Spring 2019 Columbia University
Graduate School of Architecture, Planning & Preservation
Advanced IV Studio - A4104, Section 003
Professor: Amina Blacksher  asb2270@columbia.edu

M / Th 01:30–06:30 p.m.
W 03:00–05:00 p.m. Lectures in Avery 114, Ziad Jamaelldine with Faculty

The Arts and the Academy

![Image of dancers](image-url)

Photo: Courtesy of Newburgh Performing Arts Academy

PROJECT DESCRIPTION
The studio will examine the potential for art to function as a catalyst for change. Specifically, the studio will examine the role of the institution, the Academy, as a host for harnessing talent, social vitality, civic engagement, and enduring economic prosperity. Organizational structures of precedent academies will be studied to understand the physical and non-physical architecture that facilitate or allow the institution to affect change on a scale greater than the building itself; the society.

Final projects will expand the capacity of the Newburgh Performing Arts Academy and propose a new institutional (infra)structure, physical and organizational, contributing to a vibrant Newburgh.
If we are to understand culture as dynamic and constantly changing, there is an implication that a learning environment’s relationship with its surrounding culture must constantly be asserted, negotiated and adapted. [The Guild organizational structure of] samba schools highlight some of the specific characteristics that help them maintain a discourse with their surrounding communities and also perpetuate their cultural significance.

- José Pablo Zagal and Amy S. Bruckman

**SAMBA SCHOOLS**

Samba schools are associations of people often from the same neighborhood and bring a sense of community and belonging. Rather than actual teaching institutions they are guilds that awaken respect and pride.

**Studio Organization**

Studio work includes three overlapping tasks which will be undertaken in groups or individually:

**Topic research:** Introduction to history, rezoning and future of currently vacant Newburgh industrial/warehouse sites; overview of the relationship between industry and surrounding community. Research will include review of Newburgh City designated landmark buildings to ascertain structural viability for reuse.

**Precedent Institutional Models:** The studio will take a comprehensive view of a range of institutional models to survey, dissect and understand the organizational possibilities of the academy and its potential for social, civic and economic impact. As a conceptual framework for analysing the constancy of change, or gentrification cycles, the methodology for testing spatial strategies will employ additive and subtractive fabrication techniques.

**Building space/infrastructure design:**

site analysis, program refinement, context diagram, building new construction or reuse.
Site Visit: Information on studio visit to Newburgh sites will be available early in the new year.

Deliverables: a complete description of deliverables (with due dates) will be available early in the new year. Each deliverable will be issued with evaluation criteria.

Background material, program and site info and reading list: will be posted early in the new year.

Artist movements referenced:
Soho, NY 1980s
Renaissance Harlem 1920s
Performance Art Movement, Bauhaus - 1920s

Precedent Institutional Models:
Samba Schools - Rio de Janeiro
Bauhaus - Dessau
Ecole des Beaux Arts - Paris
Escuela des Bellas Artes - San Miguel de Allende
Brooklyn Academy of Music - Brooklyn
Newburgh Armory Unity Center - Newburgh

Studio Collaborators:
Newburgh Performing Arts Academy
Newburgh Industrial Development Agency