

Faculty of Environmental Design / University of Calgary

EVDA 782.5 Senior Research Studio

Winter 2019 (Full course)

(Mondays), Tuesdays, (Wednesdays), and Fridays, 14:00-18:00 hrs., Room: PF-2165

Instructor:

Prof. Marc Boutin, boutin@ucalgary.ca

The Equitable City

CONSTRUCTING CANADIAN IDENTITY

INTRODUCTION

This studio explores innovative form making, social agency, cultural relevancy, and ecological design in the City through the understanding of three lenses and their interrelationship:

The Idea that Hybridization constructs intentionality within a Canadian Cultural Milieu.

The Idea that the Canadian Social Democratic Paradigm, articulated by Lester Pearson, is an unfinished project.

The Idea that the City is a laboratory within which to proactively construct space and place that brings value to this world.



Hybridization, in this studio, explores the conscious interface between two or more culturally, socially, or formally specific set of norms, related to architecture and urban design. Through Hybridization as a design process, students will research, analyze, interpret, and design an intervention that consciously challenges existing formal and spatial paradigms and proposes an alternate cultural, social, or ecological architectural paradigm in the city of Calgary. Inherent in this studio is a deep suspicion of the quality, purposefulness, and intention embedded within existing built fabric in the city, whether they are operating at the scale of the city grid, the urban space, or the architectural building. Hybridization in this conceptual and physical context, is the conscious mutation of existing paradigms, forms, spaces and places towards the creation of alternate paradigms more culturally, socially, or ecologically appropriate for Calgary.

The following Canadian Architectural Certification Board Student Performance Criteria will be covered in this course:

- A1. Design Theories, Precedents, and Methods.
- A2. Design Skills
- A3. Design Tools
- A4. Program Analysis
- A5. Site Context and Design
- A6. Urban Design
- A7. Detail Design
- A8. Design Documentation

OBJECTIVES

1. To provide the student with the opportunity to develop their own conceptual framework and form-finding strategy based on a self-directed critical research into Hybridization and its social, cultural, and historic context(s).
2. To understand that buildings and public spaces themselves can construct social agency, cultural relevancy, and ecological value towards the betterment of society broadly.
3. To develop design skills through the design of a medium sized project based on a self-determined conceptual framework.
4. To develop skills and awareness of urban contexts through research, analysis, and interpretation, leading to appropriate architectural design.
5. To develop knowledge of programming, architectural logic, materials and assemblies, and structural concepts towards manifesting design intentions.
6. To develop site design, graphics, concept design, and design development skills.

TEACHING APPROACH

This Senior Research Studio is to be understood as a laboratory where design ideas, research guided by design, and the self-directed exploration of architectural intentions are paramount to the success of the studio. Based on an overall framework of Hybridization as form-finding, students will explore formal, programmatic, tectonic, and material culture opportunities in an intervention in downtown Calgary. The process of the studio will be structured as a small 'T' thesis project, where each student will develop their own research agenda, design process, and design intervention. Guidance and feedback will be provided during regular desk crits, informal lectures, and formal reviews. The work will be done individually, with some research work done in small groups.

RESEARCH DIRECTION AND PROGRAM

Students have the opportunity to explore Hybridization as a form-finding process within three dominant trajectories, or a trajectory of their own creation:

Hybridization and Cultural Re-Calibration: how do urban/architectural forms and spaces construct cultural relevance?

Hybridization and Social Democratic Space: how do urban/architectural forms and spaces construct social agency?

Hybridization and Environmental Stewardship in the Winter City: how do urban/architectural forms and spaces construct livable indoor and outdoor environments conditioned for winter cities?

Based on the selection of one of the research trajectories above, the relative mix and delineation of program will be determined through the site analysis and interpretation phase of the project, with the definition of the program understood as a critical catalyst for the site.

SITE

The studio site and site for research and intervention is the territory that exists within a 5 block radius from the old Central Library. This territory includes parts of Downtown, East Village, Victoria Park, CP tracks, and the Bow River valley.

STUDIO OPPORTUNITY

This studio and its related creative design work, will be strategically used in a travelling architectural design installation and exhibition on the subject of Hybridization in Architecture. This installation and exhibition is made possible by funding from the Canada Council for the Arts.

COURSE EXPECTATIONS, MEANS OF EVALUATION AND SCHEDULE

Students are expected to complete all assignments, be present in studio on Tuesdays and Fridays (and on other studio days as required) and attend all lectures and reviews. Students will also be expected to read any assigned readings. Detailed project descriptions will be provided throughout the term by studio instructors. The following is the overall studio schedule and the general breakdown of assignments:

GRADING SCALE

The following equivalencies (the University of Calgary has no official percentage scale system) will be used in calculating grades: A+ (95.0-100.0); A (90.0-94.99); A- (85-89.99); B+ (80.0-84.99); B (75.0-79.99); B- (70.0-74.99); C+ (65.0-69.99); C (60.0-64.99); C- (55.0-59.99); D+ (50.0-55.99); D (45.0-49.99); F (0-44.99).

At the discretion of the instructor, assignments submitted after the deadline may be penalized with the loss of a grade (e.g.: A- to B+) for each day late.

READINGS

Refer to detailed project handouts with readings specific to each studio section provided separately.

SPECIAL BUDGETARY REQUIREMENTS

Special budgetary requirements are limited to the optional purchase of course readings and, in specific courses, mandatory supplementary fees to cover certain expenditures, such as field trips. Mandatory supplementary fees must be approved by the University prior to implementation.

The University has approved supplemental fee for this course of \$150.00.

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/>).
8. 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.
9. Students are expected to complete all course assignments on time. There will be no final exam. Students must obtain an overall passing grade to pass this course, however, if a student fails any phase of the course worth 30% or more they will fail the course. A student who feels that a piece of graded term work (term paper, essay, test, etc.) has been unfairly graded may request to have the paper re-graded. The student shall discuss the work with the instructor within **fifteen days** of being notified of the mark or of the item's return to the class. More information can be found in the Graduate Calendar: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/grad/current/gs-o.html>