

Syllabus
Winter 2020

LA 4/589 The Oregon Sequence *Designing Entangled Sites*



Tribal Lands of the Confederated Tribes of
Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw |
Cape Arago Lighthouse | Coos County | OR

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

Location TBD

Credits 6

Instructor Zannah Matson
Department of Landscape Architecture
Lawrence Hall, Room 316 [Office Hours Tuesday 1:00 - 3:00pm]
zmatson@uoregon.edu

Prerequisites LA 4/539 studio series or the equivalent [upon approval by instructor].

Studio Description Moving from extensive site research and analysis into thoughtful and considerate site design, this studio will work with modelling techniques as an approach to designing complex and layered landscapes. Selecting a site from several significant landscapes identified across the Lower Coos Watershed, we will consider the multiples histories and memories of site alongside the overlapping and competing claims to current and future use. The entangled networks, meanings, and operations that have come to produce the sites on which we design will become formative to the creation of spaces for more-than-human life. We will engage with a diversity of modelling techniques throughout the studio, moving between digital and analog methods to both reveal the traces of past use and design for uncertain futures. As an iterative and revelatory approach to site design, this process will be used to develop a refined design concept and effectively communicate design intentions and dispositions. Each student will be encouraged to develop specific modelling and drawing techniques that respond to their chosen site conditions, design objectives, and personal development.

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OR Sequence Description	<p>This will be the second studio offered as part of the Oregon Sequence, a three-quarter sequence spanning the 4/589 studio series. Designed to build upon the design skills and techniques learned in the LA 289 and LA 4/539 series and to prepare students for the advanced LA 4/594 studio as well as their capstone projects, the Oregon Sequence explores a thematic and/or geographic focus for an academic year across a breadth of scales, allowing the student to explore each scale in depth over the course of a quarter. The Fall quarter studio focuses on contextualization; the Winter quarter studio focuses on site design, and the Spring studio focuses on design. Each studio within the Oregon Sequence will build upon the work in the previous studio, so that information developed in the Fall and Winter studios inform the work in Winter and Spring studios, respectively. While the Oregon Sequence allows opportunity for students who are interested in pursuing a focused study of a site and theme for more than one quarter, students are not required to take the Fall Oregon Sequence studio in order to take the Winter Oregon Sequence studio. As the second studio within the Oregon Sequence, this studio will build on the work of the Fall 2019 Studio "Contextualizing Coos Bay" to engage with the sites that have been identified as landscapes of maximum entanglement.</p>
Curricular Context	<p>This class is required for BLA and MLA (First Professional MLA only) students.</p>
Class Format	<p>Studio meeting times are primarily structured around design critiques, class discussion, lectures, project work, site visits, and occasional guest presentations. Outside of studio time, students are expected to engage with selected readings, execute site visits as needed, develop designs for intermediate assignments, advance their representation and communication methods, and prepare for midterm and final reviews.</p>
Modes of Inquiry	<p>This studio will use the construction of digital and physical models as a design process. In addition to the production of iterative models as a way of understanding site and considering design possibilities, the process of working between model and drawing to produce carefully considered design concepts will be central to the pedagogy of the studio.</p>
Grading	<p>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 undergraduate students with an average letter grade below a C- and graduate 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.</p>