

ERIC PETERSON, Ph.D.

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

ericpet@hawaii.edu
peterson-eric.com



University of Hawai'i at Mānoa
School of Architecture
1(808)780-2221



BIO

Eric Peterson has taught architecture and design for over 20 years. He is particularly interested in experiential learning for alternative educational spaces including fabrication labs, construction sites, immersive learning environments, and study abroad programs. Over his academic career he has developed and taught a range of design studios in undergraduate and graduate programs from introductory to capstone level.

Dr. Peterson's academic background includes a Ph.D. in Architecture & Design from the University of Genoa, a Master of Architecture from the University of Florida, and a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology & Anthropology from Middlebury College. This diversity of learning experiences has shaped his interdisciplinary approach to teaching. At the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, he is currently working to develop a series of building technology courses and coordinating the second-year design studio sequence.

With a lifetime of experience as a carpenter, builder, welder, and mechanic, Dr. Peterson is an expert fabricator. As both a manager and an associate director of robotics and fabrication labs at Florida International University he has designed a variety of courses and workshops on furniture design, fabrication, prototyping, 3D modeling, CNC programming, and robotics. Through his ongoing affiliation with these labs, he has participated in grant-funded research and fabrication projects supported by the National Science Foundation, the U.S. Department of Energy, and the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. His research in both robotic additive manufacturing and immersive VR and AR learning environments has been presented at academic conferences and published in peer reviewed journals. His recent publications include papers on designing and testing curriculum for robotics training in immersive learning environments and novel applications for large-scale additive manufacturing.

Study abroad is one of Dr. Peterson's areas of specialization. He has developed and taught a variety of international study programs focused on art, design, and architecture, leading over 250 students on academic programs in Europe. For several years he served as a program director in residence in Genoa, Italy where he taught graduate courses in case study analysis and architectural design and led travel study trips to visit architectural projects in Southern Europe.

In 2016, Dr. Peterson co-founded the FIU+Bauhaus Workshop, a study abroad program that has taken interdisciplinary groups of students to study at the historic Bauhaus campus in Dessau. He received a travel grant from the German government to support this academic program. Design work from his study abroad programs has been published and exhibited. He is currently investigating new opportunities to bring University of Hawai'i students to study in Europe and Asia.