**A Living Lawrence...**

**Premise:** The U of O College of Design has been a pioneer, in many ways, since its founding in 1914 under its first Dean, Ellis Lawrence, and through subsequent decades of the program... From being one of the first design schools structured as “non-competitive” education, to one of the first to go beyond the “Beaux Arts” education model and teach “architecture as a social service”, to becoming one of the early leaders in energy- and environmental-design, and now a leader in advanced explorations in human-health in buildings, mass-timber design and materials, and design for spatial justice. Those advances have happened in an ever-changing home... Within the whole that is called “Lawrence Hall”, there are at least five separate eras of addition and renovation, making it one of the most added-to buildings on the UO campus. Now in this new century, and with the energy of the new, cutting edge endeavors in environmental design, and design education here in the College, there is new impetus for making our own educational home at Lawrence into a cutting-edge expression of what's possible in these realms, to make Lawrence Hall into a truly “living building”, the first design school in the country to do so.

**Project:** The project of the studio will be the design of changes to Lawrence that allow it to meet the requirements of the Living Building Challenge (LBC), while also transforming the building to meet the needs of 21st century, equitable, engaging design education. The LBC is one of the most stringent environmental design standards in the world. It is made up of seven “Petals”, each with their own specific performance requirements – **Place, Water, Energy, Materials, Health & Happiness** **Equity, and Beauty.** Our work will be to evaluate the existing building relative to each, and determine what practical changes would be needed to meet its strict requirements, while also exploring an architectural rethink and designs relative to the possibilities for the future of design education, that reinvigorate the building’s experience and function around today’s new modes of learning and creating architecture in school. In this endeavor, an overarching goal will be to explore how all the changes due to pragmatics become poetic, to help knit the five disparate parts of the building back together in greater architectural harmony and environmental and social synergy... indeed, the LBC requires “equity”, “beauty” and “happiness” be specifically considered and documented for certification as a “living building”.

**Process:** Throughout the two terms, we will have a chance to learn from a host of notable professionals that work in the LBC realms, such as Miller Hull, PAE Engineers, Brightworks Sustainability, and others. We will also be able to visit some completed LBC projects, such as the Bullitt Center, Bertschi School and the offices of Miller Hull and PAE. They will also join us at many points during the two terms of the project for input and support for our explorations.

In Winter term, we will begin with an exploration of the Living Building Challenge, its Petals, their requirements, precedents, and possible design strategies. In tandem with that, we will explore the inner workings of Lawrence Hall, its current program, history, construction, and systems. We will follow this with a thorough analysis of the specifics of the ecology of Eugene and our site on the UO campus, as the basis for the new designs. Collectively, we will consider the best way to proceed with the design explorations, but will likely develop individual, initial conceptual solutions, and from those consolidate into small teams to continue the explorations. The goal in winter term will be to develop schematic designs for the holistic sustainable design of the renovations in keeping with the LBC, that also become meaningful architectural expressions, for site, enclosure, spaces, construction and systems for Lawrence Hall.

In Spring term, the work will continue in the small teams, to refine the designs based on final feedback from the first term. And then, in a series of topical “workshops”, we will further develop specific, technical aspects of the solutions for the Petals of LBC, as we also develop the specifics of site, structure, enclosure, environmental control, and ensuring the buildings meet building code and accessibility requirements. Along the way, we will use various tools, including Climate Studio, to analyze aspects of the design for conformance with relevant aspects of the LBC. Final documentation will include models, digital renderings, structural and systems diagrams, partial construction sections and details, code/accessibility compliance, and fully developed and diagrammed response narrative, for the Petals of the Living Building Challenge.