This studio will explore the redevelopment of the City Hall block in Downtown Eugene, concurrent with the actual design process for the phase 1 Eugene City Hall. Rowell Brokaw Architects and the Miller Hull Partnership are leading the design for the block and phase 1 building.

Phase 1 will be 20,000–25,000 square feet and will contain the Council Chamber, Offices for the Mayor and City Councilors, Meeting Space and the City Manager’s Office. The building will front a public open space and 8th Avenue, anchoring a civic heart for the city. This leaves two parcels for future development on the block. The studio will explore the urban design of the whole block, and test “use scenarios” and building concepts on these parcels.

Students will work in small teams of 2 or 3 students, each exploring site opportunities, potential building types and public space. Preliminary ideas include consolidation of City services connected to phase 1, a private office building with lease-back potential for the City, County Courts, mixed use housing, a hotel or another public use such as a museum. Students interested in design of the phase 1 building may pursue this is as well. Individual students will be responsible for specific buildings and sites within the larger block. Each team will have a comprehensive design proposal for the whole block.

The studio will give you an opportunity to explore urban design and to design an urban building. The scenarios developed in studio will contribute to the City’s understanding of the possible uses and redevelopment of the block.