EDGE URBANISM: LANE COMMUNITY COLLEGE MASTER PLAN

Course ARCH 484/584: Urban Design Studio
Term Winter 2011
Instructors Mark L. Gillem
Credits 6
Time Wednesday/Friday 1:00-5:50 pm

LCC: From greenfield to sprawl. It is past time for a new model.

Course Objectives. How should land at the edge of cities be developed? In this era of sustainability, why do we still see low-density, auto-oriented, greenfield development as the norm for the edge? What are other models for accommodating growth that do not rely solely on greenfield development? In this urban design studio, we will explore and propose a more sustainable approach for one edge site that can be a model for hundreds of similar sites across the country.

This is a real urban design project that will include a significant public participation component. Lane Community College (LCC) has provided funding to the University of Oregon’s Urban Design Lab to prepare a new master plan for the campus. As such, the expectations for the studio are quite high. The studio builds on award-winning UO-student work completed in 2010 that resulted in a planning vision and proposals for hypothetical buildings and districts. It is a vision for a campus where students, faculty, and staff can learn and live; where walking and transit become the normal modes of transportation; and where available land is used to generate a sustainable revenue stream. The LCC Board unanimously adopted the vision and now the goal is to create the actual campus master plan.

Course Assignments. Working in small teams, students will develop proposals for several districts on the LCC campus including the campus core, the south campus, the frontage, and the northside. They will analyze their district, craft a development program, work in public charrettes to design alternatives, and prepare a detailed design of a preferred alternative. This will include illustrative plans and an accompanying form-based code that can flexibly guide sustainable future growth. Students will also forecast the impacts of their proposals in terms of farmland preservation, reduction of vehicle miles traveled and carbon dioxide emissions, and per household savings.

Course Structure. Instruction will include regular class discussions, small group reviews, and desk crits. Required texts are Growing Cooler and Form-Based Codes. The studio is open to Landscape Architecture and Planning, Public Policy, and Management students on a preapproved basis - please contact the instructor if you are interested.