ARCH 484/584 Fall 2022
The Future of Work is Now
CRN 10671 / 10732 | Wednesday & Friday 12:00-5:50pm | Location: TBD

Instructor: Prof. Sebastian Guivernau, sguivern@uoregon.edu

Welcome to “The Future of Work is Now”, a studio that invites students to re-think the office building for a new and evolving Hybrid Work Economy.

How can architecture adapt to people’s growing freedom in deciding where, when, and how to work? This Fall, we will explore solutions and design office buildings that strike a balance between new labor market trends, the needs of companies/institutions, and the wants of their employees.

Students taking this course will be amongst the first to design for the emerging “Remote Work Ecosystem”, gaining a valuable perspective on a problem that currently has companies and institutions frozen in their tracks: why and how to invest in office space, when work trends and digital communication tools are constantly changing the way people feel about their jobs.

In addition to developing comprehensive building designs using traditional architectural conventions, students will participate in research exercises meant to give them a foundational understanding of the challenges the labor market is facing, and how office buildings have evolved over the last 60 years to better serve employee needs.

Students will each choose a company/organization to design for, and research its current workplace strengths and pitfalls. Students will also have two sites to choose from: the site in downtown Portland is compact and lends itself to a high-rise building type, while the river-front site in Hood River is spacious and lends itself to a low-rise industrial building type or campus. Students will be asked to choose between the two AFTER the class visits both sites in person.

Feel free to email sguivernau@uoregon.edu with any questions.