The City of Portland’s Bureau of Planning is currently embarking on a new Central City Plan for the next twenty years. This terminal studio, or thesis studio for the year 2007-2008, seeks to connect with these efforts.

One of the main objectives of this advanced urban architecture studio is to support and inform a new Central City Plan with relevant architectural responses. We will start this effort by studying and developing an understanding of the basic tenets and context of Portland’s Central City. This academic exercise will begin by either testing an urban design vision already being considered by the Planning Bureau, or by developing an independent urban design vision based upon plan goals and objectives provided by the Bureau.

This effort will be coordinated together with Arun Jain, Portland’s Chief Urban Designer. The urban design plan so developed or explored will help identify the candidate sites and project types from which individual thesis projects may be selected.

**SUMMER 2007 Summer Preparation:** Over the summer students will start to study and understand Portland’s downtown in relation to the city’s ongoing Central City planning and urban design efforts. In this context students will consider and select their preferred thesis project by type and site. By fall each student will have a one to two page description of at least one visionary urban architecture project within the downtown plan.

**FALL 2007**
During this seminar students will address relevant urban design aspects of the Central Portland Plan. Students will:

- Test the urban design elements of the Central Portland Plan (CPP)
- Examine relevant urban design scenarios for the CPP
- Develop a list of specific sites that best represent “places of highest value”
- Select candidate individual projects within the above urban design framework
- Develop a program (project language) for the individual project
- Delivering a project book (thesis statement) at the end of the fall quarter that includes a) the communal overall urban plan and b) the beginning of the individual architecture project.

During the second half of the quarter, the students will develop a building program and present it in their thesis report.

WINTER 2008: Arch 485/585: Advanced Architecture Studio Projects
In the winter quarter students will start developing their individual building designs and demonstrate how their design response will improve or inform relevant urban design attitudes being considered by the city, district or neighborhood.

SPRING 2008: Arch 486/586: Advanced Architecture Studio Projects
In the spring quarter students will continue to work on their architectural response and individual building projects. Incorporating the larger urban design implications they will complete their design work in all architectural aspects, including structures, construction and building support systems.

EXCURSIONS: There are trips to various West Coast Cities to investigate other sites and cities, buildings and open spaces. The first trip is to Vancouver BC in October of 2007. There are also opportunities to visit the San Francisco Bay Area during the fall, winter or spring quarters.
