Transformations of a Ginny Herzog painting resulted in a series of drawings examining line & shape, tone & texture, and color. The two-dimensional drawings served as inspiration for a small monochromatic model investigating form and space.

“We do not create the work, I believe we, in fact, are discoverers”

Glenn Murcutt

Inspiration for the final project - a residence in College Station, Texas - came from the series of transformational drawings and model along with an exploration of precedent. The residence fronts a large lake home to diverse wildlife including deer, gray fox and birds, thus the relationships of the built form to the site and natural environment were important.
"Mat-building can be said to epitomize the anonymous collective; where the functions come to enrich the fabric, and the individual gains new freedoms of action through a new and shuffled order, based on interconnection, close-knit patterns of association, and possibilities for growth, diminution, and change. (...) mat-building as an idea becomes recognizable. To be able to recognize the phenomenon at the end of this, its first, primitive phase, calls for a specially prepared frame of mind… to deliberately not look too closely at the detailed language, for this is still developing."

Alison Smithson, How to Recognize and Read Mat-Building.
Mainstream Architecture as it has Developed Towards the Mat-Building, Architectural Design (1974; 573)

A mat-building is a large-scale, high-density structure organized on the basis of an accurately modulated grid.

The goal of this project is to apply the solutions from previous projects, expanding the understanding of these as applied at a new scale.

Investigation of the Implied and Defined Spaces, Sequence, Solid, Void, Hierarchy, Primary, Secondary, Tertiary, and Slot Conditions were included in this project in an attempt to increase the understanding of space making.
PRINCIPLES OF ORDER

Two aspects are fundamental in this studio. First, design is understood as a kind of research in which relationships between the space production process and its results are explored as a consequence of a certain attitude or intention. Second, the methods and techniques used in this exploration are developed in order to identify and reflect upon the architectural artifact’s inherent spatial and structural orders through a series of exercises that go from the abstract interpretation of space and its representation, to the architectural, situated and specific object.
Creating Descriptive Space

In our first projects students have explored the relationships of positive and negative space, forms and hierarchy in both two dimensional and three dimensional manners. The notions of solid/void, open/closed, bound/unbounded have all been part of the process in thinking about space.

For this project, we are going to create inhabitable space. The space will not have a function or purpose. This will be a “Space” that is meant to evoke the student’s chosen descriptive WORD. The space will be a sequence of 2-3 spaces as part of a progression of space and movement. The student shall use the ideas from the operative design chart to inform the creation of the spaces. Through the iterations of study models, student will explore light and shadow and how the space creates an experience for the inhabitant.

This project should be a culmination of the processes and knowledge that has been gained during the semester. This project will combine knowledge and skills from 105 Studio and 115 to move towards a fully executed project in both 2D and 3D representations.
SPACE IN A TERRAIN

Using a terrain derived from an earlier project, the students were tasked with creating an occupiable structure with 3 distinct spaces: one small, one medium, one large. Each student was also assigned 1 of 6 pairs of operative actions by which to generate their formal geometries, define space, and explore ideas such as order, circulation, procession, hierarchy, figure-ground, and transparency.

expand + shift
skew + nest
fracture + rotate
twist + puncture
interlock + shear
bend + carve

https://tamu.zoom.us/j/95462204295?pwd=UW9QZGk0c2FzZTM4TEQrNmc5RDd4Zz09
SEQUENCE + SCALE + HIERARCHY

This project is considered a culmination and consolidation of the work completed in the BED Program’s first semester. The project was divided into two phases: Common Ground and then Volume(s). The project discusses sequence, scale, and hierarchy in a collaborative arrangement. In turn, these collaborative arrangements constitute the expanded idea of a broader context and scale presented as neighbors and public space.
Transformations of Ginny Herzog Paintings and The Woodlake Residence

Transformations of a Ginny Herzog painting resulted in a series of drawing examining line & shape, tone & texture, and color. The two-dimensional drawings served as inspiration for a small monochromatic model investigating form and space.

“We do not create the work, I believe we, in fact, are discoverers”
Glenn Murcutt

Inspiration for the final project - a residence in College Station, Texas - came from the series of transformational drawings and model along with an exploration of precedent. The residence fronts a large lake home to diverse wildlife including deer, gray fox and birds, thus the relationships of the built form to the site and natural environment were important.
The key to the future city development is the integration and combination of collaboration with the public, private and academic sectors, that is, mass collaboration. A proper system and platform are needed to promote it.

The Urban Design Center (UDC) is a platform to practice mass collaboration with the public, private and academic sectors, initiated by a community, and to create a town.

Public = Administration (government), non-profit organizations (NPOs), etc. Offer public services to a community.

Private = Citizens, enterprises involved in economic activities, etc. Enhance vitality and attractiveness of a community.

Academic = Educational and research institutions including universities, professionals, etc. Carry out advanced activities based on expertise and technologies.

Project: Urban Design Center

Location: Lee Circle

New Orleans, LA

Size: 30,000-40,000 sqft

Program:
- Exhibition Space
- Disaster Simulation
- Gallery
- Audition
- Archive
- Workshop
- Lecture Room
- Administration
- Cafe/Restaurant
- etc.

Research and Proposals
- Demonstration Experiments and Business Creation
- Design Management
- Exchange and Learning

DEVELOPING FOUNDATION SKILLS

The goal of the studio was a comprehensive development of hand-drafting, software modeling and sketching skills of freshman year students. These skills aimed at supporting their ENDS105 studio which took place in parallel. For hand-drafting, the students drafted in 24"x 18" size sheets on multiple topics such as lettering, free-hand lines, multi-view drawings, perspective projections, etc. They also created a sheet on a studio project entitled “Figure-Ground” which was later continued using Sketchup and Photoshop. For software, the students were introduced to 3-D modeling using Trimble Sketchup. The students also used Adobe Photoshop to render their drawings and add photorealistic effects. Photoshop was especially useful in creating sequential diagrams for the “Figure-Ground” project. Lastly, Adobe InDesign was introduced to the students to create a portfolio of their submissions. In one studio class, 2-hour test was conducted where the students made a sculpture using Sketchup and rendered it in Photoshop, which speaks about their skills they developed in these weeks. For sketching, almost every week the students were asked to make a sketch. This ranged from following a video, sketching outdoors or even sketching the site analysis diagram for their ENDS105 project.
"What connects thinking to imagination, imagination to drawing, drawing to building, and buildings to our eyes is projection in one guise or another, or processes that we have chosen to model on projection."

In this first-year studio we focus on the examination of digital drawing techniques with an emphasis on architectural projection systems to explain the process of formal production: 2D figures and 3D objects, volume(s) and ground, scales and viewpoints.

This project is fully collaborated with Design Foundation I P03_P04. Students are able to present design ideas directly and critically to the audience in the traditional mode of architectural representation - models, perspectives, elevations, plans, sections, and diagrams.

Instructors: Di Liu
Tyrene Calvesbert

Students: Kory Caballero
Pablo De La Garza
Addison Henson
Thomas Huizar
Aiden Kinney
Carlton Lee
Devon Mason
Coopper Muery
Steven Nguyen
Caitlyn Porras
Shelby Rajski
Ava Storms
Jennifer Tran
Sloane Veronico

11/16/2020 @ 12pm - 4pm
Zoom ID: 937 8333 7986
Passcode: 105511
Greetings from Marfa

‘Greetings from Marfa’ is the last assignment of Arch 205. It tasks the students with giving building form (to two types of things) for a small building project in Marfa, Texas. Their task is to develop design strategies for constructing hybrids, the surreal combination of distinct specimens, that combine two distinct building types into an entirely strange whole. Students will critically apply ideas from readings on shape (graphic and symbol), structure (of a field and of an object), and volume, to the design of the project.

In many ways artists and artist communities are breeding grounds for hybrid structures. After all they go to that town and make things happen (see Donald Judd). And Marfa, the mecca du jour for arts tourism, is no different. Strewn across the town are numerous small hybrid buildings that adapt the character of the West Texas town into new projects. For example, coffee shop-laundromat, museum-pizza parlor, and our favorite a proposal for a drive-in movie theatre-art gallery. Simply put, it’s Marfa: Tough to get here. Tougher to explain. But once you get here, you get it.
"Volumetric spatial operations present a platform upon which to begin the design process. (...) Using verbs as a design tool also reinforces the idea of design as an active and fluid process – one where the operations illustrate an evolution of changing volumetric configurations (...)"

- Di Mari & Yoo, Operative Design (2018)

The diversity of character and uses that coexist in the Menil Campus present students the opportunity to develop a proposal that emerges as a connector for the distinct publics that live, visit, and circulate in the neighborhood. It will represent speculation about how architecture catalyzes the relationships that take part in the city.

The buildings should consider the ethnically and culturally diverse urban scenario which they will appropriate. Teams must reflect on the ground condition, atmosphere, and its relationship to the broader city. How believable and comfortable spaces are created, how volumes are expressed, and how the facade is composed.

Articulating the core concepts studied during the first part of the semester, students will develop an architectural response encompassing formal operations, spatial flexibility, context adaptability, and aesthetics.
The project is a teaching center for women and exhibition facility dedicated to the legacy of Bessie Coleman and to support women who want to become an acclaimed pilot like Madeline Swegle. The site is located at the Atlanta, TX airport. A Flight School is a facility directed, equipped, and operating in a suitable place, offering flight instruction and/or synthetic trainer and theoretical teaching, according to programs specific training courses. The overall purpose of primary and intermediate flight training is the acquisition and honing of basic airmanship skills. Flight training is conducted under a structured accredited syllabus with a flight instructor at this particular school.
What is Urban Design Center (UDC)?

The key to the future city development is the integration and combination of collaboration with the public, private and academic sectors, that is, mass collaboration. A proper system and platform are needed to promote it.

The Urban Design Center (UDC) is a platform to practice mass collaboration with the public, private and academic sectors, initiated by a community, and to create a town.

Public = Administration (government), non-profit organizations (NPOs), etc. Offer public services to a community.

Private = Citizens, enterprises involved in economic activities, etc. Enhance vitality and attractiveness of a community.

Academic = Educational and research institutions including universities, professionals, etc. Carry out advanced activities based on expertise and technologies.

UnSheltered/Sheltered

The social implications of both social and economic conditions have created a large division of wealth in our country and across the globe there are many humans in need of shelter. How can we as architects have an impact on this human condition? Do we have a responsibility as creators of public space and inhabitation?

In this project, we will explore the possibility to provide essential quality of life services to those persons living unsheltered in a specific location in Texas. Texas ranks 4th in the United States. While this is a localized condition we are addressing in this project, the notion of shelter for the unsheltered across the world is a challenge for humanity. In this specific location, the downtown “re-development” has been creating more public park space and other public amenities, yet it does so in a manner that disregards those in less than ideal circumstance. It creates a sense of unintentional inequality. How then can we investigate what it means to share this public space equally among all those present in the downtown condition? The unsheltered population in Dallas alone has risen 262% in the last 15 years. Yet there has not been any increase in the available services for this group. This is a population that is deserving of essential facilities for sanitation, hygiene and support. This project is an attempt to better understand this condition and propose a possible solution that could be implemented in the urban condition and context.
“Volumetric spatial operations present a platform upon which to begin the design process. (...) Using verbs as a design tool also reinforces the idea of design as an active and fluid process – one where the operations illustrate an evolution of changing volumetric configurations (...)”

-Di Mari & Yoo, Operative Design (2018)

The diversity of character and uses that coexist in the Menil Campus present students the opportunity to develop a proposal that emerges as a connector for the distinct publics that live, visit, and circulate in the neighborhood. It will represent speculation about how architecture catalyzes the relationships that take part in the city.

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Articulating the core concepts studied during the first part of the semester, students will develop an architectural response encompassing formal operations, spatial flexibility, context adaptability, and aesthetics.
INTRACENTER ///

IntraCenter is a sophomore design studio focused on the technological component through a series of workshops and enacted study of architectural precedent as a continuum to teaching key characteristics and languages from the importance of persistencies in topics such as Axis, Regulating Lines, Figure(s), Solid-Void, Figure-Ground, Datum, Center, Nine Square, Four Square, Conditions, Corner, Edge. We push beyond towards addressing traditional narrative of the architectural problem to see more into the frameworks embedded in our society.

Houston’s has prized itself as one of the most diverse cities in the United States, yet found struggling with the similar historic policies and development plans challenges to bridge the gap in inequalities within the city as any other in the nation. As a city largely developed on privileged funded areas favorable to upper class and historically privileged demographics in our nation. Mayor Turner has been putting forth in recent years new Plans of Action initiatives towards combating such neighborhoods / wards within the inner loop of Houston as a next step to offer more fair and equal opportunities of social-economic injustice. We are looking into a neighborhood near downtown, Near Northside, as one of many neighborhoods that has been beneficial with new infrastructure changes including light rail, bus networks, and adjacent greenway parks; yet still remains underprivileged and lacks programs to offer better stability for the people that live and serve within the community beyond this initial infrastructure development.

We will not stray from the prior exercises from the semester. In fact, we will push forth, challenge the traditional norms of style and form towards developing a project that is contemporary and vibrant for speculation of the neighborhood’s potential. These projects will take on a contemporary solution that speaks and encouraging public use by means of an IntraCenter.
“L’ESPIGÓ DEL GAS, GINEBRA BREAKWATER” RETHINKING THE WATERFRONT INFRASTRUCTURE

The project site for this Fall 2020 Design studio project will be l’Espigó del Gas (Gas breakwater) originally called l’Espigó de Ginebra.

The Gas breakwater serves as the boundary between Somorrostro beach to the north; and Barceloneta beach, in the south and on dividing point between Barceloneta neighborhood and Villa Olimpica in the Poblenou neighborhood.

Like many others on the Barcelona litoral, l’Espigó del Gas remain unused as a potential privileged piece of the city thanks to the confluence of legislation, economical or climatic vectors. These sites need to be re-interpreted, re-thought, and re-used into a new landscape located in the urban condition on the edge of the city and the Mediterranean Sea.

It’s a challenge, in this context not being in Barcelona but online, to replicate the work of a global architect, to be able to work in a site that is absolutely contextual, even if there is no context. Site that is not in the city but where the city will be looked from.

This FALL 2020 project contains a site condition opportunity. It is not like any other BAC’s Design Studio projects that we have worked in our previous programs. Frequently our design challenges had historical, social and programmatical precedents and that constitute a scenario of enormous complexity to deal with.

Our Fall 2020 confronts precisely the opposite urban condition: the lack of such complexity. Therefore, may be architects and landscape architect can join their voice in this architecture opportunity.
VALENCIA /// LONJA DE PESCADORES

“Few cities embody the engagement of urban process with globalization and European integration better than the Mediterranean city of Valencia, Spain. Valencia is Spain’s third largest city (after Madrid and Barcelona) with a municipal resident within a metropolitan area of more than 1.5 million, yet has until recently received little outside attention. Once called the “world capital of anti-tourism” by British critic Kenneth Tynan, this traditionally agrarian and provincial city has become capital of the Spanish autonomous region the Comunitat Valenciana, Mediterranean cultural and economic center and major destination for foreign visitors.” (D.L. Prytherch, J.V. Boira Maiques / Cities 26 (2009) 103–115)

This studio investigates a preexisting building in Valencia, Spain, tasked to renovate and remodel the building, while keeping the site’s context and history at the heart of the design process.
“(...) the invention of neologisms capable of naming new realities, behaviors, desires, and architectures. Binge, bitcoin, burnout, cloud, Covid-19, drone, fracking, hacker, hashtag, meme, selfie, timeline, wearable, workaholic, are examples of words or meanings that have emerged in the face of new phenomena that demand to be named, and that could, as a whole, define our time.

We are currently living in fast-paced times with unpredictable changes that keep us incapable of understanding and enunciating what we are experiencing or what is yet to come.

Language must be updated rapidly to put our time into words. But, what if the creation of a neologism preceded reality to transform it?” (INST, 2020)

This studio reflects about the meaning of crucial terms in architecture and urbanism applied to Bryan and College Station’s specific contexts. By mapping and understanding these territories’ layered realities, students created neologisms that represent the particularities and contemporary transformations of their chosen sites. These neologisms became part of their design premises for a series of urban and architectural interventions to explore these communities’ needs.
Architectural Design III. (2-9). Credit 5. Integration of architectural theories and philosophy with environmental design systems; study of theoretical approaches to graphic and analytical thinking, problem identification and design dissemination through various media, case studies and problem resolution; conditions and forces associated with a variety of building types and the generation design solutions.

Las Americas Virtual Design Studio is a collaborative teaching and learning experience that gathers several academic studios from all around the American continent, from Texas in the United States to Mendoza in Argentina. In such context, students in all participating universities work in the same project, with the same schedule, and they all share their progress through the internet. Las Americas Virtual Design Studio is also an international architecture student competition, given that the best projects are chosen and awarded when the workshop is over.
At the start of 2020, the world was brutally introduced to an unexpected deadly virus, accompanied by an unprecedented pandemic, now globally recognized as COVID-19. Health facilities and hospitals were met at maximum capacity and nations became in desperate need of ‘SURGE’ spaces to keep up with the increasing infected patient rates.

Our project brief focuses on the research and design development for ‘SURGE’ health facility conversions from common buildings.

Our studio will present the diverse propositions of 8 teams with strategic primary design functions at various locations around the world in an urban context setting.

With Special Thanks To Our Collaborative Team of Advisors,

William R. Eide, CHSD Jr. Architect Emeritus
Ronald L. Skaggs, Chairman Emeritus AIA, FACHA, FHFI, LEED AP
Joseph G. Sprague, AIA, FACHA, FHFI, Senior President (Ret.)
Brian D. Briscoe, AIA, ACHA, EDAC, LEED, AP BS +C, Vice President
Daron Andrus, Architect, AIA, AP BD +C, Principal
ARCH 305.935

Instructor: Kateri Stewart
Students: Alan Carrizosa
Maria Cruz Ochoa
Palmer Fryear
Ryan Garza
Lucerito Gonzalez Perez
Emmanuel Guerrero
Marie (Jungmin) Han
Renee Irwine
Matthew McLendon
Ana Rico
Bianka Santillan
Ryan (David) Scarmardo
Shannon Summer
Carson Young
Spencer Young

REBUILDING SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE // A POOL FOR BCS

In the last century the support for or retreat from public swimming pools has served as a barometer for American aspirations, fears, and prejudices. As one example of what Eric Klinenberg refers to as "social infrastructure", public pools in particular have the potential to radically confront common understandings of personal space and privacy, and to expand social horizons beyond the usual familiar and limited bounds. In an era of polarization this studio posits that the bringing together of bodies with shared vulnerability and shared purpose can be one stitch in the mending of the social fabric.

Zoom ID: 988 6005 5989
Password: ARCH 305
A Rowing Club at Lake Bryan

Crew is the ultimate team sport. Whether it's racing in an eight-person or four-person boat, the best crews consist of groups of athletes working together to achieve harmony, rhythm, balance, and speed.

Done well, rowing can feel like flying across the surface of the water. It also serves as a wonderful way to enhance one's personal fitness, as a low-impact sport that requires a combination of strength, speed, endurance, and technical skill.
CROSSWAYS INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIO

We have undertaken a very rich and complex interdisciplinary, collaborative project to design buildings in a sustainable new town in South Africa. Dr. Jose Solis of the Department of Construction Science, and Dr. Ken Hurst of the Department of Landscape Architecture and Urban Planning coordinated their classes on the same project.

The project is a real project – Crossways Farm Village https://crossways.co.za/ Dr. Chris Mulder, '80, is the mastermind behind creating a new town near Port Elizabeth in the East Cape region. His goals are ambitious – to create a self-supporting community of 600 homes, including residential, commercial, industrial, educational and other structures.

Students, in teams of two, have undertaken one of four specific building design projects:

- Resort Hotel, Spa, and Conference Center
- Resort Villas
- The Hub Commercial Center
- The Aero Villas and airstrip

They are challenged to address the form-based code established for Crossways while achieving high performance from the standpoints of economics, environmental stewardship, social justice, and sensory appeal. Students used Building Information Modeling, digital collaboration, energy simulation, cost estimating, rendering, animation and other methods to assess multiple schemes to arrive at their best designs.

These reviews will be a Zoom equivalent of poster sessions. Each team will have a breakout room.

https://tamu.zoom.us/j/93152415739?pwd=ektUXmZLMnJvYXVvMlJmQ1EyZz09
Architectural Design IV. (2-9). Credit 5.
A comprehensive design studio focused on the integration of design theory with functionally sustainable environmental and structural systems; consideration of a project from site analysis and programming through design detailing.

fire station
405.501.fa2020
ARCH 405.502

POTENTIAL HISTORIES, THE STUDIO

This studio concerns the ethics of globalized architectural practice in a postcolonial context. Students studied existing educational facilities around the world, including schools in Botswana, Jamaica, Pakistan, and Vietnam. All of the facilities studied were originally designed by CRS Architects in the 1960s and 70s, and now, a half-century later, we have returned to these sites (remotely, of course) to reconsider the impact of globalization and to reimagine the future of education in these places. The students’ responses to this prompt were guided by research, communication with stakeholders around the globe, and the students’ individual interests. Each student has created an ArcGIS Online Storymap to organize their final presentation; click on their names to the left to go directly to their work.
Baltimore Inner Harbor
-Mixed Use Development

Activation of the Southern corner with the marina club, seafood restaurant & bar, and boutique hotel (20 rooms), approximately 40-45K sq.ft.
END of LINE III

End of Line is a 4th year Undergraduate Research Topic studio that has focused on the research topic around redefining the Line and the role of implied thickness forged by students processes. Furthermore, enacting these Line narratives towards the design of a HSR (high speed rail) transit terminal / hub in northwest Houston.

Uniquely, we are now in the opportune moment within an election year to leverage ambition ideas. One of those popular topics on either candidate’s agenda is the discussion of investment, rebuilding, and innovation to improve upon our infrastructure. Spoken in most election years and forefront of putting in place these ambitious ideas to overhaul our current and developing rail system to better serve the people. Ironically if you chose see as so, one candidate has been outspoken with an earlier statement about infrastructure and furthermore recently adopting certain slogans to promote ambition agendas. We know in no way that government be the solely responsible entity for such large infrastructure projects nor will they be able to fund these projects without the private sector. It’s the support of other key partnerships and investors that make these larger scale projects viable. For example, currently under development several HSR systems in the works such as the Brightline Rail (Florida, Virgin investors), Hyperloop (Califomia, Elon Musk) and Texas High-Speed Train (Dallas-Houston line, Texas Central) already pushing forward the investments and laying out the groundwork for constructing primary phases of these railways and related infrastructural requirements. With the unique proximity to one of the many approved plans in the United States, the Texas Triangle development is underway and spearheaded by the Texas Central, LLC which is an organization that promotes the business partnership and investors known as a Public Private Partnership for linking the Texas Triangle.
A STUDY OF THE GROUND

In relation to the ground – the earth, the soil, the land – where would the home as dwelling (building as dwelling) situate us? Are all our endeavors in building, of an architectural nature, only a reminder of the land of refuge and the separation we take from it? For sure, according to Levinas, “the home does not implant the separated being in a ground to leave it in . . . communication with the elements. It is set back from the anonymity of the earth, the air, the light, the forest, the road, the sea, the river. It has a ‘street front,’ but also a secrecy.” In dwelling, as the very condition of the human, we break with natural existence, we separate ourselves from other animals. Grounded in this interiority, we are bound to this secrecy.


[zoom] meeting ID: 987 9954 9679 passcode: 663067
CULTIVATING A FUTURE ///
21ST CENTURY BLACK FARMING IN TEXAS

This Texan 21st Century Black Farm becomes a perfect case study where all these, ecological, political, technological, economical and cultural conditions come together. One of the main aspects of this criticism is the modernist reality. David Chandler proposes three governance modes: Mapping, Sensing and Hacking claiming to start from the empirical reality of the world as it appears rather than from assumptions of modernist progress, universal knowledge or linear causality.

"The onto-political claim informing these modes, is the assertion that in the Anthropocene the world is much less addressable by modernist constructions and assumptions; it is more contingent, plural and complex: thereby less threatening to the applications of technological solutionism."

This affirmation of the Anthropocene can be observed in the importance of designing indirect interventions based on tracing or mapping assemblages of interactive emergence, boosting of Big Data and the Internet of Things as able to provide real time responses to 'pre-event' problems, and with new creative ways of engaging on the basis of repurposing----and finding the play in the already existing arrangements and practices.
ARCH 605.602

Instructor:  Zhipeng Lu

Students:  Andrea Aponte  Jared Kotzur  Jake Metzler  Zachary Rowley  Blakely St Laurent  Ashleigh Thoele  Kaytlyn Vavrecka  Euijin Wang

Advisors:   Dale Moshe Sumbureru  Bill Eide  Anat Geva  Brian Brisco  Daron Andrus  George Mann  Joe Sprague  Ron Skaggs

**SALUTOGENESIS**

**A HEALING & RESTORATIVE CAMPUS IN NEW MEXICO**

The human organism has the capacity to adapt, overcome and eliminate any insult to thrive. Salutogenics is a Nevada corporation whose mission is to establish a parallel healthcare system in concierge medicine and sanatorium resorts. It is to be a borderless preventive medicine and health care system worldwide. The hallmark of the system is a series of sanatorium resorts which provide services ranging from simple tourism to detoxification and rejuvenation, recreation, rehabilitation, convalescence, primary care and elective surgeries.

The specific project is the establishment of a sanatorium resort complex in New Mexico, which is in a 29,000-acre land. The sanatorium resort will include a resort hotel, a clinic, an ambulatory surgery center, a Turkish spa, restaurants, laboratories, hydroponic and aquaponic facilities, healing gardens, recreational and sports facilities, conservancy and creation of new habitats for wildlife, air strip, an integrated marketing and distribution system. Salutogenics, in addition to health and medicine, has tenets that include community development, economic development, education and custodial support and will establish facilities in communities which have growth potential.

Zoom link:
https://tamu.zoom.us/j/95487179598?pwd=RVZhNzdWVGltdUNTR2RyTVY1U0VXQT09
This first semester M.Arch. studio explores questions of political boundaries and their spatial implications in the Bi-national cities of Laredo (US) and Nuevo Laredo (MX). It considers the existing conditions as they relate to questions of ecology, trade, migration, among others. Students were asked to propose a strategy for a design response, this is, how to construct forms of engagement with the sites and questions—at regional, urban, or small scale interventions. More than a fully resolved project, the studio focused on conceptualizing the responses and suggest the beginning of their development as projects.

[zoom meeting: 968 0937 4415 pass: 719944]
The studio works toward an alternative to public health clinics in rural counties. Our efforts are situated in the Brazos Valley region, specifically the six rural counties that surround Brazos County, the only county in the middle of the Texas Triangle megaregion with a large urban population. The counties we are focusing on are micropolitan or rural in composition and are largely understood as having substantial health inequities and challenges. While the proposed Care Sheds provide spaces in the conventional sense of a medical clinic, students developed an understanding of particular social factors leading to health disparities in one of the counties. To this end, each Care Shed program is a place for residents and service providers to access resources that impact health in that county.

The Care Shed aims to enrich the built environment. Students worked across scales, from crafting building interiors up to county level design strategies. Additionally, the studio read “The Duck and Decorated Shed” by Robert Venturi, Denise Scott Brown, and Steven Izenour. Each student’s design response reflects on how their proposal takes a stance at defining what a “Decorated Shed” might be in the specific context they are working in. The studio has dedicated time to looking at a number of architects, photographers, painters, and other creative practices who work in rural settings or in places where rural-suburban-urban systems converge.

*Photograph above is by Filip Dujardin as part of his Sheds series.

Zoom Password: careshed