home/shop

Studio Description:
The construction industry is populated by a myriad of professional trade/craftspeople who are involved in the building process, and who all play a role turning designs into reality. Framers, roofers, glazers, masons, carpenters and more are all integral to the production of the built environment. These people focus their time, effort, and most importantly skill, helping to realize the dreams of architects and clients alike, often contributing in unseen ways. Many of these people are also self-employed, even if they contract with larger companies, and have need of their own space for storage, production, fabrication, etc.. Current economic trends have made the model of a joined working and living environment a desirable one for many individual contractors. A place where one can have the comforts of house and home as well as shop space to think, plan, prepare, stage and construct provides efficiency and economy.

What would be the aesthetic for space designed specifically for these builders? How can one’s craft be expressed through design and construction? Can the living/working environment for the trade/craftsperson reflect their skill while also accommodating the needs for a comfortable and functional home and shop?

Objectives:
This studio will focus on designing a home and shop for a selected specific trade/craftsperson on a single piece of property in Eugene, Oregon. It will explore the possibilities suggested by the materials, methods and means employed by each trade in creating architectural form by:

• Developing a program narrative for the selected trade/craftsperson.
• Exploring the making of forms and assemblies from base materials.
• Incorporating working/building processes into the design process.
• Focusing on materiality and construction quality as a means for expression.
• Developing an aesthetic language that highlights a builder’s skill.
• Developing design that responds to a builder’s identity, both spiritual and physical.