

Spring 2006
MIT School of Architecture and Planning

11.001J/4.250J: Introduction to Urban Design and Development

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Exercise 1

Due: Thursday February 23, in class

**Good and Bad Environments:
*Central Square, Cambridge***

Describe and analyze Central Square. You may illustrate your presentation in any way that you want, but be as explicit as possible about the following:

1. Where, exactly, is Central Square? (Where does it start, where does it stop, and how do you know?)
2. Is Central Square a good place or a bad place?
3. What criteria are you using to judge it?
4. How do you think this place attained its especially good or bad qualities?
5. What would you want to do to change it?

Format and Expectations:

- Your response should be no more than two typed pages although illustrations may be in addition to this text. Please use illustrations or graphics but limit these to only what is necessary to make your points.
- Do the assignment individually, though it is fine to discuss and debate Central Square with others in the class.
- Base the evidence for what you write or illustrate on *your own observations and reactions*, not on those of others (though you may choose to react to something you have read as a basis for clarifying your own response).
- We will be discussing your responses to this assignment in class on February 23, the day it is due; **no late papers can be accepted.**