COURSE OVERVIEW

Description.
We shit in it and we play in it. We submerge ourselves in it; yet we know that to do so for long invites certain death. Water is among the most elemental properties of life as we know it. Water comprises over 80% of our bodies. We are, quite literally, made of it. Yet our relationship with water is ambivalent. We fear its destructive power and yet we utilize it in nearly every aspect of our daily lives.

This course will explore our relationship with water through a study of urban waters and the role that water plays in the physical, experiential, and semiotic life of the city--eventually settling on the public pool as the site of typological innovation and design. The studio is divided into five cumulative projects: a material exploration of water and its properties, an exploration of water based mechanisms, site research, site selection, and design. All projects will draw on biological, material, cultural and typological research to generate design proposals that respond to the question and nature of water in relation to the contemporary city.

Objectives.
By the end of this course, you should be able to:
- Research, analyze and describe the social and environmental dynamics of public baths, pools, and other aquatic facilities.
- Identify biodiverse populations of these landscapes and their habitat requirements.
- Integrate social and environmental contexts into site-specific documentation, analysis and design.
- Address key parameters of site systems design, including different modes of circulation, energy and material flows, relationships between various species of populations, and zoning, codes and public policies.
- Analyse the complex relationship between site and infrastructure; and
synthesize the historic and contemporary role of infrastructure in the production of Urbanism.

Use a variety of representational methods to explore, develop and communicate design concepts.

READING

Required Text.
We are requiring the text:


This text is widely available and can be purchased in both new and used formats. All other readings will be provided via Carmen.

Reading Discussions.
Each week we will read and discuss assigned readings in class. The readings have been selected to assist your design process and to round out your intellectual background regarding our cultural, physical and material relationship with water. Your participation in reading discussions will factor into your participation grade (see Evaluation). We hope you enjoy these readings and find them helpful in your work.

Mondays of most weeks, we will discuss the readings in class. Readings will be assigned the Monday before the discussion to give students enough time to read and prepare for discussion. Two students discussants will lead the discussion each week, presenting and questioning or arguing ideas drawn from the week’s reading. Discussants should meet before the discussion to prepare notes and questions to lead the conversation.

EVALUATION

Meetings & Attendance.
Attendance is required at all classes and meetings. Excuses will be granted only for serious personal illness, family emergencies, a death in the immediate family or other circumstances by approval of the instructor or section head (doctor’s excuses should be presented to the instructor). Permission must be received from the instructor prior to missing a class or submitting late work. A student may be warned by email after the second unexcused absence. Any unexcused absences AFTER the second will result in the lowering of a student’s grade by one letter grade. Additional absences are grounds for dismissal. In order to be excused from class or any of the above requirements, a written explanation of the absence must be transmitted to the instructor by hand or email prior to the absence.

Late Work.
Late work will not be accepted unless an extension is granted by the instructor or the student has an excused absence. In the event of an excused absence, all late work is due within 24 hours of the students return to school/class activities.
Grading.
Grades will be posted on Carmen following the due dates for each assignment in the schedule. Criteria include your commitment to course objectives discussed in class and in the syllabus and project briefs and the thoroughness, depth, thoughtfulness, creativity and clarity of your projects, along with their documentation and presentation. Integration of representational methods (verbal and visual) presented in class and the readings will be emphasized while allowing for individual variation.

Participation criteria include (1) your contribution and ATTENTION to class presentations, discussions, and events, (2) your presence during the entire class start to finish (excluding excused absences), and (3) your thoughtfulness and willingness to share those thoughts.

Grading Formula.

- Project 1...............................15%
- Project 2...............................10%
- Project 3...............................10%
- Project 4...............................05%
- Project 5...............................40%
- Readings/Discussion............05%
- Participation.........................15%

Final grades are issued at the end of the quarter on an A-E scale interpreted in the following manner:

- Excellent to Superior Effort/Work A ( /-)
- Satisfactory to Quality Effort/Work B (+/-)
- Passing to Acceptable Effort/Work C (+/-)
- Poor to Unacceptable Effort/Work D (+/-)
- Failing E
- Incomplete I *

* Students will only be given an Incomplete (I) if, for reasons beyond their control, they are unable to regularly participate in class or complete projects as scheduled. All circumstances/reasons must be documented and receive approval from course instructor, section head, and academic advisor prior to the last scheduled class meeting. If a student is given an incomplete they must complete all work, reviews, and/or presentations within the terms determined by the instructor.

Mid-review Assessment
A mid-review assessment will be performed for each team. This will be a projection of the final grade your team will receive on Project 5 (Design) based on the work that you have done to that point.

Teamwork and Grading
A significant portion of the final grade in this class will be tied to team projects. In order to handle grading as fairly as possible team assessments will be solicited after each team assignment. Team assessments will be used to aid in individual evaluation of team members. If a team member is not performing to expectations, this should be brought to the attention of the instructors as soon as possible.

Team leaders will be designated for each group, and will facilitate group discussions, and project completion.
Reviews.
Reviews are scheduled during class time. They are not optional. Failure to be present during a scheduled review for any but the most grave of reasons will result in failure.

COURSE POLICIES

Syllabus Changes.
Faculty reserve the right to modify, alter, delete, add, or otherwise change the contents of this syllabus at any time during the quarter upon proper notification to all students enrolled in the course.

Project Archiving.
All project assignments, including research, process work, and final project, must be uploaded as pdf files to designated dropboxes in our Carmen course space. File names must follow this convention: 4960_AU13_AssignmentName_LastnameFirstinitial.pdf (example: 4960_AU14_Project1_BennettK.pdf) Note the lack of spaces, underscores, and use of capital vs. lower case letters. This convention is necessary for downloading and archiving your work.

Assignment grades will be reduced by 5 points the first time and 10 points the second time the naming convention is not used correctly.

Studio Clean-Up
Students are responsible for keeping their areas clean and floors free of obstructions. At several points during the semester studios will be asked to clear floors of all materials, and place this material in trash bags and the appropriate containers throughout the studio. At the end of the semester, each studio will remove all material (including models, constructions, and drawings), sweep the floors-- including beneath desks and credenzas, and return oval tables, desks, and chairs to their rightful places. Grades will be withheld from all students in any studio that does not comply by 5PM on the Monday of final exam week.

KSA student conduct.
It is crucial that students work in studio to gain the benefit of the studio critics and comments and also because of the collaborative nature of the projects. The only exception for leaving studio is to perform research or use the computer lab. It is imperative in studio that all students feel they have at least 50% use of a shared computer. Students are responsible for keeping their areas clean and floors free from obstructions. Loud noise is forbidden during studio hours. Students are encouraged to use the studio to its fullest. This studio project is not meant to be done alone or remotely.

OSU student conduct.
Students are required to adhere to all codes and academic policies of The Ohio State University and the Knowlton School of Architecture. In particular, plagiarism (the use of the ideas, words or works of intellectual content of another person as if they are one’s own or without crediting the source) is strictly forbidden.

Academic misconduct.
Any indication of possible cheating, plagiarism or other academic misconduct must be referred to the Committee on Academic Misconduct 3335-23-01. All work in this course must be original and/or appro-
appropriately cited per standards of use and law. All sources must be referenced, images credited and citations appropriately assigned. Submissions violating these parameters will receive a grade of “E”, and students will be referred to the Committee on Academic Misconduct per university rules.


For regulations, refer to: http://oaa.osu.edu/coamtsuggestions.html; http://oaa.osu.edu/coamfaqs.html; http://studentaffairs.osu.edu/csc/.

The Student Code of Conduct. (http://studentaffairs.osu.edu/resource_csc.asp) defines academic misconduct as: any activity that tends to compromise the academic integrity of the university, or subvert the educational process. All students are required to review the code and understand the implications of a code violation. If there is any suspicion of academic misconduct, the faculty member/instructor will report the alleged violation to the section head and the Committee on Academic Misconduct (http://oaa.osu.edu/coam/home.html) for investigation and any further action.

Sexual Harassment.
O.S.U.’s Sexual Harassment policy, which applies to all faculty, staff, and students, includes lewd remarks and inappropriate comments made in the studio environment, classroom, and computer labs as well as the “display of inappropriate sexually oriented materials in a location where others can see it.” Students can file a complaint by contacting Student Judicial Affairs at 292-0748. Sanctions include reprimand, suspension, and dismissal from the University.

Students with Disabilities.
If a student requires accommodation for a disability, he or she should immediately arrange an appointment with the professors and the Office for Disability Services. At the appointment, the professors, disability counselors, and student can discuss the course format, anticipate needs and decide upon accommodations. Professors rely on the Office for Disability Services for assistance in verifying the need for accommodations and developing accommodation strategies.

ADA Coordinator’s Office: http://ada.osu.edu
Office for Disability Services: http://www.ods.ohio-state.edu/
(614) 292-3307 | Fax: (614) 292-4190 | TDD: (614) 292-0901

The following items are prohibited in Knowlton Hall:
Non-KSA furniture, liquor, weapons, bicycles, skateboards, rollerblades, pets, spray paints, foam cutter wands, welding devices, heat guns, and any flame or gaseous liquid device. The following safety compliances must be observed: electrical power cords cannot be connected in a series or extend over traffic areas; fire extinguishers must remain accessible and in full view; access to stairwells, corridors, and aisles must maintain a 44” clear width and handrails must be unobstructed. Building surfaces cannot be marked, anchored to, or penetrated. Installations may not occur in any part of the building except by permission of the KSA Building Coordinator. Power tools are restricted to the shop except when permission is granted by the KSA Building Coordinator. Loud noise is forbidden. Graffiti and vandalism are grounds for disciplinary action.

Student Resources: http://studentaffairs.osu.edu/default.asp