LA 539 Landform

After the big one... reclaiming the Salem waterfront

Time
MWF | 1:00pm - 4:50pm

Office Hours
Wednesday 9:00 - 11:00
calculendo.com/mgeffel

Location
Remote: instruction, desk crits, pin-ups, and reviews
studio space in Lawrence (tbd): student work space
field: optional field trips in Eugene and/or to the site in Salem (tbd)

Credits
6

Instructor
Michael Geffel
Department of Landscape Architecture
Lawrence Hall, Room 214
mgeffel@uoregon.edu

Prerequisites
Co-enrollment (or completion) of LA 362 - Tech 1 required

Studio Description
This studio imagines the consequences of a Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake on downtown Salem. The Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI) has mapped the downtown waterfront to have a high susceptibility to liquefaction, and in the event of a major subduction zone earthquake, it is possible that this area will see significant damage to existing structures. This studio begins after the earthquake, and asks students to reimagine downtown Salem as an urban landscape that is reflective rather than ignorant of its geologic setting.
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For the 2021 Landform Studio, students will use the fundamental medium of earth to develop schematic designs for liquifaction sites in downtown Salem, staging new conditions for their public use and ecological function.

Class Format
While students will have access to a studio in Lawrence Hall, instruction will be delivered remotely. Class meeting times will include project work, critiques, pin-ups, class discussion, lectures, workshops, possible guest presentations, and possible optional field trips. Outside of class time, students are expected to analytically review selected readings, thoroughly understand the context of the subject landscape, execute ad hoc site visits (according to State of Oregon and UO mandates and requirements for travel and safety), and diligently prepare for all intermediate milestones and all reviews.

Grading
Consistent with all Department of Landscape Architecture studios, this studio is graded Pass/No Pass. Letter grades will be distributed following every assignment based on three categories: Deliverables, Craft, and Concept. Formative feedback will be provided by the instructor, studio guests, and mid-term and final reviewers. A “No Pass” will be given to undergrad students with an average letter grade below a C- and grad students with an average letter grade below B-. Summative feedback based on achievement of the course learning objectives will be provided by the instructor during exit interviews.

Curricular Context
This class is required for BLA and MLA students.