

Special Issue

Learning Environment Design and Use

Message from the Guest Editors

Amid burgeoning international interest in the built environment of education, this SI will examine the research, policy, and practice that lies behind the global trends in architecture and pedagogy. We aim to develop an interdisciplinary understanding of the processes and products of school design at all stages, from 'visioning' and brief, through habitation and use, to post-occupancy evaluation. The intention is to build knowledge relating to successful design, educational affordances and outcomes, change management, and the alignment of physical resources with teaching and learning needs. We will explore the multiprofessional landscape of educational spaces as they are planned, built, and used, intending to find a shared language to discuss intentions, processes, and outcomes.

Reflecting the diversity of the area, the SI editors anticipate empirical work using a wide range of methodologies, transdisciplinary reviews and novel theoretical framings. [...] For further reading, please follow the link to the Special Issue Website at:

https://www.mdpi.com/journal/buildings/special_issues/Learning_Environment

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (15 December 2021)



Buildings

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Impact Factor 3.1
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About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Current urban environments are home to multi-modal transit systems, extensive energy grids, a building stock, and integrated services. Sprawling neighborhoods are composed of buildings that accommodate living and working quarters. However, it is expected that the cities and communities of the future will face complex and enormous challenges, including maintenance, interconnectivity, resilience, energy efficiency, and sustainability issues, to name but a few. A smart city uses advanced technologies and a digital infrastructure to improve the outcomes in every aspect of a city's operations. A smart building optimizes the experience of occupants, staff, and management by using a modern and connected environment. Innovations in technology that can bring dramatic improvements to design, planning, and policy are critical in developing the cities and buildings of the future.

Editor-in-Chief

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manuscripts are peer-reviewed and a first decision is provided to authors approximately 15.1 days after submission; acceptance to publication is undertaken in 2.9 days (median values for papers published in this journal in the second half of 2025).