Syllabus

LA 4/539 DESIGN STUDIO
Experimental Garden

Time
M, W, F
1:00pm - 4:50pm

Location
TBD

Credits
6

Instructor
Michael Geffel, RLA
Department of Landscape Architecture
Lawrence Hall, Room 214
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Office Hours
T | 2:00-3:00
F | 11:30-12:30 (by request)

Prerequisites
LA 289 sequence or equivalent

Studio Description
Scientists have created many experimental landscapes as they move from the controlled environment of the laboratory to the complexity of the world. We have experimental forests and ranges, farms and nurseries, even experimental waterways. Landscape architects frequently draw from this research, but it often must be translated to match our particular design applications. A particular gap has emerged in understanding how to work with novel ecosystems, that “by virtue of human influence, differ from those that prevailed historically [and have] a tendency to self-organize and manifest novel qualities without intensive human management.” Drawing from the work of Gilles Clement, Teresa Gali-Izard, Peter Del Tredici, Claudia West and Richard Hobbs, we will design our own experiments - and their associated gardens - to explore how landscape architecture might better engage with these emergent ecosystems that are urban by nature.