ADVANCED SPECIAL TOPICS IN ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN **EVDB 697 Q(3-0)**
SOMERVILLE CHARETTE

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Brigitte Shim, Visiting Lecturer

Winter 2013

Class Time: Block Week 09:00 - 17:00pm

Introduction:

This course focuses on thematic inquiry and design related to urban design, architecture, environmental science, industrial design and planning. The topic of this course changes every year and depends on the visiting lecturer's focus of design research and/or work.

The William Lyon Somerville Visiting Lectureship was established by an endowment given to the University of Calgary by the late Mrs. A.G. Burton of Calgary in memory of her father. The gift was matched by the University to create a fund for the maintenance of an annual visiting distinguished lectureship program in Architecture, within the Faculty of Environmental Design. The Wiilliam Lyon Somerville Visiting Lectureship is designed to bring a visiting practitioner, academic or critic to the Architecture program annually. The visiting lecturer conducts a block course with the students and holds an annual lecture concerning the subject of Architecture for the benefit of the University and the Community it serves. The program was inaugurated in February 1992.

Recipients (Last 10 years)

2003 Cedric Price, Cedric Price Architects, London
2004 Jacques Rousseau, Montréal
2005 Federico Sorriano, Madrid
2006 Burton Hamfelt, S333 Architecture and Urbanism, Amsterdam
2007 Alison Brooks, Alison Brooks Architects, London
2008 Koen van Velsen, architectenbureau K. van Velsen b.v., Hilversum
2009 Hrvoje Njiric, njiric+ arhitekti, Zagreb
2010 Mark Smout, Smout Allen, London
2011 Adam Caruso, Caruso St. John Architects, London
2012 Michael Weinstock, Architectural Association, London

Objectives:

1. To gain insight and experience in contemporary issues in architecture and design.
2. To learn of alternative strategies in contemporary design.
3. To develop skills in teamwork, 2D and 3D representation, and fabrication.

Teaching Approach

This course explores contemporary issues in architectural design through an intense 5-day design charrette. This is led by the William Lyon Somerville Visiting Lecturer, an architect of international reputation. The visitor sets the theme and structure for the charrette in consultation with the course manager. The course is offered once a year, during the January block week, and is considered an important event in the annual cycle of the MArch curriculum. It is open to MArch 1 and MArch 2 students (Foundation Year students may take the course with the permission of the manager) as an elective course.

Content: Topic Areas

The course Content is defined each year by the visitor (William Lyon Somerville Visiting Lecturer). Typically, the charrette has a strong design focus and is organized in a studio format, whereby contemporary issues are explored through a project or projects (usually in teams). The visiting guest also presents their work, informally to the charrette group and in a public forum, as a way of conveying their themes and approaches. The final review creates a forum for students and guests to share their work.

This year (2013) This advanced design studio seeks to explore emerging microsystems as a vehicle integrating and linking to specific scale of urbanism with the scale of building. Students will explore together an existing Calgary neighborhood to better understand the catalytic role that laneways or secondary streets can play in densifying and intensifying the City of Calgary. Laneways, alleys, mews, rear streets constitute an emerging microsystem situated within our urban centers which can help us reimagine a more compact and healthy urbanism. Students will work together to examine the project at a neighborhood scale understanding patterns of occupation and built form. Each student will be asked to propose an innovative design response designing an individual laneway dwelling which will contribute to and reinforce its local context.

Means of Evaluation:

Students will be evaluated on their class participation, reviews and their work as evidenced in the presentations.

Proficiency in the course is demonstrated by the student's ability to analyze and detail building assemblies and discuss the merits and deficiencies of the various materials for particular applications. Final Evaluation is based on the following:

Final Exam	50%
Studio Project	50%