Future Library LaB
UNIVERSITY OF OREGON // COMPREHENSIVE DESIGN STUDIO // 2020

Winter: 4/585 (8 cr) // Spring: 4/586 (8 cr)

MAY 14, 2019
WHAT IS A LIBRARY?
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INGREDIENTS  FACTORS IMPACTING LIBRARIES TODAY

LIVE-WORK  AUTOMATION  GLOBALIZATION

DIGITAL PLATFORMS  PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS  IMMIGRATION / MIGRATION

Petri Dishes, Elin Thomas
“This plan envisions a system of expanded destination libraries where customers will participate in programs, engage in community conversations, and discover ways to improve their lives. [with] a renewed emphasis on in-library service, providing ample space for studying, collaborating, creating, reflection, civic and community engagement, and more.

...MCL customers are highly mobile, and many regularly use two or more library locations. This enables MCL to move away from a "one-size-fits-all" neighborhood library model, and toward a network model with strategically located large performance spaces, sophisticated maker spaces, dedicated literacy and job support centers, and other special offerings.”
EXPERIMENT  Start Small to Go Big

INTERVENTION
- Little Free Library, Chat Travieso (NYC)
- The Story Pod, AKB (Toronto Suburb)

OUTPOST

BRANCH LIBRARY (15,000-20,000 SF)
- Vennesla Library and Culture House, Helen & Hard
The nature of knowledge has shifted with the introduction of digital media, globalization, and a more fluid public realm. Libraries are moving away from focusing only on books, but where are they going? Resources provided by libraries today span from recording studios and goat care classes to racial dialogues and candidate debates. Sometimes it seems like a library could be almost anything. Through a series of experiments sited in particular communities across the Portland-Vancouver Metropolitan area, you will have the opportunity to help define the future library.

**Winter Term 2019**

The first of two studio terms, this 10 week effort will begin with researching and understanding the key ingredients of a chosen site and understanding the needs of the community. These ingredients will include socio-political, geographical, and historical narratives that will be used in a series of three experiments, working up in scale, to think about what a library means. Through the diversity of sites, we will ask: What does a library look like for particular generations, ethnicities, social classes, or family structures? Can new technologies or strategy help libraries serve a rural or urban population? What is the role of a library in today’s society?

**Spring Term 2019**

The final term will focus on design development. Students will advance structural and mechanical systems, building enclosure, landscape design, sustainable strategies, and other factors that will inform their final solutions. It is expected that these systems will be integrated with and support the design intent. Bora will bring consultant partners to studio on several occasions to coach students in a workshop setting.

**Studio Format**

Led by Bora Architects, this studio will engage real world library, building, and community development experts in explorations on the future of the Library. Students will iterate and explore options rapidly as part of the design process.

You will work with traditional media as well as computer-driven design, and we expect effective communication, with a focus on narrative and story-telling, to support your presentations. Active studio participation is required, and students are expected to engage and support one another’s academic development.

**Studio Coordinator**

Bora’s Sophia Austrins, AIA has 7 years of experience with a focus on public, learning, and community oriented architecture. She has led design studios at the UofO and Harvard GSD.

Questions? E-mail Sophia at austrins@bora.co.