Spring 2020 LA 289 THE GARDEN OF HOPE: Designs for the Eugene Mission



Eugene Mission Community Gardens

Instructor
Jacques Abelman
Lawrence Hall, Room 211
iabelman@uoregon.edu

Time	Location	Credits
M, W, F	LA 400	6
1:00pm - 4:50pm		

Studio Description

There are currently over two thousand people in Eugene facing chronic or permanent homelessness. Our city experiences the highest homelessness rate in the United states per capita. The Eugene Mission is the area's only full-service wellness center for the homeless, providing its guests with a path off the streets, both for the short-term and long-term. An essential element in the path to wellness is the garden of the Mission, offering fresh produce, eggs, honey and most importantly a space of sanctuary and healing for the Mission's clients.

The Hope Garden is in need of an upgraded design that will include an overall new plan for the site as well as focal points and gathering spaces. The garden design will be oriented toward how the Mission's clients, reflected by the cultures they are coming from, have specific needs that will be materialized by new designs. We will study different community garden and other types of precedents, specifically investigating how different cultures relate to food and the use of different spaces according to their needs.

The design process will integrate precedent analysis with a study of productive landscape typologies in order to create innovative, productive, functional and aesthetic spaces. Potential design interventions will integrate a plan for the entire site at the intersection of social and environmental issues, thinking along the lines of healing and productive spaces. By dealing with a real site and client and urgent social questions, student work will particiapte in an impactful and important conversation. The studio will benefit from the input of Noah Guadigni of Perennial Patterns, who is currently design liasion for the Hope Garden site.



Eugene Mission Garden Site View

Prerequisite

This studio is for Landscape Architecture BLA students only.

Curricular Context

This class is required for BLA students.

Class Format

Class meeting times are primarily structured around design critiques, class discussion, lectures, project work, site visits, and occasional guest presentations. Outside of class time, students are expected to analytically review selected readings, research similar project typologies both past and present, execute site visits, develop designs for intermediate assignments, and prepare for midterm and final reviews.

Grading

Consistent with all Department of Landscape Architecture studios, this studio is graded Pass/No Pass with formative and summative feedback.