

Brent D. Ryan

300 word biography May 31, 2019

Brent D. Ryan is Head of the City Design and Development Group and Associate Professor of Urban Design and Public Policy in MIT's Department of Urban Studies and Planning. His research focuses on the aesthetics and policies of contemporary urban design, particularly with respect to pressing issues like deindustrialization and climate change. Professor Ryan's first book *Design After Decline: How America rebuilds shrinking cities*, was one of *Planetizen's* ten best urban planning books of 2012, and his second book *The Largest Art: A measured manifesto for plural urbanism*, was published by MIT Press in 2017.

Professor Ryan has published research in the *Journal of Urbanism*, *Journal of Urban Design*, *Journal of Planning History*, *Urban Design International*, *Urban Morphology*, and the *Journal of the American Planning Association*, which awarded his article "Reading Through A Plan" its best article of 2011. Professor Ryan has contributed chapters to *The Companion to Urban Design*, *The City After Abandonment*, *The Oxford Handbook of Urban Planning*, and others.

Professor Ryan conducts urban design research and practice around the world, including China, Ukraine, Russia, Japan, and the United States. Current research includes a study of sustainability in Siberian cities, funded by the U.S. National Science Foundation and a study of new town design conducted in collaboration with MIT China Future City Lab. Professor Ryan has consulted for the World Bank, Google, and the Armenian Tumo Foundation relating to cities, urban design, economic and demographic shifts.

Prior to joining MIT, Professor Ryan taught at the Harvard Graduate School of Design and the University of Illinois at Chicago, where he was also Co-Director of the City Design Center. Professor Ryan holds a B.S. in biology from Yale University, a M. Arch. from Columbia University, and a Ph.D. in urban design and planning from MIT.