

Undesigning Disaster: Built Structure, Social Structure

Terminal Studio ARCH 4/585 + ARCH 4/586 2019. This studio will work at the intersection of architectural, social and ecological issues to reassess the role of architecture--the physical construct of our social and cultural fabric--relative to natural landscapes and ecosystems to respond to the impacts of global climate change. The studio will require questioning and re-imagining the basis of our relationships with the natural and built environments and the way we inhabit them and the way we respond to “natural” disasters.

Students will be invited to take the fall seminar “ENVS 411: Designing Disaster” (Instructor: Dan Shtob, ENVS) for an exploration of the social construction of disasters.

In this studio, students will be asked to study the natural landscapes, human settlement patterns, infrastructure and construction of Cudjoe Key, Florida, and to propose new structures and settlement patterns that sustain social and physical stability in response to our increasing vulnerability to extreme natural phenomena due to climatic changes: drought, floods, more intense and frequent hurricanes, and sea level rise. Studio will include research, precedent studies, site documentation, site and urban design strategies, program development and building design.

This studio is connected to a grant-supported research collaboration in the UO Environmental Studies Program.

Instructor: Javier Bonnin, Department of Architecture

Collaborators: Dan Shtob, Environmental Studies, Erin Moore, Department of Architecture

