# LA 410/510 Design for Climate Action

Tuesday 9 am to 11:50 am (4 credit) @ Lawrence 231

Instructor: Yekang Ko, Associate Professor of Landscape Architecture; yekangko@uoregon.edu

*"The equity dimension applies equally to the homeless: they are among the most vulnerable citizens and have among the smallest carbon footprints and yet they may bear a disproportionate burden of the effects of climate change"*

Health of the Homeless and Climate Change, 2009

Climate change is impacting everyone but it disproportionately affects the vulnerable populations that are suffering from inequity in our communities. The unhoused are one of our most vulnerable groups; the issue of homelessness has escalated in the past decade, driven by economic polarization, the housing crisis, and the pandemic. The unhoused people are becoming more vulnerable to increasingly extreme weather events driven by climate change, even though they contribute to the smallest carbon footprints in our society.

This class offers students opportunities to understand the issues around homelessness from climate justice perspectives across multiple scales, and then take actions through hands-on projects and community engagement. Students will work with Landscape for Humanity (L4H) , a group of UO students and faculty who support environmental justice through participatory design research and education, and the villagers of the Opportunity Village Eugene (OVE), a micro housing transitional housing community for the unhoused individuals. Since 2019, L4H and OVE have been working together to design, build, and manage modular and integrated landscape systems that address OVE residents' basic needs. Our goal is to provide flexible solar design to increase thermal comfort, create edible landscapes, and a sustainable water supply, through a Food-Energy-Water nexus approach. Students will be able to work on a project of their interests, including a community nursery project (growing trees at OVE), greywater planters (using greywater to irrigate trees), and agrivoltaics (urban agriculture + solar photovoltaics). Any majors are all welcome!