



CPTED for Architects

AIA Course: CRUX2024-002

Course Description:

Architects seeking to enhance the safety of their designs can benefit from the principles of CPTED, which stands for Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design. CPTED is a comprehensive approach to crime prevention that examines how the physical environment can either create or deter opportunities for criminal activity.

In this course, we will delve into how proper use of lighting, fencing, traffic control, and landscaping can help to discourage crime. By incorporating these elements into the design of a building for the outset, we can create a safer and more productive environment. To summarize, this course will explore how the physical environment, as well as human behavior, play a direct role in crime prevention. This not only affects productivity and quality of life, but can also reduce the risk of exposure to criminal activity.

Learning Objectives

Discover how employing CPTED concepts throughout the building and grounds design will strengthen the three lines of defense (perimeter, building exterior, building interior), thus enhancing the overall safety and security of the building.

Understand the concept of Natural Surveillance and how it is used to keep intruders under observation thus creating a perception of risk and deterring crime.

Understand the concept of Natural Access Control and how it is directed at decreasing the opportunity for crime by denying access to crime targets.

Realize how the physical attributes of the space can express ownership and this ownership creates a sense of territorial control, while potential crimes, perceiving this control, are discouraged.