Detox USA is conceived as a thesis studio. Within the rubrics of the course, students undertake their own research, formulate their own design project, and work individually. However, partnering is also possible and encourages a collaborative process among studio members. Participating students in the class this year may prefer to work alone. We will discuss these options in the first week of studio.

USA
Like the cloud of pollutants or narcotic exhaust, toxics is not easily contained. It wafts to places, seeps, and creeps. It is also exported along with military technologies to conflict zones, it travels as pharmaceutical products, and it migrates as petrochemical practices and techniques. Contemporary markets, trade routes, and chain of possession now extend beyond the localities of places and regions.

The area within the boundaries of the United States is the central and most interesting point for toxic studies. Yet, the USA will also be understood as the member of an expanding web of toxic effects, products, by-products, and interactions. Students may choose to focus within the sovereign space of the USA or beyond, within its expanded toxic territories.

L-A's Four or Forty Two Ecologies

Since the first national American symposium on air pollution held in 1949 in Pasadena, Los Angeles has been ground zero for smog and toxic levels. The relation between cities and different pollutants, contaminations, and processes of purification, from smog to toxic waste, is to be examined and studied. The studio will travel to Los Angeles and the surrounding region to study the local contamination and exposure, and to reflect on the different sites and forms of cultural and chemical concentration. While there, we will meet with a range of experts from atmospheric scientists, to artists, architects, curators, and therapists. To be clear, no student is required to work on Los Angeles. Rather, each student will serve as a spatial primer for our understanding of the histories and processes of chemical modernity.

Instructor
Mark Wiesner

Individual Work

Paper Decoration

Location: Los Angeles, CA
Area: UCLA 4th
Program: BA

School
Cal Poly Civil Engineering

Detox USA: Spring 2012

2012-04-26

Mark Wiesner

This document contains information about a design studio called Detox USA, which is a thesis studio where students undertake their own research, formulate their own design project, and work individually. However, partnering is also possible and encourages a collaborative process among studio members. The studio will travel to Los Angeles and the surrounding region to study the local contamination and exposure, and to reflect on the different sites and forms of cultural and chemical concentration. While there, students will meet with a range of experts from atmospheric scientists, to artists, architects, curators, and therapists. No student is required to work on Los Angeles. Rather, each student will serve as a spatial primer for our understanding of the histories and processes of chemical modernity.

The entire document is focused on the topic of toxins and their impact on the environment and society, with a particular emphasis on Los Angeles as a case study. The text discusses the spread of toxic materials and their effects on various locales, and encourages students to explore these issues in their design projects.
Those for a Reset.

In the past year and a half, the entangled crises of a global pandemic, climate change, racial inequity, and income insecurity have coalesced to make it clear that we can no longer adequately address the challenges of these times, and a gradual transformation will not be enough.

Same with our architecture. Our current systems of design and construction are failing. They cannot adequately address climate change, social justice, and the need to support healthy growth, urbanization, and the expected dualing of the built environment in the next 40 years. The challenges are huge, and incremental change is not the answer.

This studio explored these entanglements and interconnections through methodological and methodological architectural design proposals. These projects are intended to demonstrate that a green and just infrastructure plan currently being debated in the United States and the historic United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26). It developed strategies such as materials that act as a carbon sink, buildings that are net zero energy, and a new model of public housing that reduces its carbon impact. The studio sought to prototype the buildings and ideas of the future.

Our mission is to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius by the middle of the century. To avoid extreme weather and climate change.

Architecture, building, governance, 40% of global CO2 emissions annually. Among the 40%, 80% of the building stock operations cause 20%, and the building materials and construction and construction are responsible for the rest 20%.

Could we address homelessness and decarbonization simultaneously?
Architecture moves very slowly. This last year of social upheaval in response to the murder of George Floyd and other Black Americans has revealed the depth of awareness and abilities for architecture to address issues of social justice and the effects on our communities. This text builds a case for the need for architecture to address issues of social justice and the effects on our communities.

Questions:

- How do you situate yourself within your web of ancestors?
- How are your ancestors situated within a continuum of history?
- What is your ancestors' position and relationship to colonialism? E.g., colonizers?
- How would you represent or diagram the relationships and histories of your ancestors relative to colonialism?
- What role did architecture play in your ancestors' lives?
- How does your awareness of your ancestors influence your interest in an architectural practice?

Demond Head was portrayed by the United States government for military usage in 2006. The town and community were built inside and along the outer rim to strengthen the coastal defense of the island. Later on, Demond Head’s fort was decommissioned in the late 20th century. Today, it is a popular tourist destination for hiking and enjoying the surrounding nature. The fort and its history provide a unique perspective on the culture and history of the area.
Map networks

(Natural & Spatial Relationships)
Welcome to the Aloha Design Studio!

Aloha Design Studio is a collaborative platform that brings together artists, designers, and thinkers from various disciplines. Located in Honolulu, Hawaii, the studio serves as a hub for innovation, creativity, and cultural exchange. Our mission is to foster a space where ideas can converge, inspire, and evolve. Whether you're a seasoned professional or a budding creative, you're invited to join us in exploring the power of design in shaping our world.

Backdrop of Hawaii and Design:

Hawaii's unique landscape and rich cultural heritage provide a vibrant backdrop for our work. From traditional Hawaiian art and architecture to modern design trends, we draw inspiration from the island's natural beauty and unique history. From cocktails to art exhibits, souvenirs to board games, each piece reflects our commitment to celebrating Hawaii's diversity and creativity.

Enjoy your visit to Aloha Design Studio!
Virtual Architecture

Time for a Reset.

In the past year and a half, the entangled crises of a global pandemic, climate change, racial injustice, and income inequality have thrown into stark relief: we must face adequately address the challenges of these times, and a gradual transformation will not be enough.

Same with our architectures. Our current systems of design and construction are failing. They cannot adequately address climate change, social justice, and economic inequality. We must embrace new ways of working, growth, urbanization, and the expected doubling of the built environment in the next 40 years. The challenges are huge, and incremental change is not the answer.

This studio explored these entanglements and intersections through material iterations and installation strategies. It looked for ways to build a regenerative and restorative infrastructure that can be deployed into the United States and the United Nations Climate Change Conference COP26. It developed strategies such as using materials that act as a carbon sink, buildings that are designed for resilience, and infrastructure that can work with the built environment.

The studio sought to prototype the buildings and ideas of the future.

Steps
- Nina Carter
- Ben Diller

Space
- Feminist
- Civic
- Public

Citation
- Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation (GSAPP)
Our capabilities as architects today, to create and leverage organized building information, is continuously expanding the possibilities for designing and understanding what we build and how we build it. Developing a fluency of the digital tools and processes from conceptual design to delivery, that exist both within the architectural field and more broadly, is an increasingly essential component for designers. This class challenges students to develop robust methodologies and frameworks to better drive possibilities for creative iteration and validation of design solutions through analysis, automation, simulation, optimization, and representation.

The course is intended to provide foundational knowledge of building information modeling (BIM) practices, as well as relevant options for alternative design-platform interoperability and integration. Sessions will include case-study review and explorations of current BIM technology, documentation strategies, and novel approaches to activating design offices. Emphasis will be on creating a cohesive, coherent, and day-to-day practice oriented approach to leveraging design tools, technologies, and design modes developed earlier in the semester with a revised set of design goals.