts have been sporadic and unsatisfactory.

Race/Ethnicity: White

I think the two-answer limit to the question about "what would benefit the most" in regard to my program's support was unfair. I selected "publishing" and "job search" but it would be less than ideal to receive support on these without "diversity/multinationalism" becoming a major component—and they mostly do not.

Race/Ethnicity: Other races/ethnicities that are not listed here

I wish my advisor and faculty were more aware of the current climate. They seem to act like the jobs keep popping up and, in fact, reality shows they are drying up.

Race/Ethnicity: White

I've been a [preservation] intern twice. The connections/opportunities I've found through that program have been far more meaningful than any I've found through school. [Phrases or words from this response have been redacted due to privacy concerns.]

Race/Ethnicity: White

No.

Race/Ethnicity: White

No.

Race/Ethnicity: White

No.

Race/Ethnicity: Latinx/Hispanic

No.

Race/Ethnicity: Asian

No.

Race/Ethnicity: Latinx/Hispanic

No.

Race/Ethnicity: White

No.

Race/Ethnicity: Asian

Nope!

Race/Ethnicity: White

There is an oversupply of PhDs for a such a small field, though its smallness has allowed a kind of delay in recognizing this. Unclear what the medium- to long-term implications will be.

Race/Ethnicity: White

There seem to be no financially accessible jobs exclusive to emerging architectural historians.

Race/Ethnicity: Asian

We need help with drafting applications, grant proposals, and interview prep.

Race/Ethnicity: Asian

Q78

Is there anything else of a general nature you'd like the SAH Data Project to know about your your pace of progress?

Another faculty member (not advisor) sexually harassed me and pressured me to make them the head of my committee. It was very traumatic and difficult to create distance between myself and them and make sure they could not sabotage my career. Professors have way too much power over students and predatory male professors can especially be a detriment to their students' ability to graduate. This person is still a very powerful and influential member of the field and I am forced to play nice for fear of retribution. The power dynamics in these programs are simply awful and dangerous. And other faculty members are not willing to support students against their colleagues, which makes students extremely vulnerable to predatory behavior.

Race/Ethnicity: Asian

I am still attending community college and am currently not sure about career paths for architectural history. I like the class and am interested in incorporating it into my future career but am not sure how.

Race/Ethnicity: White

I have made very slow progress to degree, and I think lack of support for writing and conceiving of what a dissertation is and entails has contributed to my slow progress.

Race/Ethnicity: Asian, White

I just want to say that, just because my mentor provides me guidance above and beyond basic advising does not mean that they also make my life more accommodating/manageable.

Race/Ethnicity: Other races/ethnicities that are not listed here

No.

Race/Ethnicity: White

Never leave the important stuff for last.

Race/Ethnicity: White

No.

Race/Ethnicity: White

No.

Race/Ethnicity: Latinx/Hispanic

No.

Race/Ethnicity: Asian

No.

Race/Ethnicity: Latinx/Hispanic

No.

Race/Ethnicity: White

Nope.

Race/Ethnicity: White

That Covid has severely impacted my progress, and the university doesn't seem to care. With libraries being closed since March, it's really hard to still make good progress.

Race/Ethnicity: White

Took a year off for mental health/financial reasons without which I probably would have dropped out of my program.

Race/Ethnicity: White

Unfortunately, the pandemic has removed access to the buildings I need to complete my research, and the faculty support in our program is limited, so while I had made good progress before the pandemic, since then I have struggled.

Race/Ethnicity: White

Q94

Is there anything else of a general nature you'd like the SAH Data Project to know about you or your background?

After graduating high school, I became homeless. During this time period, I began to notice the prevalence of abandoned buildings and structures in my neighborhood. After staying in homeless shelters, I began to reflect on the impact of the built environment on the individual. I have come to recognize that by reusing the infrastructure that America already has, we can create quality living spaces that will lift people out of homelessness through a sense of belonging and community.

Race/Ethnicity: Prefer not to answer

From Muslim-majority country currently undergoing war.

Race/Ethnicity: Prefer not to answer

It is a common misconception that students coming to the university I studied at from the same country as myself come from a very privileged economic background. Although that is certainly true of a lot of students from this demographic, those of us who haven't been that privileged financially are constantly judged and marginalized alongside our people of color and international student identities.

Race/Ethnicity: Asian

No.

Race/Ethnicity: White

No.

Race/Ethnicity: White

No.

Race/Ethnicity: Latinx/Hispanic

Not at the moment.

Race/Ethnicity: White

Still in community college.

Race/Ethnicity: White

The fact that I'm not white has been a major challenge in my architectural history program. Senior professors in my department can't recognize me or differentiate me from other brown students. They don't take my research seriously because I study a non-Western field of study and did not complete my undergraduate work at an Ivy League institution due to financial considerations. Most of my professors are racist, though most of them would not think that they are. It's a marvel that I am able to finish my program.

Race/Ethnicity: Asian

There is a moral obligation of Architecture PhD programs to articulate just how competitive the field is and how few jobs prospects there are. This is especially imperative for students who do not have affluent backgrounds/family members with a graduate education. Professorships can no longer be the "be-all end-all" in this world—there simply are not enough to go around. The stress of limited, fluctuating finances as a graduate student, on top of the proactive work regime of researching, publishing, fellowship-applying, and soon job and post-doc applying has been absolutely debilitating. Only a couple of years ago I could not fathom why someone would leave academia after receiving a PhD—I do now, and contemplate leaving this world myself.

Race/Ethnicity: White