GRADUATE RESEARCH SEMINAR: RESILIENT URBAN MORPHOLOGIES

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<th>Eugene: Tuesday 6-8 (alternate weeks after second week) &amp; individual meetings. First meeting Tuesday January 4th</th>
<th>Portland: Thursday 10-12 (alternate weeks after second week) &amp; individual meetings. First meeting Thursday January 6th</th>
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Enrollment is with instructor’s permission only. Approximate limit of 6 graduate students in each location. Variable credit, 2-4 units. Interested students should contact Howard Davis directly at <hdavis@uoregon.edu>

In this seminar, students will carry out research on how urban form and buildings may support small-scale, grassroots economic activity. It is conjectured that efforts toward urban sustainability depend on the city’s ability to support regenerative economies, and that such economies are supported not only by buildings and urban space but also by the ability for the city’s spaces to be resilient as the economy changes and matures.

There are three possible areas of investigation:

**Portland.** Student researchers will investigate neighborhoods in which small-scale retailers and manufacturers have established themselves, neighborhoods with a high proportion of newly-arrived immigrants, and/or the spatial networks and buildings of particular ethnic or occupational groups. The work will involve mapping small businesses in the context of their neighborhood and city, and interviews with small-business owners and other people to understand their choices with respect to buildings, building renovations and location. **Students based in Eugene who want to do research in Portland must be prepared to spend at least one full day a week in Portland.**

**Guangzhou, China.** Student researchers will aid in the analysis and interpretation of information gathered during the September 2010 research trip to China that was led by the instructor. The work will include development of a GIS-based interpretation of the data (in collaboration with the Infographics Lab based in the Department of Geography) and preparation of materials for public presentations about the work. In addition, members of the seminar will help develop, through readings and discussions, theoretical models that synthesize the three ideas of 1) resilience and flexibility in architecture and urban design, 2) sustainability, and 3) economic/social equity.

**Other places and topics.** Students may also propose individual research topics, possibly involving different locations, on the conditions that those topics are directly relevant to the topic of the seminar, and that they will be carried out through primary research.

In all three cases, students will be encouraged to develop their work in ways that will lead to publication or conference presentations.