CASL : DESIGN • DETAIL • BUILD

The student run Center for the Advancement of Sustainable Living (CASL) recently purchased a house at 1801 Moss Street that serves as focal point for exploring more sustainable ways to live.

DESIGN
The scope of the studio will begin by looking at a future masterplan for the CASL site – imagining, with the CASL staff, how the site might evolve over time. We will be working with the expansion of the existing house and adding new support structures including a very small “off-the-grid” portable house to be used for demonstration purposes.

Preliminary studies will investigate sustainable land use/site planning strategies and off-the-grid and low impact design strategies (solar, water catchment, waste management etc.) Individual students or small groups will develop the schematic site plan and the new structures through to final review.

DETAIL
The studio will focus on detail design – looking at eco-friendly materials and reuse. We will be designing the details for the entry sequence and a new front porch for the CASL House – the important public interface of the CASL project. The detail portion of the studio will use collaborative and consensus based design. The studio will generate details as a team.

BUILD
Once the basic details have been established, we will work on-site to build the porch and the accessible walkway into the house. Given the brevity of the session we may rely on others to “fill in” and complete aspects of the work. In this phase, our work will be focused on crafting a cohesive set of details and exploring other aspects of the construction process.

Michael Cockram has taught periodically at the U of O since 1994. For eight years he directed the Italy Field School, a hands-on architecture/preservation program in Italy’s Ossola Valley. He has done several design-build projects and is one of the founders of Design Bridge. For the last year and a half he worked in the firm of L.M. Holder FAIA in Austin, Texas.