

## ARCH 431 / 531 COMMUNITY DESIGN

Winter 2019

Department of Architecture, University of Oregon, Eugene

Instructor: Professor Michael Fifield, FAIA, AICP

Credits: 3

Time: Tuesdays / Thursdays, 8:30 – 9:50 AM in 166 LA

Prerequisites: Junior Standing. Open to all majors in the College of Design as well as others with approval.

Especially relevant for Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Planning majors. This course is applicable for graduate students pursuing a Housing Specialization.

### **GENERAL COURSE / CATALOG DESCRIPTION:**

Multidisciplinary examination of the history, theory, and practice in the design and development of meaningful and sustainable neighborhoods. Special focus selected by faculty.

### **SPECIFIC FOCUS THIS TERM:**

The class will begin with an examination of the changes in suburban neighborhood design over the past 100 years as a result of changes in technology, governmental policies, life styles, demographics, and values. Special emphasis will focus on the review of appropriate housing / neighborhood models for the future, given demands for increasing density and responding to diminishing natural resources. Case studies primarily from the U.S., but also from England will be examined. Issues addressed will include: *Smart Growth*, differences in housing form and neighborhood morphology as a result of density issues (e.g., site, building, unit design principles); affordability; relationship of built environment to natural environment through whole systems approach; housing policy and housing financing; zoning and building codes; new and emerging lifestyles (changing demographics); *New Urbanism* and neo-traditional town planning; social and behavioral factors as form determinants; origins of suburbia and multi-family housing; providing a sense of community, identity, and memorable image in neighborhood design. In addition, this term a special emphasis will be placed on issues of affordable housing and homelessness.

### **COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

Students are expected to develop an:

- Understanding of the many and complex factors involved in the design of various neighborhood types.
- Understanding of the theoretical, traditional, symbolic, practical, and technical considerations of various housing types and their application to good community design, including issues of homelessness.
- Ability to analyze and conceptually design appropriate neighborhood projects based on the emphasis and issues addressed in the course.

### **COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

Class attendance and participation

Project #1: Case Studies (small group project)

Project #2: Research paper (issue based for ARCH 431 / 531)

Or Neighborhood / Homeless Design Project

Or Take-Home Final Exam in lieu of Project #2 (for ARCH 431 only)

Project #3: Attendance, and one-page description of Neighborhood Meeting.

### **COURSE FORMAT:**

Issues will be presented primarily in lecture format followed by further seminar discussion. Numerous guest lecturers will be included.

### **COURSE EVALUATION:**

Project #1 40%; Project #2 50%; Project #3 10%