Could all of these be characteristics of an urban neighborhood in Charlotte, North Carolina?

Yes! This studio will envision an “Urban Agrihood” in Charlotte by working with local food organizations, affordable housing creators, city planning staff, and local residents. The Agrihood will be part of an existing neighborhood, incorporating food production, distribution, and consumption into the fabric of the neighborhood. This will also include new models for affordable housing and small business development as well as sustainable, resilient infrastructure. There will be group and individual work.

Design work will happen at several scales. We will examine:

- Neighborhood design and infrastructure
- Connections to other parts of the city especially through transit
- Building design with an emphasis on modular and kit-of-parts approaches

We will also identify barriers (financial, policy, cultural) to this type of development and ways to overcome these barriers. This will involve understanding how land costs drive gentrification and how alternative property ownership models can potentially overcome market forces.