As an introduction to the University of Oregon for graduate students with varied undergraduate backgrounds in environmental design, the 683 studio provides a common foundation in design theory and methods. The studio includes a field trip that develops field study skill while expanding student experience of the region beyond Eugene, for students at the Eugene campus ...

The vehicle for this studio this year will be the design of a housing development just north of the downtown core of Eugene. Fifteen units will be designed for a site on the south flank of Skinner’s Butte. The complex will be comprised of units that provide compact living, along with a work place. Common elements will help give each owner extra space when needed and will provide a stage for shared community experiences.

Design objectives for this term are:

- the design of new housing based on a knowledge and understanding of housing typologies and the place within that history of any new project;
- the design of a complex of buildings where the spaces between are as significant as the spaces within;
- the design of a set of buildings, with consideration given to the composition of the elevations, the plans and the sections of the buildings;
- the design of a building complex with appropriate environmental consideration given to the form, orientation, interior/exterior connection, and the use and detailing of materials; and,
- the design of a building complex with due consideration given to the program and activities to be supported by this building.

The studio will also have a field trip to Mt. Angel, Timberline and Portland. The trip will allow us to experience firsthand the design of both individual buildings and housing.

In addition to fully completing all research and design work assigned, each student is expected to participate in all class discussions, pin-ups, and weekly desk crits. Working in studio is a fundamental way for students to develop their understandings of the issues at hand, and, as a result, their design.