

Pacific Northwest Senior Urban Design Studio, Portland, Oregon

Fall 2016, F(0-16)

Faculty of Environmental Design, University of Calgary

EVDS 618: Urban Design Studio

EVDA 782.01: Senior Architecture Design Studio

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INTRODUCTION

This interdisciplinary senior studio focuses on the design of a sustainable community (residential, employment, commercial, and cultural/institutional) for a brownfield waterfront site in Portland, Oregon. Portland has gained an international reputation since the 1970s as a progressive city that has innovated in many areas including limiting growth, developing transit oriented communities, district revitalization, sustainable infrastructure, and high-quality urban design. This senior studio will allow students in the MArch, MLA and MPlan programs to work in teams on a complex urban design scheme, where students will engage with a wide variety of consultants and information in order to produce community plans and developed aspects of the plans (individually). Topics could include: waterfront revitalization, densification, diversifying function, optimizing transit, developing green infrastructure, urban agriculture, environmental factors, alternative typologies, integrating ecologies, green space systems design, etc.

This studio, while developing skills, is also seen as being a site for discovery through analysis and process. The studio will explore the nature of contemporary urban design, with respect to program, site analysis, cultural and social forces, technology, ecology, etc. The studio will involve the integration of consultation, research, readings, field trips, lectures, precedent studies, etc. Students are expected to use a variety of media in their design development. Handouts will be given out during the term as required. The final product of the studio will be developed into a small publication.

OBJECTIVES

1. To understand the principles of sustainable urban design, with an emphasis on innovative urban form and high quality public realm.
2. To understand urban design as investigative and heuristic process, that builds upon comprehensive site documentation and analysis.
3. To develop drawing and presentation skills, from the sketch to presentation drawings.
4. To critically define and develop a concept into a detailed design.
5. To learn to work effectively in interdisciplinary teams.

Note: Classes will typically occur on Tuesday and Friday afternoons from 2-6 pm.

CONTENT: TOPIC AREAS AND CLASS SCHEDULE

Week 1 (Sept. 12-16, 2016), Course Introduction

- Course Introduction. Introduction to Interdisciplinary teamwork. Data gathering on Portland, Oregon.
- Research relevant precedents.
- Research: urban ecology, alternative transportation, energy generation, etc.
- Lecture(s)

Week 2 (Sept. 19-23), Site Visit

- Five-day visit to Portland, Oregon including meetings with representatives from the City of Portland, Portland State University, local practitioners, etc.

Weeks 3/4 (Sept. 26-Oct. 7), Documentation and Analysis – Team (25%)

- Comprehensive site documentation and analysis: 1) Environmental analysis: topography, hydrology soils, climate and ecological mapping of vegetation, wildlife, etc., 2) Cultural landscapes: historic evolution (morphology), cultural resources, etc., 3) Infrastructure analysis (connections/networks): roads, railways, paths, power, water, sewage, transit, etc., 3) Land use analysis: land subdivision, spatial definition (figure/ground), land use distribution, housing typology, lost space, density 4) Functional analysis: edges, landmarks, amenities, connections, etc., 5) Architectural system (structures): building typology, history, archaeology, views, spatial patterns, etc., 6) Site and context physical model (collaboration between teams)
- Summary of findings, opportunities/constraints
- Program scenario developed and analyzed.
- Lecture(s)

Block Week: October 10-14

Week 5 (Oct. 17-25), Concept Charrette – Team (10%)

- Urban Design Plan Charrette

Weeks 6/7 (Oct. 25-Nov. 4), Concept Development – Team (20%)

- Develop Urban Design Plan

Weeks 8/9/10/11 (Nov. 7-Dec. 2), Design Development – Individual (25%)

- Develop public realm plan, building, and neighbourhood elements

Weeks 12/13 (Dec. 2-Dec. 15), Final Presentation –Team (20%)

- Develop Final presentation

MEANS OF EVALUATION

Evaluation will be based on five project landmarks. Some of the work will be completed in groups and some individually. Students will receive a common grade for work done in groups, unless it is clear to the instructors the balance of work has been unfairly distributed between team members. Class participation is a key component of the grade and will be evaluated based on attendance to class, studio and group work. Any anticipated absence should be communicated to the teaching team as soon as possible.

- Documentation and Analysis (team grade)	25%
- Concept Charrette (team grade)	10%
- Concept Development (team grade)	20%
- Design Development (individual grade)	25%
- Final Presentation (team grade)	20%
Total	100%

Late submission of work is not acceptable; grades will be deducted for work submitted later than the deadline specified in the assignment brief or as discussed in class. One grade will be deducted per late day for example an A will be downgraded to A-. There will be no final examination.

GRADING SCALE

Final grades will be reported as letter grades, with the final grade calculated according to the 4-point range.

Grade	Grade Point Value	4-Point Range	Percent	Description
A+	4.00	4.00	95-100	Outstanding - evaluated by instructor
A	4.00	3.85-4.00	90-94.99	Excellent - superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of the subject matter
A-	3.70	3.50-3.84	85-89.99	Very good performance
B+	3.30	3.15-3.49	80-84.99	Good performance
B	3.00	2.85-3.14	75-79.99	Satisfactory performance
B-	2.70	2.50-2.84	70-74.99	Minimum pass for students in the Faculty of Graduate Studies
C+	2.30	2.15-2.49	65-69.99	All final grades below B- are indicative of failure at the graduate level and cannot be counted toward Faculty of Graduate Studies course requirements.
C	2.00	1.85-2.14	60-64.99	
C-	1.70	1.50-1.84	55-59.99	
D+	1.30	1.15-1.49	50-54.99	
D	1.00	0.50-1.14	45-49.99	
F	0.00	0-0.49	0-44.99	

Notes:

- A student who receives a "C+" or lower in any one course will be required to withdraw regardless of their grade point average (GPA) unless the program recommends otherwise. If the program permits the student to retake a failed course, the second grade will replace the initial grade in the calculation of the GPA, and both grades will appear on the transcript.

SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Allen, S., *Points + Lines, Diagrams and Projects for the City*.
 Bullivant, L., *Masterplanning Futures*.
 Calthorpe, P., *The Next American Metropolis*.
 Chermayeff, S. and Alexander, C., *Community and Privacy*.
 Corner, J., ed., *Recovering Landscape: Essays in Contemporary Landscape Architecture*.
 Cranz, G. *The Politics of Park Design: A History of Urban Parks in America*.
 Dornie, David. *Architectural Drawing*.
 Erickson, D., *MetroGreen: Connecting Open Space in North American Cities*.
 European 7, *Suburban Challenge: Urban Intensity and Housing Diversity*.
 Farrelly, L., *Drawing for Urban Design*.
 Forman, Richard T.T., *Land Mosaics: The Ecology of Landscapes and Regions*.
 Gausa, M., *Housing: New Alternatives, New Systems*.
 Giradet, H., *Creating Sustainable Cities*.
 Hough, M., *City Form and Natural Process*.

Hutchison, E. *Drawing for Landscape Architecture: sketch to screen to site*.
 Lukez, P., *Suburban Transformations*.
 McGrath, B. and Marshall, V., *Designing Patch Dynamics*.
 McHarg, I. *Design With Nature*.
 Michael Sorkin Studio, *Wiggle*.
 Mostafavi, M. and Ciró Najle, eds. *Landscape Urbanism: A Manual for the Machinic Landscape*.
 OMA and B. Mau, *S, M, L, XL*.
 Sandalack, Beverly A. & Andrei Nicolai *The Calgary Project: urban form/urban life*.
 Schwanke, D., *Mixed-Use Development Handbook*.
 Sorkin, M., "Future Zones, Eleven Tasks for Urban Design," in *Perspecta 29* (or *[Re]Reading Perspecta*).
 Steffen, A., ed., *World Changing: A User's Guide for the 21st Century*.
 Thomas, R., *Sustainable Urban Design: An Environmental Approach*.
 Turner, M.G., R.H. Gardener, and R.V. O'Neill, *Landscape Ecology in Theory and Practice*.
 Waldheim, C., ed., *The Landscape Urbanism Reader*.
 Waldheim, C., *Landscape as Urbanism: A General Theory*.

NOTES

1. Written work, term assignments and other course related work may only be submitted by e-mail if prior permission to do so has been obtained from the course instructor. Submissions must come from an official University of Calgary (ucalgary) email account.
2. Academic Accommodations. Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfil requirements for a graduate degree, based on a protected ground other than disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to their Instructor or the designated contact person in EVDS, Jennifer Taillefer (jtaillef@ucalgary.ca). Students who require an accommodation unrelated to their coursework or the requirements for a graduate degree, based on a protected ground other than disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the Vice-Provost (Student Experience). For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/
3. Plagiarism - Plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done expressly for that particular course when, in fact, it is not. Most commonly plagiarism exists when:(a) the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test),(b) parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author,(c) the whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source, and/or,(d) a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course(although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved. While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted. Plagiarism is an extremely serious academic offence. It is recognized that clause (d) does not prevent a graduate student incorporating work previously done by him or her in a thesis. Any suspicion of plagiarism will be reported to the Dean, and dealt with as per the regulations in the University of Calgary Graduate Calendar.
4. Information regarding the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy>) and how this impacts the receipt and delivery of course material
5. Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>)
6. Safewalk information (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>)
7. Contact Info for: Student Union (<https://www.su.ucalgary.ca/contact/>); Graduate Student representative(<http://www.ucalgary.ca/gsa/>) and Student Ombudsman's Office (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/ombuds/>).