

Departmental distinctiveness for preparing the performance of the department in one area distinctive to its priority and thrust

GZS School of Architecture and planning, department of MRSPTU, Bathinda, embraces an inimitable educational approach that balances academic excellence with ethical values, social responsibility, and a strong focus on employability and innovation. The department offers a comprehensive education that prepares students for fulfilling and influential professions.

1) Emphasis on Architectural Practical Learning :

a) Site Visits

- Provide students with real-world exposure to architectural styles, construction techniques, and contextual design.
- Enhance understanding of spatial organization, material application, and site constraints.
- Foster critical observation skills by studying live examples of heritage, modern, and experimental architecture.

b) Architectural Expert Lectures

- Bring industry insights to the classroom by connecting students with experienced professionals.
- Encourage dialogue on emerging trends, sustainable practices, and practical challenges in the field.
- Expand understanding of diverse perspectives, design philosophies, and problem-solving approaches.

c) Hands-On Workshops

- Engage students in material experiments, model-making and traditional craft techniques to strengthen practical skills.
- Foster creativity and innovation through direct interaction with tools, materials, and construction methods.
- Reinforce theoretical concepts through immersive, experiential learning.

d) Architectural Thesis Project

- Enable students to apply their cumulative knowledge to a real-world design problem or research question.
- Encourage original, context-sensitive design thinking and independent exploration.
- Build a strong portfolio piece that demonstrates technical, creative, and analytical competencies

2) Participative Learning in Architecture

a) Group Discussions

- Foster collaborative learning by encouraging students to exchange ideas, debate design philosophies, and solve architectural problems collectively.
- Promote critical thinking and active participation, allowing students to learn from diverse perspectives.
- Strengthen communication and teamwork skills essential for architectural practice.

b) Case Studies

- Provide opportunities for in-depth analysis of iconic architectural works, urban planning projects, or heritage sites.
- Enable students to understand design solutions, construction challenges, and contextual responses in real-world scenarios.
- Develop research, analytical, and presentation skills through structured exploration.

c) Seminars by Students

- Encourage independent research and knowledge sharing by assigning topics for student-led presentations.
- Enhance confidence, public speaking, and the ability to convey architectural concepts effectively.
- Build a participatory learning environment where students critically evaluate peers' work, fostering constructive feedback and collective growth.

3) Thrust Areas

GZS School of Architecture and Planning focuses on diverse research and academic initiatives in architecture and design. Key thrust areas include:

- Documentation of Architectural Heritage:** This area emphasizes the systematic study and preservation of architectural heritage, with a focus on historical structures, monuments, and cultural landscapes. Through detailed documentation, the school seeks to safeguard architectural traditions, foster cultural appreciation, and contribute to their conservation for future generations.
- Sikh Architecture:** Sikh architecture, a unique blend of Mughal, Rajput, and indigenous styles, reflects the ethos of Sikhism. The school prioritizes research on gurdwaras, forts, and other religious and secular structures associated with Sikh history to understand their spatial, cultural, and symbolic significance.
- Architectural Style of Bhai Ram Singh:** Bhai Ram Singh, a prominent architect of the colonial era, is celebrated for his contributions to Indo-Saracenic architecture. The school explores his works to highlight the fusion of traditional Indian styles with European influences, as seen in iconic buildings such as the Khalsa College, Amritsar.
- Energy-Efficient Building Design:** Addressing the challenges of climate change, the school promotes the design of energy-efficient buildings. This thrust area focuses on passive design strategies, sustainable materials, and renewable energy integration to minimize environmental impact while enhancing occupant comfort and functionality.

These focus areas reflect the institution's commitment to combining traditional values with modern innovations in architectural education and research.
