Universal Accessibility Design & Audit

Blended Learning Program
6 July – 04 August 2024

CPP | CEPT UNIVERSITY

CEPT PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMS

CEPT Professional Programs (CPP) aims to bridge the gap between academics, practice, policy-making, and implementation through short certificate programs. The mission of CPP is to support individual and organizational learning by creating opportunities to acquire new skills and capabilities, thus allowing professionals to stay relevant in the current knowledge-based global context. It will achieve this by offering professional development, continuing education, and up-skilling opportunities for professionals and in-service persons across disciplines concerned with urban development and the built habitat.

CPP draws from the expertise and capacity of the accomplished faculty at CEPT University, enhanced further by experts and practitioners from the field. Its programs are built on deep research, vast consultancy projects, and innovative pedagogies. CPP offers a repertoire of short programs and topic-focused programs across disciplines of architecture, design, planning, and management with immersive learning approaches combining interactive lectures, case studies, and peer-to-peer exchanges.

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Professional Certificate Program in Universal Accessibility Design and Audit addresses the critical need for inclusive design practices in built environments. Through interactive lectures and hands-on exercises, participants engage with leading experts to understand the complexities of universal accessibility.

Through case studies and site visits, participants learn to interpret rules, develop inclusive design solutions, and conduct thorough audits. Collaboration with user groups provides invaluable insights for preparing accessibility compliance reports. By completing this program, professionals can advance their careers and drive positive change in organizations, fostering environments that are accessible to all.

PROGRAM STRUCTURE

The program consists of five modules designed to cover fundamental principles of accessibility. The first two modules will deliver online input lectures and hands-on exercises. Modules three and four, conducted at the CEPT University campus, allow participants to conduct audits and gain insight into the application. The final module involves an individual assignment where participants identify and work on a real-site project in their respective locations. The final module will be presented online.

Module 1: Introduction to Universal Accessibility

The sensitisation module in universal accessibility training emphasises inclusivity and empathy towards diverse needs. It raises awareness about accommodating individuals regardless of their physical, sensory, or cognitive differences. Participants learn to recognise challenges faced by individuals with disabilities and adopt proactive measures to remove barriers, creating welcoming environments. This fosters a culture of respect and support for diversity within communities and organisations.

Module 2: Guidelines and Legal Aspects

The Introduction to the RPwD Act, 2016 module is fundamental to comprehensive universal accessibility training. Participants will learn about legislation and key provisions such as non-discrimination, equal opportunities, and accessibility. They will also explore different disability categories and the specific rights guaranteed to individuals. The module highlights the responsibilities of stakeholders in upholding these rights and promoting inclusivity. By understanding the RPwD Act, participants can advocate for accessibility.

Module 3: Application of Guidelines & Conducting Audits

In this module, participants will learn established accessibility guidelines like the Harmonised Guidelines & Standards for Universal Accessibility in India 2021, essential for creating inclusive environments. Additionally, participants will learn the principles of conducting accessibility audits to assess the compliance of physical spaces with these guidelines. This will help identify barriers and implement modifications for universal accessibility in built environments.
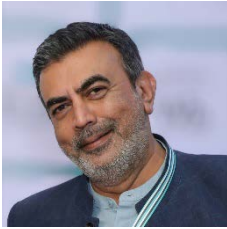
PROGRAM STRUCTURE

Module 4: Global Best Practices

Participants will explore innovative strategies, policies, and initiatives implemented globally to enhance accessibility. Through case studies and benchmarking against international standards, participants gain insights into effective practices for designing accessible infrastructure, developing inclusive technologies, and promoting equal opportunities.

Module 5: Hands-on Exercises

Hands-on exercises will allow participants to actively engage with accessibility concepts, tools, and techniques in real-world scenarios. Participants will engage in practical activities, like using assistive technologies to navigate simulated inaccessible environments or conducting accessibility audits of physical spaces. These activities offer firsthand experience of challenges faced by individuals with disabilities, fostering problem-solving and critical thinking skills.

PROGRAM FACULTY

Anand Patel
Program Director

Anand Patel, an architect with over 22 years of experience in India and Europe, established his private practice, Anand Patel & Associates, in March 2008. Committed to developing sustainable architectural solutions, he focuses on addressing the evolving needs of India's changing social and economic landscape. An advocate for 'Barrier-Free Built Environments', Anand co-authored India's first design manual for architects addressing accessibility for the physically challenged. He has advised the Government of India on accessibility rights since 2003.

An alumnus of the Technical University Delft and the University of Amsterdam, Anand gained valuable experience working with established firms in Europe before returning to India in 2002. He has contributed to significant projects like the Sabarmati Riverfront Development and Government Polytechnic, Bhuj. Anand is also involved in academia, serving as a visiting tutor at CEPT University, Ahmedabad, and teaching at institutions such as the National Institute of Design and Technical University Berlin. Since May 2020, he has been a consulting architect with HCP, focusing on public projects.

Yatin Pandya
Program Faculty

Yatin Pandya is a multi-faceted professional, excelling as an author, academician, researcher, and architect. He founded the FOOTPRINTS E.A.R.T.H. campus and holds a Master of Architecture from McGill University, Montreal, after graduating from CEPT University, Ahmedabad. With expertise spanning city planning, urban design, mass housing, and conservation projects, Yatin has earned nearly forty National and International awards, including the United Nations Habitat Award and the Curry Stone Foundation Design Prize.

He is renowned for his written works like "Courtyard Houses of India" and "Concepts of Space in Traditional Indian Architecture," and has produced over 30 architecture documentaries. Yatin's 33 years as a visiting faculty at CEPT University and his global lecturing engagements in sixteen countries highlight his commitment to environmental sustainability, socio-cultural appropriateness, and economic affordability in his architectural philosophy.

PROGRAM FACULTY

Imran Mansuri brings over fifteen years of diverse experience in architecture, landscape architecture, and historic preservation from India and New Mexico, USA. Holding a Bachelor of Architecture from CEPT University and a Master of Landscape Architecture from the University of New Mexico, he also holds a Graduate Certificate in Historic Preservation and Regionalism from the same institution.

Imran has worked with AOS Architects in Santa Fe, focusing on projects including LEED-designated educational institutions, affordable housing, religious buildings, and Native American Pueblos housing rehabilitation. He has taught Migrant Housing Studio at BUD for eight semesters and is engaged in teaching and researching affordable housing issues. Imran is the founder and principal architect at Urban Nexus Design Studio (UNds), an Ahmedabad-based firm specializing in interdisciplinary solutions integrating architecture, landscape, and urban design.

Imran Mansuri
Program Faculty

Jamshed Mistry is a highly accomplished legal professional proficient in various legal areas such as litigation, international law, media and entertainment law, medico-legal issues, social causes, and service laws.

He holds degrees in Commerce and Law from the University of Mumbai, supplemented by a Post Graduate Diploma in Labour Laws and Labour Welfare. Noteworthy is his establishment of internationallegalalliance.com, a platform connecting lawyers globally. His memberships in prestigious professional bodies like the Bombay Bar Association and the Canadian Bar Association underscore his expertise.

Additionally, Mr. Mistry serves on advisory boards for cultural and business organizations like the South Asian Fashion Week and the International South Asian Film Festival. His outstanding contributions have earned him esteemed recognitions such as the Melvin Jones Fellowship from Lions Club International and the Paul Harris Fellowship from Rotary International.

Jamshed Keki Mistry
Guest Speaker

PROGRAM CALENDAR

Sessions	Description	Mode
Module 1: Introduction to Universal Accessibility		
Week-1 Session-1	• Introduction to universal accessibility in the built environment. The degree to which the built environment is accessible to people (with disabilities) • Types of disabilities- Specific disabilities that can be catered to through interventions in the built environment • The 7 principles of Universal design- Addressing the common barriers to participation through design that allows use by the maximum number of people possible without the need for adaptation or specialized design • Universal Design India Principles (UDIP)- Ideologies that focus on Indianness and Inclusivity	Online (2 hrs.)
Week-1 Session-2	• Recognizing types of barriers- Limited access to daily functional activities or dignified inclusion in built environments. • Practical Issues and Challenges faced by persons with disabilities	Online (2 hrs.)
Module 2: Guidelines and Legal Aspects		
Week-2 Session-3	• United Nations Convention on the Rights with Disabilities (UNCRPD), 2017- Placing the PWD Act 1995 to comply with the UNCRPD • The Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016, the appropriate Government shall ensure that the PWD enjoys the right to equality, life with dignity, and respect for his or her integrity equally with others • Guidelines published by various Ministries based on the Act Separate guidelines across different sectors • Legal Implications of the Act on the built environment- Chapter VIII, Section 40 and Section 44, Implications of not adhering to guidelines and providing barrier-free built environments • Case studies/ Examples of penalisation due to non-compliance to the Act	Online (2 hrs.)

PROGRAM CALENDAR

Sessions	Description	Mode
Module 2: Introduction to the RPwD Act, 2016		
Week-2 Session-4	• Adaptation of guidelines into the General Development Control Regulations for Urban Local Bodies (ULBs), Local codes that adhere to the mandates of RPwD Act, 2016 • Accreditation of design audits and post-occupancy certification	Online (2 hrs.)
Module 3: Application of Guidelines & Conducting Audits		
Week-3 Session-5	• Introduction to the Harmonised Guidelines, 2021 • Sensitization Workshops • Overview of design solutions application for various types of access across all sectors and all scales, for persons with disabilities • Complying with Harmonised Guidelines, 2021 • Introduction to auditing building- at the design stage and execution stage	On Campus (4 hrs.)
Week-3 Session-6	• Introduction to auditing for retrofitting • Awareness of specific building materials and products Simple design project on guideline interpretation and application • Site visits (yet to finalize) and Auditing assignment • Preparation of Report	On Campus (4 hrs.)
Module 4: Global Best Practices		
Week-3 Session-7	• Learning through examples of best practices: Global Case Studies • Local Case studies • Introducing the project concept • Site Visits	On Campus (4 hrs.)
Week-3 Session-8	• Working with user groups to gain practical inputs • Preparation of compliance report	On Campus (4 hrs.)

PROGRAM CALENDAR

Sessions	Description	Mode
Module 5: Individual Assignment (IA)		
Week-4 Individual Assignment	• In this module, participants will explore public institutions, urban sites, and public transportation facilities and see how well they comply with guidelines for a barrier-free built environment for disabled and elderly individuals. Participants will select a project near their respective locations. • Task 1: Participants will consult with course instructors to identify a site near their respective locations. They will observe, identify, and critically assess architectural barriers in existing facilities. A checklist will be provided to identify accessibility obstacles and ensure compliance with guidelines for a Barrier-Free Built Environment. • Task 2: Participants will present their findings and propose design responses to meet barrier-free requirements. • Submission: Participants will submit a digital report containing their critical assessments and design responses.	On-Site
Week-5 Review Sessions - 1	• Presentations by the participants • Review and feedback by the faculty members	Online *(2 hrs.)*
Week-5 Review Session - 2	• Presentations by the participants • Review and feedback by the faculty members	Online *(2 hrs.)*

ADMISSIONS AND APPLICATIONS

Application Process	Online applications have already commenced. To apply visit the CPP website http://cpp.cept.ac.in/ and submit the online application form.
Application Deadline	02 July 2024 The deadline for this program is indicative. Applications will be considered as they are received, and seats will be allotted on a first come first serve basis. Admissions will be closed once all seats are full.
Program Dates	6 July - 4 August 2024 (Online & On-Campus)
Who can Apply?	The program is open for Professionals with a Bachelor's in Architecture / Design / Urban Design / Civil Engineering / Construction Engineering. OR Diploma in Architecture / Design / Civil Engineering / Construction Engineering and relevant work experience of a minimum of two years. OR Professionals working with Urban Local Bodies and engaged in Building Plan Approval System / Process.
Program Fee	INR 25,000/- + GST (This is inclusive of a welcome kit, study materials, and working-lunch during on-campus modules. This is exclusive of the cost of accommodation at Ahmedabad)
Certificate	Participants will receive a certificate from CEPT University on successful completion of the program with a minimum of 80 percent attendance.

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CEPT University

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