“... it is not a crisis of our environs or surroundings; it is a crisis of our lives as individuals, as family members, as community members, and as citizens. We have an 'environmental crisis' because we have consented to an economy in which by eating, drinking, working, resting, traveling, and enjoying ourselves we are destroying the natural, god-given world.”


Today, we are faced with the greatest opportunity in recent history to bring about radical changes socially, environmentally, and ideologically - old world orders, ideologies, economic systems, and social contracts are near their ends. We will analyze, debate, and design what is to come. In this design studio, we will explore and design ways for humanity to become beneficial to its environment and to itself. We will look at how our understanding of ecologies and living systems, and the use of circular, sustainable, and regenerative design can be used as a starting point to address issues we face today. We will examine and draw inspiration from Local Technologies, Traditional Ecological Knowledge, and Indigenous Cultural Practices.

Each student will identify projects in Eugene – public/civic places, dwellings, schools, shops, transportation, etc. – and work independently and/or collaboratively to visualize new relationships between citizens and governing organisms, prototypes of new societies (more perfect worlds), and strategies for transitioning into new ways for humans to live together, beautifully, in Eugene.