Ph.D. Position in Generative Design and Urban Energy Resilience at Texas A&M

Department of Architecture, Texas A&M University

Advisor: Dr. Xinwei Zhuang, Assistant Professor

Start: Spring or Fall 2026 (rolling review until filled).

Dr. Zhuang is seeking 1-2 motivated Ph.D. students to advance research on resilient built environments through an interdisciplinary lens that integrates architectural and urban design with distributed energy systems. This fully funded position will focus on data-driven design methods (including machine learning algorithms and optimization models), urban building energy modeling, and energy-sharing networks to support neighborhood resilience.

Candidate profile

- Master's degree in Architecture, Computer Science, Civil Engineering, or a related field (exception may be made for bachelor's degree holders with demonstrated research experience)
- Experience or strong interest in computational design, AI/ML, optimization, energy modeling, or urban systems
- Proficiency in programming (Python required; C++ a plus)
- Strong technical writing and communication skills

Preferred Qualifications

- Experience with machine learning frameworks (e.g., PyTorch; large language models, geometry- or graph-based ML)
- Familiarity with building energy simulation tools (e.g., EnergyPlus, OpenStudio, DesignBuilder)
- Proficiency in 3D modeling and computational design (Rhino, Grasshopper)
- Knowledge of GIS, graph-based modeling, and complex systems

Application Instructions

Please submit an application of interest through the following Google Form

https://forms.gle/N3EgSVVLJN2i2EseA

(or scan the QR code)

You will be asked to upload:

- CV
- Research statement (maximum 2 pages, including research interest and potential fit)
- *(Optional)* Portfolio and/or writing samples

For inquiries, please contact xinwei.zhuang@tamu.edu