Course Objectives. The seminar calls upon participants to engage in theoretical and historical ideas that shape architecture and sustainable design. We will explore models and frameworks of sustainable design and knowledge, metrics, and techniques to quantify and qualify these models. Students will engage in active inquiry into issues of sustainability history, theory, and practice. Course objectives include the following:

- To initiate critical discussion of sustainability history and theory, which builds upon the variety of experiences each student brings from her/his own life and past education through an analysis of sustainability in practice and theory as well as a critical formulation of definitions of sustainability.
- To introduce students to the values and themes of architectural education with a focus on sustainability that is central to the University of Oregon curriculum through a review and discussion of faculty publications and departmental focus areas.
- To increase each student's abilities to work in small groups, to make effective oral presentations supported by visual aids, and to think and write articulately about architectural issues through discussions, debates, formal presentations, and writing.
- To provide a framework for students to begin to question assumptions and establish values for their work and to initiate potential research agendas for their time in the MS or doctoral programs.

Course Structure. The course will meet once a week, so regular attendance is of paramount importance. This is a highly interactive course that requires regular engagement with the material. In-class time will generally be devoted to actions rather than lectures. Students will learn by doing.

Course Assignments. The primary assignments are structured as "Books" and as "Appendices" that when combined, will become the course’s “7 Books of Sustainability.” Students will prepare the Books in a manner suitable for publication as a stand-alone document (each Book) and as an Anthology (all books together). Each Book will be accompanied by an engagement activity, supporting task, or other appropriate action. Each Book will have an Editor that will be responsible for assembling the work in an approved template. Each Book will be prepared in Draft, Prefinal, and Final form. There will be no final exam.