Outside in
Rethinking Buildings and the Weather

Winter/Spring 2014 Terminal Design Studio, Arch 485/585 486/586

The first responsibility of most buildings has traditionally been seen as sheltering people from the weather. Many do such an effective job of this, however, that they also often inadvertently deprive their occupants of two key requirements for their long-term well-being—contact with nature and change. This studio will explore how, at the same as physically protecting us from the extremes of the weather, buildings can also be a means of reconnecting us with nature and its benefits. Visitor centers at two federal institutions responsible for observing and explaining the weather will be used as vehicles for these investigations: the National Weather Center in Norman, Oklahoma, and the National Center for Atmospheric Research in Boulder, Colorado. There will be a required preparatory seminar in the fall consisting of site visits, program analyses, expert briefings and feasibility studies. Kevin Nute: knute@uoregon.edu

‘Nimbus,’ Berndnaut Smilde