Arch 603/403  
King Street Station Mixed-Use Tower, Seattle, WA.  
Tom Leslie, AIA, Studio Instructor

This studio will investigate the confluence of high-rise technology, economics, and socio-cultural impact on a 'civic fulcrum' site at the intersection of the Pioneer Square neighborhood with the developing sports/entertainment district along 4th Ave. South in Seattle, WA. The program will involve a tall mixed-use tower incorporating commercial, retail, and hotel functions using the air rights from an existing passenger and freight rail yard, which is to be maintained. Issues of urban design, sustainability, and pedestrian circulation will be emphasized.

Students are expected to work in teams of 2-3; mixed teams of undergraduate and graduate students are expected (all students enrolled in this section will be housed in the graduate studio suite). Integration of site and program issues with clear circulatory, structural, environmental, cladding, and material solutions will be expected. We will also carry out research into contemporary highrise technology and design using precedent studies. A detailed site model will also be expected.

A field trip will take place from 16-20 September, focusing on site/neighborhood research and firm and site visits. Students will be asked to make their own flight arrangements but the department will reserve a block of rooms.

Estimated costs:  
Airfare: $450-$500  
Hotel: $250-$300 (based on three persons/room)  
Mariners tickets: $20  
TOTAL: $700-$820
Museum of History & Industry: Annex for Aquatic Transportation, Seattle, WA
Rob Whitehead, AIA, LEED AP, Studio Instructor

Museums are important cultural institutions that collect, preserve, and display critical aspects of history for the purpose of inspiring and educating visitors. The existing Museum of History and Industry (MOHAI) in Seattle, located on the south end of Lake Union, is looking to supplement their existing collection of artifacts and educational programs about the history of industry of the region with a new free-standing museum annex building focused on Aquatic Transportation (approximately 50,000sf). The collection will feature large-scale exhibits, such as seaplanes (Boeing’s first airplane was assembled on Lake Union) and historic wooden boats, alongside smaller scaled interactive educational elements befitting a contemporary community museum. Identifying a final site for the building will be part of the design, but the options will be limited as the program calls for a site that is located directly adjacent to a waterfront so that certain exhibits in the museum may remain in the water. One site will be selected by the entire studio.

The challenge of comprehensively addressing various scales of occupation with informed considerations of structural form, materiality and building performance unique to a particular setting is both formidable and informative. To achieve these opportunities, this studio’s activities will include several separate research and design exercises related to the overall final design, including: exhibit design, site analysis/selection, and museum precedent research. The studio will emphasize the value of clarity in design purpose and will expect a high level of development (and documentation) of the integration of building technologies within the larger design framework. Final documentation requirements, particularly the development of large-scale section models, will reflect this elevated level of expectations.

The studio will include a mix of undergraduate and graduate students (all housed in a common studio in the graduate studio suite). Students will work in teams of 2-3, mixed between undergraduate and graduate students.

A field trip will take place from 16-20 September. The field trip activities will be focused on site analysis/examination, site visits to important buildings in the area, and potentially firm visits. All transportation in and around Seattle will utilize Seattle’s mass transit system. Students will be expected to make their own flight arrangements but the department will reserve a block of rooms for accommodations.

Estimated costs:
Airfare (by students): $400-550
Hotel (through course fees): $300-400 (shared rooms)
Mass Transit ORCA Pass: $50+ (by students)
Porous Mixed-Use Complex in New York, NY or Shanghai, China
Jungwoo Ji, Korea Architect, Studio Instructor

Porosity
'Density' and 'compound' – the fundamentals of the urban system – are the main issues of the topic. Today, 'high rise – high density' housings have created problems such as detachment from its locals, high dependency on machinery, and etc. On the other hand, we would like to suggest 'Low to Mid rise – high density' as a solution to change intricate urban situations to a pleasant and comforting one. In architecture, we describe porosity with the elements that are open-air but are covered: piloti: balcony: terrace: rooftop garden and such. Porosity defines the spatial boundaries between interior to exterior and private to public. Architecture with abundant porousness secures more freedom and openness in lighting, ventilation, circulation, and etc. Porosity eases the density of urban structure and partakes in making urban life to be more pleasant and comforting.

The Challenge
There will be two potential sites; the first one is Huishan North Bund site in Shanghai, China which the instructor have worked on for five years as a project architect (http://www.archdaily.com/577372/huishan-north-bund-ee-and-k) and the second is the site of 'TIMBER IN THE CITY: Urban Habitat Competition’ (www.timberinthecity.com). The competition will specify a site in the lower east side of Manhattan, New York. If the detail info of this competition is released prior to the semester begin, this will be the studio project site. Otherwise, the Shanghai site will be the one which this studio works on. This studio will challenge students to design a mid-rise, mixed-use complex with housing units, commercial programs, and a cultural facility like museum. Students will be asked to develop all comprehensive levels of the complex project from master plan to detail cladding issue.

Field Trip
A field Trip will take place from September 16 to 20. In any case of Shanghai or New York site, this studio will head off to New York and Boston to focus on relevant site research, investigate programs, and potentially firm and school visits. (Instructor is contacting Perkins Eastman which designed Huishan North Bund and Battery Park City, Steven Holl Architects, SHoP, MIT, and Harvard) Students will be asked to make their own flight arrangements and the department will reserve a block of rooms for accommodation in NYC and Boston. All transportation in NYC and Boston will utilize mass public transit system including a Bolt bus from NYC to Boston which is on your own. (Detail flight and bus schedule will be discussed via emails after registering studio)

Studio
Students are expected to work in teams of 3 (or 2 in a case) from the beginning to end of semester. Teams should be composed by students prior to beginning of semester. (Early contact each others would be recommended before official studio registration) Each team should specify the own issue and subject for the project through research and design exercises in the studio.

Estimated Costs
Airfare DSM to NYC and Boston to DSM (by students): $400-550
Bolt bus from NYC to Boston (by students): $25-30
Hotel (through course fees): $300-400 (shared rooms)
**ARCH 403- Comprehensive Design Studio**  
**Expedia Corporate Campus, Seattle, WA**

**Scenario**- Expedia is the world's largest full service online travel agency, and in 2018 they plan to move from their current home in downtown Bellevue, just across Lake Washington, to their newly remodeled and expanded home on the NW edge of downtown Seattle, located along the waterfront of Elliot Bay on Puget Sound.

To accomplish this landmark undertaking, Expedia has initiated a prestigious architectural competition to expand and adapt the existing Helix Campus of Amgen, a biotech drug conglomerate. Built just over a decade ago, Amgen recently sold their existing corporate campus to Expedia for $229M. The waterfront site consists of 40 acres with 750,000 sq. ft. of facilities (see Expedia move to Seattle online).

Already participating in the invited competition are Olson Kundig (OK), Bohlin Cywinski Jackson (BCJ) and Steven Holl Architects, but ghost teams from our Lewis Studio will be joining the competition this fall. The other firms have been working on the project for several months, so we will try to learn from them when we visit our contacts in the Seattle offices of OK and BCJ (we may also visit other local firms).

**Project**- The Amgen campus, designed with laboratory facilities, will need to be converted to flexible and stimulating office space to house the 3,000 highly savvy, tech industry employees of Expedia, while also accommodating the potential of a 50% expansion on the site. New life-style enhancement facilities will also be added to the campus to accommodate the expectations of Expedia's corporate culture. Our project will engage in the master planning of the entire corporate facility, as well as focus on a particular type or aspect of the broad range of required facilities. The student teams will determine their specific project focus within the campus. Other noted tech industry corporate campuses will be researched as precedents.

**Place**- Our studio will be visiting Seattle, WA from Wed, 16 Sep to Sun, 20 Sep; you will need to secure your own airline tickets; I will be securing the housing for four nights to be paid through course fees. Seattle is a vibrant city in a beautiful setting; we will explore our site together and absorb the abundant exemplary architecture. There should be some time available on Sat. and Sun. for independent exploration.

**Expectations**- You will have the unique opportunity to operate in parallel with three renowned architecture firms, providing a valuable point of comparison between you and the professional competitors. We will also work to establish a relationship with Expedia during the course of the project to derive the added benefit of a client’s perspective. You will be representing our program in a highly visible context; make sure you are willing to perform in that demanding setting.

**Cost**- Estimates: Airfare (arrive as early as possible) $450-$500  
Hotel (shared rooms) $300-$400  
Misc. (transit pass, B-Ball tkts, etc.) $50-$100
On Goldenness: San Francisco and the Bay Area
Instructor: Mitchell Squire


Because conceptual barriers between so-called “high” and “low” culture in contemporary society have been blurred or completely broken down, scholars now argue that the distinctions once seen between them are now better understood as political rather than defendable aesthetic or intellectual ones. Does that mean architecture and architects can now more clearly discerned as political agents? Have architecture and the making of it become another “perspective” or “meme” within mainstream culture? This section of the comprehensive architectural design studios will focus on the cultural nuances exerted by and often contained within architecture. It seeks the creation of undergraduate thesis projects that can contribute to the larger conversations about the issues and topics that shape global culture and which underwrite architecture’s performativity and cultural agency within a city. By ‘performativity’ it is meant any of the nonverbal forms of expressive action to intervene in the course of human events, and by ‘agency’ it is meant the capacity of an entity to act in the world. The studio will begin with delving into a series of conceptual themes that have structured the publication of one of the most critically acclaimed, multidisciplinary journals of the post 9-11 intellectual era, Cabinet Magazine (see http://www.cabinetmagazine.org/). From the plane of this collection, studio participants will be asked to question the degree to which architectural production should/can engage similarly broad interests and themes expressive of the wider category of ‘art and culture’ embraced by the publication. This question, and its many answers, intends to create a space of lively debate and exchange of ideas across this studio’s participants.

Students should be prepared to work from the following premise: “There is nothing about being an architect that exempts me from the normal obligations of citizenship. In fact, being so may demand increased obligation because I know how to do research AND I know how to ‘make’ in response to it.” Students will be cautioned, therefore, not to search for easy, conventional, or necessarily “correct” answers, but rather attempt to identify what is plausible given the widest range of resources and information at their disposal while remaining “comprehensive” in address of the real concerns of building. In that sense, the main struggle will be to remain speculative and innovative, having one’s work reflect an enlightened vision of potential. Students will be required to develop and articulate proposals as a team of 3-4 individuals. Our place of study will be the city of San Francisco and the Bay Area. Our interests will span both high and low culture. Our project type(s) and specific sites will be open and shall emerge from cultural research conducted on the city. However, we will be primarily interested in creating public works: museum towers, new versions of performance halls, vinyl records archives, mixed-use complexes, “pot clubs” or marijuana dispensaries, music and food festival venues, and of course institutions of learning, etc. If desired, students may ultimately adapt their projects into proposals for ACSA sponsored competitions submitted at the end of spring semester, applying their thesis to a different site or city. Previous projects conducted under this professor’s supervision will be shared and shall serve as precedents for determining scale, scope, degree of cultural address, and level of development expected.

This studio will function at an intellectual level whereby the participants must embrace its operation as a bridge between prescriptive studio methods and thematic, interest-driven paradigms undertaken at the graduate level. As such, high value will be placed on independent (team) formulation and execution of ideas, issues, themes and projects through the medium of architecture, and their development and presentation within an integrated building project. Expect to read. Expect to watch documentaries. Expect to write. It is anticipated that the resulting work of the studio be speculative yet comprehensively determinant; ambiguous yet cogently argued; and supported by keen representations visually bearing their intensity, performativity, multivalency and, if need be, ephemerality.

Logistics
The required fieldtrip to San Francisco will be Thursday September 17 - Monday September 21.
Travel schedule: Thursday morning arrival in SF for 3:00 pm check-in; return Monday afternoon 12:00 pm check-out.

1. Students will be required to purchase their own round-trip airfare ticket. As of July 26 a round trip ticket from DSM to SFO is priced at $350 - $400.
2. Students must provide out-of-the-pocket expenses for: Public transport via BART ($20+) and/or MUNI ($35); share of 15-person van rental for tours ($15), de Young Museum general admission ($6), one group meal ($20), SF Jazz Concert ($35), and SF Dodgers baseball game ($18 - $36).
3. Group lodging in San Francisco for 4 nights (in shared rooms) will be arranged by Department of Architecture. The average share of the total cost will be charged to each student’s U-Bill. Estimate $330 - $400.