China: Future/Past is a summer study-abroad program that will examine the architecture, arts, and culture of a country that continues to transform at a rapid pace, while feeling the tug of its rich traditions. Students will travel to Beijing, Shanghai, Hong Kong, Shenzhen, Xi’an, Guangzhou, and a number of rural villages in Shaanxi Province. While there, they will study the changing relationship between China’s cities and its countryside and try to re-invent the country’s villages for the 21st century.
Hyper-Urbanism: Beijing, Shanghai, Hong Kong
ARCH-580: Two-Week Field Studies Workshop.
Dates: May 30 - June 11, 2017

This in-depth look at mega-cities will reveal the challenges and opportunities of rapid city development. Students will study the planning and design issues raised by such places, as they tour significant buildings, neighborhoods, and sites in Beijing, Shanghai, and Hong Kong. They will also visit the studios of some of the most important architects, designers, and artists in China — including Ma Yansong, Pei Zhu, Atelier FCJZ, OPEN Architecture, Urbanus, Atelier Deshaus, O-Office Architects, Danwen Xu, ESKYIU, and others.

Rural-Urban Connections
ARCH-402abc/605b/705: Six-Week Design Research Studio
Dates: June 13 - July 23, 2017

Based in Shenzhen and Xi’an, this studio will look at the relationship between China’s cities and countryside — between change and tradition. With 250 million people having moved to cities in the past 30 years and another 250 million expected to move there in the next 20 years, the country faces the challenge of re-inventing its countryside for the 21st century. Students will visit several small villages in Shaanxi Province and spend time at Jade Valley, a complex of winery facilities, boutique hotels, and other buildings that USC Dean Ma Qingyun has developed in the past 15 years. They will also spend time in Shenzhen, examining urban villages and the larger questions of urbanization in China today.

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