

Brooklyn Public  
Gordon Kipping Statement  
Core 2 - A4102\_002

The public library has historically been an institution that makes information available to a public that may otherwise lack access. Yet today, the pervasive modes of information exchange question the primacy of this model. While we consume information from a massive diversity of sources, we also all produce and broadcast information like never before. Can the public library aid in this explosion of information exchange? While it continues to be a source of information, can it also be a receptor of information? Can we diversify the sources of information and directions of its flow? How do we define a public library for today and the foreseeable future which facilitates this information exchange? The investigation of this question will shape your public library.

While information can certainly be exchanged through books, you will consider other mediums of information exchange to incorporate into your library. Can various forms of art display and participation facilitate information exchange? Is interpersonal communication a means of exchanging information? Does a green space or urban farm offer an opportunity to exchange? What are the programs and spaces which can enable this back and forth? Your public library will be a vehicle for the exchange of information in its many forms.

We will make extensive use of diagramming to develop and describe the program and the building. Flows of information, people & collections; vectors of structure, light & air; program spaces and their relationships to the context; and any other factors defining your project will be diagrammed. Your isolated diagrams will be continually developed through an iterative process provoked by the contamination of each to one another. This will culminate in an idealized and multilayered project diagram which will guide the development of your public library as it is elaborated and made constructible. The result will be a unique solution to the public library in the service of the public and suited to its context.

While you will have the flexibility to modify the given program to suit your developed project diagrams, we will take a highly structured approach to our organization and presentation of information. To start the semester, you will design a title block which will hold the various diagrams, drawings and images representing your project and its development. We will create a blog for the studio which will hold all of the artifacts of our project development and act as the primary vehicle for the communication of our designs.