

*Firas Al-Douri* earned his Ph.D. in Architecture from Texas A&M University in 2006. He has a dual Architecture and Planning academic background and an extensive experience in Urban Design teaching, research, and practice for over 23 years across the US, Europe, and Asia. His teaching has been focused on architecture and urban design studios and courses including urban design theory and practice, sustainable design, sustainable urbanism, contemporary urbanism, Information technology in urban design practice, and research methods. He adopts the experiential pedagogy and collaborative interdisciplinary approach, and he employs information technology in course management and delivery. His research interests have examined sustainable urbanism, urban design practice in US cities, and the methods and impact of computational tools usage on the plans quality and outcome. His work has been funded by grants from the AIA/AAF, the American Planning Association, and the 2008 UNLV Presidential Research Development Award. He has been involved in many personal and collaborative interdisciplinary research studies that examine walkability, campus-community integration, sustainable urbanism, and computational tools in urban design practice. Before joining Jackson State University, he taught at the International University of Sarajevo, University of Nevada Las Vegas (UNLV), Texas A&M University, and the University of Technology, Baghdad, Iraq. His practical experience consists of over twelve years in governmental and private firms and consultancies in Iraq and Dubai, UAE.