City Growth/City Design

Why have cities and suburbs developed as they have? What are the economic, political, social, and spatial forces that shape the American city and its environs? If the aim is to change patterns of development, what are the dimensions that need to be understood in order to put this change into effect?

This course seeks to understand the broad range of issues that have molded and continue to mold cities and suburbs. The scope will be wide and will include everything from policy, planning, and transportation issues down to specific urban design and architectural approaches/strategies.

Through lectures, discussions, case studies, and group projects, you will be asked to tease apart and ‘read’ current development patterns in an effort to understand what must be done/dealt with in order to create change.

Of particular interest in the course will be cross disciplinary work that will provide a broader understanding of development which takes into account the wide range of participants that create our cities and suburbs. This study will provide a basis for hypothesizing changes to current patterns of development in city and suburban design.

This course is open to architects, landscape architects, planners, urban designers, geographers, and anyone else interested in the development of cities and suburbs.

City Growth/City Design is part of Sustainable City Year with Salem.