COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY GRADUATE SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE, PLANNING AND PRESERVATION

Spring 2018

A4656-1 FAST PACE/SLOW SPACE

Instructor: Mark Bearak, Brigette Borders

The goal of our class will be to make a physical space for meditation over the course of a semester. Parametric and computational software offer designers a high degree of specificity which can be used to create complex forms, intricate details, and material efficiency, yet high-level results become insignificant if construction methods are too complicated to be timely. Fast Pace/Slow Space will focus on the marriage of complex form and logical assembly, with detailing, hardware and construction methods informing design decisions from the onset. Students in groups of 4-6 will design an installation or environment with slow pace sensibilities, while utilizing details that allow for high-speed assembly and disassembly. The class will explore the nature of the digital process, material techniques and fabrication process in the human environment; students will generate unique solutions that satisfy architectural requirements, building standards, cost ceilings and aesthetic aspirations, and efficiency of time. In today's cities people work not only at their place of business but often while mobile, utilizing the digital tools and infrastructure that allow us to stay constantly interconnected. While moving between fast-paced environments, many people have no chance to experience respite. This occurrence is even more amplified in Manhattan where space is premium and the pace of life rarely slows down. We propose high speed construction of a space for meditation, relaxation and atmospheric therapy; a cohesive environment built upon the relationship between man and his built environment. The space could be a room, a tunnel, a free-standing structure, an implied enclosure that still allows light and air through but creates a sense of privacy; the program is completely open to any installation that would create an environment.

January 16th: Week 1

Lecture: Introduction to course, Logistics, Lab Discussion

Due Today: [Application to the course]

January 23rd: Week 2

Lecture: Fabrication Basics (Brigette)

Due Today: CNC CNC Processes/Materials

January 30th: Week 3

Lecture: Cradle to Cradle (Mark)

Due Today: Joint/Hinge exploration; Inspiration Images (Bring 10 slides of architectural pavilions, follies, or installations that resonate with your assignments and interests so far)

February 6th: Week 4 **(NO MARK)**

Lecture: Project Management, FPSS Case Histories (Brigette)

Due Today: Component Replication + Project Proposal

February 13th: Week 5

Desk Crits

Due Today: Project development

February 20th: Week 6 (Fast Pace/Slow Space Review 1)

Due Today: Conceptual Project Proposal, material ideas, full-scale prototype

February 27th: Week 7 **(NO BRIGETTE)**

Required Field Trip: Material Connexion

March 6th: Week 8 (Kinne Week)

Lecture: TBD

Due Today: Folly Analysis

March 13th (Spring Break, no class)

March 20th: Week 9 **(BRIGETTE REMOTE)**

Lecture: Materials as Components; Foundations and Structural Systems

Due Today: Presentation of project component needing development

March 27th: Week 10 **(NO BRIGETTE)**

Lecture: TBD

Due Today: Component Swap incorporation

April 3rd: Week 11

Desk Crits

April 10th: Week 12 (Fast Pace/Slow Space Review 2)

Due Today: Final Full-scale prototypes and preliminary documentation

April 17th: Week 13 (**Last Day of Class**)

Due Today: Tech Report draft

April 24th: Exam and Paper Week

Due Today: Tech Report

May 12th, 5:00pm, EOYS (Final Projects to be constructed)

4:45pm, informal meeting, group pictures with entire class and structures