

## CAP Graduate Electives – Spring 2021

### Presentation: You and Your Work

- ARCH 6490-001 (cross listed with UG ARCH 3700-001)
- Instructor: Mira Woodson
- T, R 9:30am – 10:45am, Remote

#### Course Description:

In this course we will focus on the multifaceted elements needed to clearly communicate your design intention in presentations. We will examine the connections between visual representation and the written/spoken word. We will address: time management, workflow tools and techniques as well as how to deal with nerves and anxiety to develop a healthy design practice. A personalized plan will be developed to reach each student's goals and needs.

### Grasshopper

- ARCH 6390-001 (cross listed with UG ARCH 3800-001)
- Instructor: Paul Stockhoff
- T 6:30pm – 7:45pm, Remote (mixed modality of remote synchronous and online asynchronous learning)

#### Course Description:

This course will cover the basic operations and methods of using Grasshopper to create parametric workflows. The course will begin with a 3-4 introduction/refresher in Rhino and then move into how Grasshopper operates. From there students will move into how to create Grasshopper files that automate processes in Rhino, explore how to rapidly iterate designs in Grasshopper, and lastly produce a script independently that focuses in on an area of student interest.

Students will need access to both Rhino and Grasshopper. Grasshopper comes pre-installed in Rhino 6. Students may use either a Mac or PC, but the course will be taught from a PC. Students will meet once a week as a class via Zoom for both lectures and discussions. Tutorials and assignments will be housed on Canvas. Graduate students will be expected to display a higher degree of understanding and mastery in their final projects.

### New Ecologies: Life and Space in the Anthropocene

- LDAR 6686-001 (cross listed with ARCH 6190-001)
- Instructor: Joren Langhorst
- W 2:00pm – 4:45pm, Remote (Remote, Seminar: Readings, Discussions, Presentations, Case Studies, Films)

#### Course Description:

This course will explore relationships between ecology and humanity in a time when the possibility that the planet may no longer sustain human life becomes increasingly probable. Often described as the “Anthropocene”, the current geological age is considered the period during which human activity has become the dominant influence on climate and the environment.

We will discuss a range of classic and emergent bodies of ecological thought that propose radically different ideas of the relationships between human and other-than-human systems, species and beings. We will look in particular at radical critiques of traditional concepts of 'nature' and 'culture' as opposites or dichotomies, surveying and critiquing new approaches that have developed in response to patterns of accelerating change and crisis, such as climate change, increasing economic and ecological crises, post-industrialism and post-colonialism, the post-political and neoliberal austerity, and increasing levels of inequality.

The course will engage a multidisciplinary range of critical frameworks and lenses, from critical theory to political ecology to postcolonialism to critical race theory to feminist ecology to contemporary and emergent voices, such as Jane Bennett, Timothy Morton, Anna Tsing and Donna Haraway, to classical thinkers such as Richard Sennet, Michel Foucault, Achille Mbembe, and many others. An emphasis will be on alternative voices, in particular from authors, perspectives and backgrounds that have thus far been suppressed, marginalized or underrepresented.

A key question is how the threats of economic, ecological and socio-cultural collapse are unsettling and dislocating dominant understandings of the human, life, and futurity – concepts, realities and materialities fundamental to the practice of architecture, landscape architecture and planning.

The course will provide a substantial basis to critique and (re-)develop potent and consequential constructs, such as sustainability and resilience, and counteract their appropriation in growth-based ideas of place, space and humanity. Far from engaging in apparently unavoidable doom-and-gloom scenarios, we will attempt to lay out alternatives that are empowering and optimistic, rooted in perspectives that are rigorously cross-, trans- and interdisciplinary.

### **Design Process**

- LDAR 6686-E04 (cross listed with ARCH 6190-E01)
- Instructor: Leila Tolderlund
- Online, This class will start approx. 1/4/2021 you must register by 12/1/2020  
(This is an asynchronous online intensive 3-credit class, that requires daily attendance for the duration of the 'winterim')

### **Course Description:**

Gaining confidence as a designer by strengthening the iterative creative design process for Landscape Architecture, Architecture, Urban Design, and Urban Planning students. The ability to be creative is not just a talent that "some people have—and others don't". It is something that can be taught, nurtured, and developed. Everyone has the ability to come up with great and unique ideas and generate remarkable proposals. The iterative design process is a design method that design thinkers use to continually improve design ideas. Design thinkers' prototype, test, modify, test again, and repeat testing to re-think design solutions and arrive at 'better', improved, and more informed final design proposal. Students in this class will gain a detailed understanding of the potential of their own iterative design process. In this class students will furthermore learn the art of effective story telling. A tool kit of design idea-making strategies and methods will be

generated to strengthen the individual student/designer's ability and confidence to arrive at 'better'/more informed design proposals. Students in this class will furthermore be exposed to various techniques and methods for inspiration, and for developing, editing, and refining design ideas.

### **Preservation of Modern Architecture**

- HIPR 6090-001 (cross listed with ARCH 6290-001)
- Instructor: Leila Saboori.
- M 6:15pm-9:00pm, Remote

#### **Course Description:**

Modernist architecture was the physical manifestation of a wide-ranging philosophical and social movement that defined design in the twentieth century and continued to influence the post-modern built environment. This course highlights the fact that modern buildings and sites are an important part of our collective cultural heritage, and their preservation is as crucial as that of the architecture of any pre-modern period considered historically significant. However, to what extent they deserve preservation and how this should be done remains the subject of much discussion. Evaluating modern buildings as cultural heritage has been among the basic issues within the preservation philosophy and practices since 1990s. Lectures, case studies, and discussions will be used during the semester to discuss the critical dialogue around the preservation of modern architecture.

### **Politics of Preservation**

- HIPR 6330-001 (cross listed with ARCH 6290-002)
- Instructor: B Pahl
- T 6:15pm – 9:00pm, Remote

#### **Course Description:**

Achieving the preservation of historic properties requires an ability to know how to effectively use legal tools and successfully articulate the case for preservation to bureaucrats, private property owners, developers, and elected officials. Using Denver as a laboratory, students will learn how to deploy the theories, tools, and techniques they have learned thus far for the protection of historic properties. This class will help prepare students for a career in historic preservation or in a career that intersects with historic preservation.

### **Architecture and Nature**

- HIPR 6090-002 (cross listed with ARCH 3600-002)
- Instructor: Kat Vlahos
- T, R 2:00pm - 3:15pm, Remote

#### **Course Description:**

The symbiotic relationship between the built and natural environments.

The emerging fusion between human needs and the natural environment is unprecedented. By exploring alternative strategies for architectural development and building technology, we can begin to frame a new discourse between the built and natural environments filled with creative possibilities. Fostering a symbiotic relationship

between environment, nature, and building, may in turn enable us to reconsider how we approach design.

The course is experimental in nature rather than numerical. It is about a way of contemplating, thinking, and weaving ecological and sustainable ideas with other influences. Drawing from the vernacular to the high-tech, the course will focus on architecture and its relationship to the land and environment as a low-impact, physical intervention.

### **Architecture and Innovation**

- ARCH 6290-003
- Instructor: Matt Shea
- M 11:00am – 12:15pm, Remote (mixed modality of remote synchronous and online asynchronous learning)

#### Course Description:

Architecture and Innovation is a research seminar that is focused on the development and articulation of a framework for meaningful innovation—both critical and optimistic. Students will evaluate existing and historical approaches to innovation in architectural design found in texts, drawings and built architecture. They will evaluate them through discussions, writings and case studies. Based upon these studies, students will develop, articulate and test their own framework for innovation.

### **Green Tech Eco Furniture Fab I and II**

- Arch 6375-001 and ARCH 6376-001
- Instructor: Julee Herdt
- T, R 9:30am – 10:45am, In Person & T, R 11:00am – 12:15pm, In Person

#### Course Description:

Material salvage, recycled objects, and the remnants, bits, and pieces of life most often thrown away are carefully studied and reinvented as furniture, functional art, and beautiful architectural elements.

Green Tech is a real-build course in which students design and fabricate eco-furniture and architectural elements, clothing, or other objects using salvage, material surplus, and discards as creative inspiration. In Green Tech, powerful, creative work is produced by adhering to the rule: *Find, don't buy.*

In the course, students design by investigating and integrating their own unique ideas, philosophies, and cultural experiences as creative guides. Results from this class demonstrate projects of beauty, highest quality, and personal meaning for the individuals. Students learn first-hand that enjoyment of work yields the highest quality project.

#### In Green Tech students:

Consider that mistakes and odd ideas are often the most valuable design paths.  
Build real joints, details, and connections. No construction background is needed.  
Apply green techniques in all phases of work, from model building to project finishing.  
Learn local sources for salvage and construction waste.  
Work fearlessly and without inhibition.