

Lily Song, PhD

Dr. Lily Song is an urban planner and activist-scholar who holds a joint appointment between the School of Architecture and the School of Public Policy and Urban Affairs at Northeastern University. She is an award-winning educator who teaches courses on anti-displacement, participatory action research, public participation, community-driven design, and community development.

Song's research and scholarship focus on the relations between urban infrastructure and redevelopment initiatives, socio-spatial inequality, and race, class, and gender politics in American cities and other decolonizing contexts. Her work both analyzes and informs infrastructure-based mobilizations and experiments that center the experiences and insights of historically marginalized groups as bases for reparative planning and design.

She has published in a number of journals, including the Journal of Architecture Education, Journal of the American Planning Association, Journal of Urban Affairs, International Development Planning Review, and Planning Theory and Practice.

Song serves as Strategic Advisor to the Boston City Councilor Tania Fernandes Anderson and is active on the Board of Directors of the Boston Society for Architecture as well as the Advisory Board of the non-profit participatory planning organization, Yayasan Kota Kita. She was previously a Lecturer in Urban Planning and Design at the Harvard Graduate School of Design (GSD), where she was Founding Coordinator of Harvard CoDesign, a GSD initiative to strengthen links between design pedagogy, research, practice, and activism. She holds a PhD in Urban and Regional Planning from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, MA in Urban Planning from the University of California— Los Angeles, and BA in Ethnic Studies from UC Berkeley. where they are.