"The evolution of a species...is not independent of...their material environment. Indeed, the species and their environment...evolve as a single system." James Lovelock

In nature, form and system arise sustainably from, and in synergy with, a complex environmental ecology, co-evolving with it in regenerative ways. Human endeavors are surrounded by ecologies beyond the environmental. Just as in nature, though, the forms and systems of human designs can emerge in response to these manifold ecologies: ethological, experiential, economical, and the environmental. To explore the possibilities, this studio will consider architecture at the intersection of local agriculture, the marketplace, and apprenticeship. The project will center around a local micro-farm produce-processing facility and market, paired with teaching spaces and intern housing.

The primary focus will be on how architectural expression and systems co-evolve in synergy with place, people and program, in creating an armature for regenerating not only the natural environment, but also that of community and of economy. Toward that end, the studio will include inventory and analysis of ecologies; strategies for exploring synergies of people, place, program; development of conceptual solutions arising from those synergies; connecting and reconnecting internal and external “resource and sink” loops; culminating in a design solution employing ecologically-conscious site strategies, building structures and envelopes; and passive and active concepts, techniques and systems for energy-, water-, and materials-efficiency.

*Pre-requisites for 484: ARCH 384  
*Pre-requisites for 584: ARCH 682 or 683