Goose Hollow Urban Design Study and “Generation House”. Portland

Studio Introduction: Architecture 683.

This design studio is an introduction to the Portland Option II Graduate Architecture Program. It combines elements of architecture and urban design. The studio explores theoretical ideas and their translation into architectural and urban spaces. Building tectonics are developed as they support and reinforce design concepts.

Educational Themes of the Studio

Neighborhood-Scale Civic Architecture. The project focuses on an urban design study of the Goose Hollow neighborhood in Central Portland and an architectural study of a “Generation House” that includes a child care center, senior apartments and ground floor retail and community activities.

The Spaces Between: Collective Space / Social Space. The studio will focus on issues of “collective space and social space” as discussed in Herman Hertzberger’s book *Space and the Architect*, a series of essays on architecture which explore “in between space” and the city.

Creative Design Inquiry. As a graduate design studio, participants are expected to engage in rigorous design research and inquiry, seeking sources beyond those assigned. Students are encouraged to expand their design skills to explore the conceptual “boundaries” of the project, developing an experimental design process.
Comprehensive Design. The University of Oregon’s Graduate Program emphasizes a comprehensive design process: the integration of studies in theory, history, design skills, human factors, sustainability and tectonics (structure, construction and environmental systems) in design studio work. The studio organization and project will be guided by this philosophy.

Environmentally Sustainable Design. The studio places high priority on sustainable design that conserves energy, reduces carbon emissions and promotes the use of non-toxic and recyclable building materials. Students will be expected to document the sustainability performance of their proposals.

Project

Goose Hollow Urban Design Study

Half of the term’s work will focus on an urban design study of the Goose Hollow neighborhood in central Portland. Goose Hollow is part of the Portland Central City Plan Area that is currently under study by the Portland Bureau of Planning and Sustainability. The studio’s research and urban design studies will contribute to the neighborhood planning effort. Contact with the City’s Urban Design Group of the Planning Bureau and the Goose Hollow neighborhood in a workshop/charette and periodic meetings is anticipated.

Research and continuing urban design work during the academic year will be offered for students who may want to remain engaged with the project through research and independent study.

Architectural Focus: The Portland Generation House

The architectural project will focus on a “multi-generation house” that combines a child care center, independent living senior apartments and ground floor commercial and community organization space. The project is patterned after a similar pioneering building in Stuttgart, Germany. The goal is the mixing of generations who seldom have contact with each other, enabling greater understanding of other generations and individuals.
Information/Questions:

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