Arch 407/507 Fall 2010 • Howard Davis
Terminal/thesis studio preparation seminar

Arch 407: CRN 10893
Arch 507: CRN 10971

The seminar will meet Mondays 6:30-9:30. It may be taken for 2, 3 or 4 credits.

Buildings for the productive city: fall seminar

In this seminar, students will undertake preliminary work and programming for the terminal studio offered by Howard Davis in Winter and Spring 2011. The seminar is open only to students in the studio.

The following tasks will be undertaken, by students working individually and in groups:

1. Development of building program for one of the following:
   
   [a] a contemporary production facility for food, goods or ideas (this may be an “urban grange,” to support local agriculture; a small factory for bicycles or food-processing equipment; a facility for digital prototyping or energy-technology start-ups; or …)
   
   [b] a cultural institution dealing with urban production (this may be, for example, a museum of building or agriculture or local industry); or …
   
   [c] a research facility to investigate urban production and the local urban economy (including, for example, laboratories, seminar rooms, library, researchers’ offices, auditorium, test gardens).
   
   [c] a program of students’ own choice (to be worked out with the instructor) within the overall theme, as an individual thesis.

2. Choice of site

3. Site documentation, history, and current issues regarding the selected site

4. Development of individual thesis statements within the overall studio theme. These statements will incorporate precedent studies. Precedents will include:
   
   - buildings associated with students’ own programs
   - buildings in which craft and materials play a central role in form and quality
   - buildings that integrate architecture and landscape
   - buildings that reinforce the social context of an urban district

5. Studies of contemporary questions of urban production and urban agriculture, and their relationships to city form and architecture

The seminar will meet once a week. During seminar meetings, students will present their ongoing, individual thesis statements, and groups will present progress on group investigations. There will also be at least two or three Saturday field trips to Portland.

Students and groups will be required to produce illustrated reports by the end of the term, to be incorporated into a studio book to be made available to all members of the studio.