

studio | next

Building the Post-Carbon City
Architectural Design VII/VIII/V/VI | Visiting Critic Studio
Syracuse University School of Architecture
ARC 407/408/608/609

Spring 2016 / 6 Credits

Prerequisites: B. Arch ARC 308 or 407; M.Arch I 607 or 608; or instructor consent

Course meeting time: As listed or as determined by class at first meeting

Tu Th 1:00 pm-4:00 pm

Assistant Professor Susan Dieterlen, RLA, MLA, PhD

Office: 404 Syracuse Center of Excellence

Office hours: By appointment; regular hours and location TBA

Email (preferred): sdieterl@syr.edu

Office phone (not preferred): 443-8812

Course website: <http://www.susandieterlen.com/postindustrial-post-carbon-cities.html>

Twitter: @susandieterlen

Course hashtag: #citybynext

*Postindustrial cities currently face the challenge of climate change, failing infrastructure, and technological innovation. This wicked problem demands practical visions characterized by innovation and synthesis: aka design thinking. Emerging designers need to embrace these challenges as well, because these challenges – **heat | neglect | data** – will define the next decades of careers in environmental design.*

In this studio, we engage these challenges with the tools of urban design, addressing economic, political, and ecological issues through their effect on the urban environment and its residents. The choices we make about how to build, maintain and preserve the built environment directly impact these issues, as the post-carbon city materializes through built work.

Our main project will harness the current moment of action on clean energy at the federal, state, and local levels to make the postindustrial city a better place for people. This studio targets students' skills as professionals and peers, building confidence by applying design and technical skills to unconventional problems, and employing digital and virtual tools in these pursuits.

Studio Objectives

- Development of peer-to-peer learning, in preparation for post-grad careers and independent thesis work.
- Cultivation of professional decorum in keeping with the standards of design practice.
- Refinement of various communication and presentation styles, including informal one-to-one presentations.
- Mastery of the design process from conceptual design through design development, at a variety of scales.
- Ability to work independently within a community of scholars.

Textbooks and Required Readings:

Required readings for this course will be tweeted on my Twitter account, @susandieterlen, using #citybnext and other unique hashtags as announced in class. Students are required to follow this hashtag and are responsible for familiarizing themselves with their assigned course theme (data, heat, or neglect) before weekly class discussions. I encourage students to tweet using this hashtag as well, to help create a dynamic resource for class use.

I will also post project information and other resources via my blog, City Wild, accessible via the course website. I tweet all City Wild posts, so if you're following #citybnext or @susandieterlen, you'll get all the posts, but you can alternatively subscribe directly to the blog if you'd prefer.

Design Projects

We will begin this semester with two small projects before moving on to a large master plan and urban site design project, focusing on the identification of opportunities for distributed clean energy generation and use within central Syracuse.

More information about all projects will be forthcoming via individual project briefs and handouts, and via blog posts on City Wild (tweeted @susandieterlen).

Grading

Your course grade will be calculated using the following grade weights:

| | |
|----------------------------|------|
| Disintegration project | 10% |
| Infrastructure project | 30% |
| Energy project | 50% |
| Participation and civility | 10% |
| | |
| Total | 100% |

Please see the School of Architecture Undergraduate and Graduate Program Handbooks for general grading criteria. For this course, successful work will combine a demonstrated commitment to the course material; consistent effort to learn from the instructors, others, and yourself; and an exhibition of care (through craft, repeated efforts, and willingness to take risks) in the design process.

It is expected that all assigned material will be read before class, and that every student come to all studio sessions prepared to discuss their projects, the projects of others, or assigned material. Verbal participation will be the measure of this, be it in the form of questions, challenges, clarifications, or arguments.

This course incorporates a graduate class and an undergraduate class, which meet together, but there are additional requirements for graduate students.

Course policies

Attendance:

Attendance at class meetings is not explicitly required; HOWEVER it is impossible to participate in class if you are not there, so excessive absences will impact your final grade indirectly. I may be able to make alternative arrangements for missed work, etc. if there is an excellent reason and if you tell me about it. Please note that “excellent reasons” do not include things such as leaving for Spring Break early, and recreational or social activities.

Use of assignments: I keep hardcopy or digital copies of all assignments students complete for this class. I may use these assignments in future presentations or portfolios, and will credit the creator or author except where anonymity is required or desirable.

Course Documentation

The primary format for project submissions within this course will be digital .pdf or .jpg files. A location for these files will be announced in class.

In addition, at the end of the semester, you will be required to upload digital copies of your work to your class folder in the School of Architecture student drop box. Please convert all your files to .pdf, .jpeg, .tif or .ppt format and optimize them before uploading them and use the naming convention below.

Course Number_Last name, first name_Assignment name_additional information (?)

Ex. ARC 407_Smith, Michelle_Exercise 1_Presentation

Academic Integrity

Syracuse University’s Academic Integrity Policy holds students accountable for the integrity of the work they submit. Students should be familiar with the policy and know that it is their responsibility to learn about the course-specific expectations, as well as about University policy. The University policy governs appropriate citation and use of sources, the integrity of work submitted in exams and assignments, and the veracity of signatures on attendance sheets and other verification of participation in class activities. The policy also prohibits students from submitting the same written work in more than one class without receiving written authorization in advance from both instructors. The presumptive penalty for a first offense by an undergraduate student is course failure, accompanied by a transcript notation indicating that the failure resulted from a violation of Academic Integrity Policy. The standard sanction for a first offense by a graduate student is suspension or expulsion. For more information and the complete policy, see <http://academicintegrity.syr.edu>.

Accessibility

If you believe that you need accommodations for a disability, please contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), located in Room 309 of 804 University Avenue, or call (315) 443-4498 for an appointment to discuss your needs and the process for requesting accommodations. ODS is responsible for coordinating disability-related accommodations and will issue students with documented Disabilities Accommodation Authorization Letters, as appropriate. Since accommodations may require early planning and generally are not provided retroactively, please contact ODS as soon as possible.

Syracuse University and I are committed to your success and to supporting Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. This means that in general no individual who is otherwise qualified shall be excluded from participation in, be denied benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity, solely by reason of having a disability.

You are also welcome to contact me privately to discuss your academic needs although I cannot arrange for disability-related accommodations.

Course Outline And Schedule (Subject to change)

| Week | Topic |
|------|---|
| 1 | 1.18-1.22 01.21 VC Presentations & Studio Project Introduction |
| 2 | 1.25-1.29 Disintegration Project |
| 3 | 2.01-2.05 2.2 Infrastructure Crisis kickoff |
| 4 | 2.8-2.12 |
| 5 | 2.15-2.19 No Studio Deadlines week |
| 6 | 2.22-2.26 2.25 Infrastructure Crisis poster session |
| 7 | 2.29-3.04 2.29 Infrastructure Crisis due (in pdf); 3.1 Energy in the Landscape kickoff |
| 8 | 3.07-3.11 3.14-3.18 Spring Break- No Classes |
| 9 | 3.21-3.25 |
| 10 | 3.28-4.01 No Studio Deadlines week |
| 11 | 4.04-4.08 4.5 Power Dialog (Albany) |
| 12 | 4.11-4.15 NAAB Visit |
| 13 | 4.18-4.22 |
| 14 | 4.25-4.29 VC Studio Final Review 4.29 Energy in the Landscape due (in .pdf) |
| 15 | 5.02-5.06 Final exam week 5.5, 2:00-6:00 Energy in the Landscape poster session at Syracuse Center of Excellence (tentative) |
| 16 | 5.09-5.13 Final exam week |