Community Design Joint Studio in Architecture and Landscape Architecture

ARCH 484/584
LA 489/589

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MWF 1:00 - 4:50 PM

Recommended Co-Requisite: ARCH 410/510 Community Design

Housing design takes many forms, defined by many cultural, political and economic issues. This studio brings architecture and landscape architecture students together in a joint studio setting to explore, analyze and create feasible community design options for a Portland metro-area housing-based development. Students will address multiple design problems in association with low-rise medium density multi-unit housing schemes. Students will work in integrated, multi-disciplinary teams throughout the term.

The problem will emphasize:

- Defining “housing” as both the structure and the outdoor space that create the idea of home, neighborhood and community.

- Strategic use of higher density (i.e., higher than typical s.f.d. housing) housing to create a community based housing dynamic.

- Implementation of sustainable technologies.

- Examination of existing housing typologies and how they can be morphed to satisfy 21st century sustainable community housing goals.

- Identifying “Quality of Life” as a primary goal and defining what that means in terms of physical form.

- Revisit relationships between the multiple use of spaces and the functionality of the house.

With increasing populations and declining natural resources, it is imperative that a new model of residential development be implemented. This studio will address the American phenomenon of super-sizing in favor of a more sustainable pattern of development (e.g., “smart growth”) that demonstrates how the down sizing of units (e.g., “compact design”) can be a viable alternative to the mini-mansion starter home.