In this studio, we will strive to unsettle established systems of spatial homogeneity – not for the sake of it, but to encourage more meaningful social interactions and cultural relations in the urban environment, or to simply enrich everyday urban life. Our focus will be on exploring, critiquing and challenging conventional connectivity, or lack thereof, between the inside (shielded interior space) and the outside (estranged public realm) in efforts to find a third, in-between space that at once suggests a new interior condition and a new urban scenario, characterized by seamless transitions, experiential transparencies, constant reconfigurations, rightful appropriations, and a strong sense of collectivity. By navigating key research on porosity and reawakening key concepts of situationism, we will work towards unitary spatial solutions that remain in a state of continual becoming, constantly inventing and re-inventing themselves in accordance with the will of their occupants / visitors (both human and non-human) and in keeping with the cyclic nature of time.

Our area of intervention will be an abandoned, single-story corner building located at a relatively high pedestrian intersection in downtown Eugene. Program is to be determined by the students themselves – through observation and analysis of the specified location and its broader context.

Note: This is a design studio – a space that combines theory and practice, creativity and criticality, possibilities and probabilities, all towards spatial solutions that you have not yet imagined. It is a space in which we ask: what if?