



JSDA ELECTIVE COURSE BLURB

SEMESTER & YEAR	FALL 2026	ELECTIVE TYPE (DEPARTMENTAL / CROSS ELECTIVE) *	Departmental
COURSE CODE	ARCH-URBD-COMD-6009	ELECTIVE MODE (SEMINAR / STUDIO / WORKSHOP)	Studio
NO. OF CREDITS	3	PREREQUISITE COURSE(S) (IF ANY)	Course(s) name here
COURSE NAME	Wayfinding: Systems, Space, and User Experience		
AFFILIATED PROGRAM(S) (select as applicable)	Architecture / Interiors / IxD		

* Departmental Electives are only open to JSAA students and Cross Electives are open to all JGU students.

Faculty Bio

Khushboo Khanna is an Architect and Assistant Professor at the Jindal School of Art and Architecture (JSAA), with teaching experience since 2021 and a strong academic and professional background in architecture and urban design. She holds a Master's degree in Urban Recreation Architecture from Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi. Her academic and professional work spans architectural practice, urban research, and design pedagogy.

Her teaching engages core studios and laboratories with an emphasis on critical inquiry, spatial analysis, representation, and design as a mode of investigation. Her research interests lie at the intersection of design, accessibility, spatial equity, and user experience, with particular attention to wayfinding systems, inclusive environments, and the relationship between movement and spatial legibility.

This course draws from these interests, positioning wayfinding as an interdisciplinary field linking architecture, communication, and interface design. Through a studio-based and research-led approach, the course encourages students to investigate how thoughtful wayfinding systems can shape more intuitive, inclusive, and meaningful experiences of the built environment.

Course Descriptor

Wayfinding: Systems, Space, and User Experience examines the critical role of wayfinding in shaping how people navigate, experience, and engage with the built environment. The course explores how spatial organization, signage systems, environmental cues, and digital interfaces support orientation, movement, accessibility, and the overall legibility of public spaces.

Students are introduced to the principles, methods, and design strategies of wayfinding through observational mapping, precedent studies, and design-led inquiry. The course approaches wayfinding not only as signage design, but as a broader spatial and communicative system shaped by user behavior, perception, information hierarchy, and environmental experience.

Working through the university campus as a live site, students will analyze existing navigation systems, map circulation and decision points, and develop preliminary wayfinding interventions that integrate signage, accessibility considerations, and interface thinking. The course culminates in a design project translating theoretical understanding into practical proposals that respond to issues of clarity, usability, and inclusivity within the built environment.

Key Learning Outcomes (Based on Blooms / Solo Taxonomy)

Upon completion of this course, the students will be able to:	
LO1	Identify and analyze key components of wayfinding systems in built environments.
LO2	Document and represent navigation challenges through observational mapping techniques.
LO3	Apply principles of signage, accessibility, and user experience in developing wayfinding proposals.
LO4	Develop and communicate a preliminary wayfinding intervention for a selected site.

Assessment & Evaluation System

Assessment in this course is structured as a combination of studio exercises, mapping-based assignments, case study analysis, and design interventions, aligned with the iterative and exploratory nature of the course. Evaluation emphasizes process as much as outcome, rewarding observation, analytical rigor, representational clarity, and the development of user-centered wayfinding proposals.

Students will engage in in-class exercises, site-based audits, mapping studies, and design assignments, culminating in a preliminary wayfinding intervention for a selected building or spatial system on campus. Continuous assessment will be based on participation in studio discussions and workshops, analytical mapping outputs, signage and interface explorations, and final project presentations. The evaluation system supports both critical inquiry and design application, while aligning with the course learning outcomes.

Assessment Component	Weightage	Description	Mapped Learning Outcome(s)
Case Study Analysis / Wayfinding Audit	10%	Students will document and analyze an existing building or campus environment through observation, movement mapping, signage audit, and identification of navigation challenges.	LO1, LO2
Mapping Exercise: Navigation & Spatial Representation	10%	Students will produce layered analytical maps representing user movement, decision points, landmarks, and existing wayfinding systems.	LO2
Signage & Wayfinding Systems Design Exercise	10%	Development of preliminary signage strategies, information hierarchy, symbol systems, and accessibility-led interventions for a selected site.	LO3
Digital Interface / Wayfinding Proposal Presentation	10%	Visual communication and presentation of spatial maps and preliminary interface concepts for accessing wayfinding information.	LO3, LO4
Comprehensive Final Wayfinding Project	10%	Integrated design project synthesizing analysis, mapping, and intervention into a preliminary wayfinding proposal for a campus building/site.	LO1, LO2, LO3,LO4

References/Citations (if any)

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