

Associate Professor Julio Bermudez directs the Cultural Studies and Sacred Space graduate concentration program at The Catholic University of America. He holds a Master of Architecture and a Ph.D. in Education degrees from the University of Minnesota. He has been teaching architectural design, theory and representation for nearly 30 years.

Dr. Bermudez's teaching and research are focused in architectural phenomenology, the development of voluntary architectural simplicity (VAS), and the relationship between architecture, culture and spirituality. He has lectured, led symposia, and published articles in these areas nationally and internationally. Current projects include a fMRI

David Perkes, AIA is the founding director of the Gulf Coast Community Design Studio (GCCDS), a professional outreach program of the College of Architecture, Art + Design. The design studio was established soon after Hurricane Katrina and is providing planning and architectural design support to Mississippi Gulf Coast communities and non-profit organizations. GCCDS was named the National Resilience Design Studio by the AIA and Rockefeller Foundations. The design studio has assisted in the renovation of hundreds of damaged homes and new house projects in East Biloxi.

David was a recipient of the Latrobe Prize in 2011 and served as Loeb fellow in 2003-2004. Previously, David was the director of the Jackson Community Design Center and taught in the School of Architecture's fifth year program in Jackson, Mississippi, for seven years. The center received numerous national and local awards, including a Mississippi AIA Honor Award for the Boys and Girls Club Camp Pavilion. A sustainable Habitat for Humanity house built in Jackson was selected by the "Show Your Green" recognition program and featured on the AIA Design Advisor.