Urban Waterfronts. Projects in Portland + International Cities


Introduction

This is a preparatory course for students enrolled in the Advanced Architectural Design Studio, Winter + Spring 2014. The seminar has two objectives:

▪ To serve as a forum to investigate and discuss the topical focus of the studio: “Urban Waterfronts”

▪ To support individual project research, preparation of a thesis statement, and documentation of a design program to include:

  Conceptual and philosophical foundations of your project.

  Historical and contemporary precedents.

  Gather and document information on the urban context, site and program.

  Preparation of an urban context and site analysis

  Preparation of a thesis statement and design program as final products.

For more detail on the subject and studio, see the Thesis Studio Posting (Winter+Spring 2014)
Seminar Format

The seminar format is a mix of instructor lectures, readings, discussions and student presentations. The instructor develops the organizational framework for the seminar, presents some topics in lecture-discussions, and critiques student work.

Seminar Products

▪ The primary assignment of the term is the “Thesis Statement and Design Program” document. This is an illustrated monograph that thoroughly documents your research, thesis statement and design program for your project.

▪ Teams of students will make class presentations to the seminar and lead discussion of topics related to the Studio theme.

Independent Study Credits

Additional credits to support research may be earned through independent studies. (Special Problems Portland or Research Portland). See instructor to register.

Architectural Programming

The Architectural Programming course (Y. Huggins) is recommended to provide an introduction to research and programming methods if you have not previously prepared an architectural program.

Instructor

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Gerald Gast is an architect and urban designer, a member of the University of Oregon Portland Architecture faculty, and Visiting Associate Professor in the Program on Urban Studies at Stanford University. He is a founding principal of Gast-Hillmer Urban Design in California. Recent projects include design of the new Stryiskyi Park campus for the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv, Ukraine, and the Urban Design Component of the General Plan for Redwood City, California, the latter recognized as the 2012 California Award of Excellence for a Comprehensive Plan, small jurisdiction, by the American Planning Association.

Research interests focus on recent seminal and urban design work, including a comparative study of projects in North America, South America and Western Europe. Recent professional work on water edge design includes the Master Plan for the San Diego County Government Center in Downtown San Diego, the Oregon Science and Technology Park (OSTP) in Gresham-Troutdale, Oregon, citywide and district urban design studies for San Clemente, Dana Point and San Diego, CA.