Sustainable Urbanism: An Infrastructural View of the City

MUDD 6102 Advanced Urban Design Studio
Spring 2018 6 Cr. Hrs. M/W/F 2:00 – 5:30 PM
School of Architecture / Center City Campus (C3)
Dr. Ming-Chun Lee

PREMISE:
Given our current environmental predicament and never-ending urban sprawl, the challenge for urban designers is to find ways to revive or retrofit the uninspiring urban form that spreads around us. Perhaps, through the eyes of our mother nature, the forgiving landscape may offer us some clues.

Urban design sits at the intersection of these scalar positions, regional on one end; local on the other. It helps to determine the nature of open spaces in relation to streets, neighborhoods, buildings, and other structural elements, with a special attention paid to influences filtering into a larger pattern of regional development, the same time, taking good care of small-scale, personal, sensual feels or memories of individual sites; concerning how accessible they are, how well they interface with the natural environment, how efficient they meet the needs of a variety of users, and enhance local cultures, traditions, economic development, and provide a sense of place.

CONTENT & OBJECTIVES:
This studio will engage both collaborative research and design environments. Working individually and collectively, students will engage site mapping (including the use of GIS), diagramming and data analysis, precedent research, master-planning and visioning processes, as well as urban/architectural design processes.

METHODOLOGY:
This studio will engage both collaborative RESEARCH and DESIGN environments. We will draw upon our research and collective analysis in order to identify issues impacting North Carolina’s cities in light of global climate changes.

Our analysis will frame our collective point of departure for master-planning and focused design investigations. Working individually and collectively, we will engage site mapping (including the use of GIS), diagramming and data analysis, precedent research, master-planning and visioning processes, as well as urban/architectural design processes.

EVALUATION:
Participation: 10%; Competition Phase: 10%; Mapping Studies: 20%; Team Design: 30% (Masterplan); Individual Precedent Study and Design/Research Phase: 20%; Studio Monograph: 10%