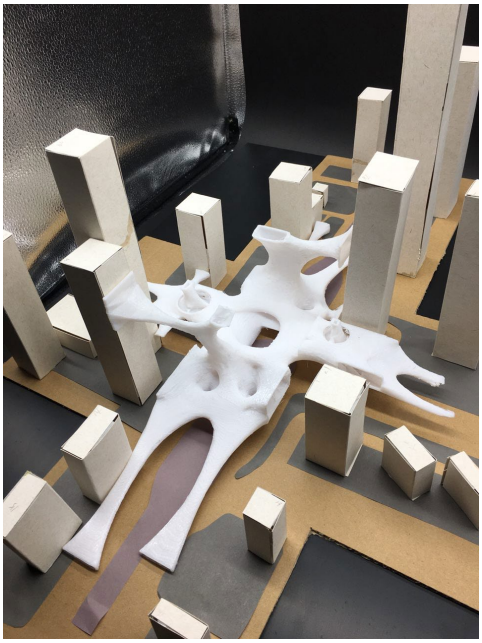

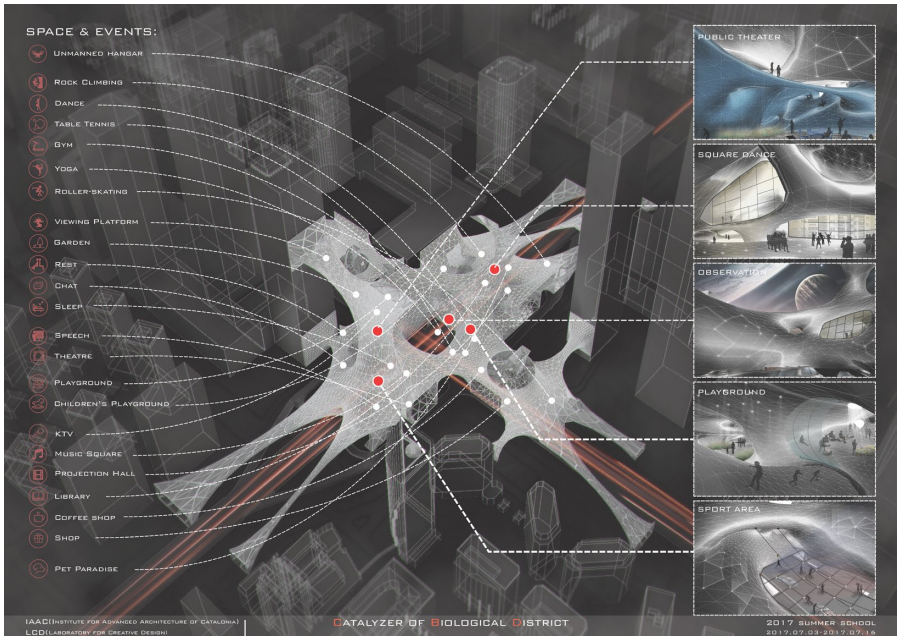

Images of IaaC Global Summer School In Beijing, Instructed by Mohsen Marizad 2017

AFTER FORM: Design of an Urban Node

Arch 4/584 FALL 2017 UO Eugene

Instructors | Marziah Rajabzadeh; Mohsen Marizad

After Form

Form is the unifying language between complex and disparate design criteria. It is also the most universally challenged aspect of any architectural design project. To encourage a more objective approach to the topic of form in architecture, the design process must address two challenges: 1. The discovery and development of a strong formal vocabulary through a process of systematic exploration and analysis; and 2. The adaptation of that formal system to respond to an ever-evolving natural and physical world in a consistent and timeless way. This studio will use a predetermined geometry system to facilitate a deeper exploration of the strategies and processes used to respond to the *second* formal challenge, in other words, what happens 'After Form.'

Design of an Urban Node

Urban nodes are a constitutive element of a national or trans-national transportation network and foster the integration of that network into urban circumstances like spatial structure, public space and interconnection. This studio will focus on the design of an 'Urban Research Laboratory', located at the intersection of such a water, train, vehicle and pedestrian traffic node in downtown Portland, Oregon. The studio will explore strategies for future urban development in the context of an architectural element situated at the core of an urban mobility network.

Studio Brief and Methodology

This studio is focused on proposing a formal response to the challenges of architectural design in the context of our rapidly evolving cities. The studio aims to redirect the design process by focusing on a narrow field of formal solutions, specifically, minimal surface structures, as a baseline generative factor. The design process will follow these phases: 1. Exploration of the geometry system and 2. Adaptation to site and design requirements, and 3. Strategies in fabrication and construction.

Requirements and Notes

- This is a demanding studio with a strong focus on digital design and fabrication. Therefore, a working understanding of Rhino and Grasshopper is strongly encouraged, and large-scale fabrication will be required.
- Students will work in teams to encourage collaboration, idea sharing and interaction.
- This studio will meet twice a week for 6 hr long sessions.