

## PhD Research | School of Design | The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

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**Architectural design**

**Social Design**

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Profile Image:



Project Image:



**PhD Title:**

Embedded Community Elderly Centre Architectural Design in China: Based on Social Design Perspective.

**Keywords:**

Embedded community elderly centre, architectural design, social design, Chinese existing communities, older person, aging-friendly

**Research Abstract:**

In China about 97% of older persons are aging in place relying on home care and community service. However, many existing communities cannot provide sufficient older persons support to maintain an aging-friendly living environment. It is thus essential to solve this aging society problem. This study is from a social design perspective and focuses on the embedded community elderly centre (ECEC) architectural design in existing Chinese urban communities. The aim of the research is to establish a participatory architectural design framework and method of ECEC, in order to help government, social institutions, community residents and architects work together to improve existing communities to be more aging-friendly. The major research questions are:

1. What is the content and steps for the architectural design of ECEC based on social design perspective?
2. What are the attitudes and demands of different stakeholders towards ECEC architectural design?
3. How to improve the existing communities into ones that promote the social inclusion of older persons?

**Research Methodology:**

The study will adopt field study, participatory workshop and mix methods of data analysis. Field study will be carried out to understand the older persons' living behaviour in existing communities, and the embedded potential of existing communities. Based on the findings, the second step of the research will use participatory workshop that policymakers, older persons, private elderly service institutions and architects will work together to propose a design solution of ECEC. Finally, the data will be analysed by using quantitative analysis tool to identify features, the law of demands and correlations of architectural design of ECEC.

**Results / outcomes: [only the 3 key outcomes]**

1. Synthesizing the social design and architectural design literature, and taking Chinese culture and policy into consideration, and then proposing the architectural design content and steps of ECEC.
2. Identifying the demands of different stakeholders, and exploring the embedded potential of existing communities.
3. Putting forwards the design methods and principles of ECEC based on social design, in order to give suggestion to and help governments, private institutions and design professionals to improve existing communities more aging-friendly.