

## SEMINAR

# WORKING CITIES: architecture, place and production

Variable credit: 2-4 credits. All students will attend all seminar sessions, and the number of credits will reflect the extent of the final product.

In this seminar, we will ask the following question:

***How can the city and its buildings support a transformed urbanism, in which the city once again is a place of material production rather than only consumption, and which includes diverse populations—rich and poor, immigrant and native-born, college-educated, vocationally-trained, and 'learned-on-the-job'—in the processes of making goods, food, and ideas?***

Toward the end of the 20th century, cities lost their traditional functions as places where things were made, as processes of globalization and automation moved production to places of cheaper labor. But now, cities such as Portland, New York, Detroit, San Francisco, London and many others are once again beginning to accommodate workshops, factories and agricultural facilities, even as large-scale, long-distance production is maintained. As these trends continue, they will have implications in urban design, urban form and architecture. In the seminar, we will explore these developments and speculate on their impact on the emerging city and its buildings.

The seminar will include introductory lectures, discussions of readings, and project presentations. Students will propose and carry out individual projects in one of the following five areas:

- Historic case studies of the architecture and urbanism of factories, workshops, distribution facilities, and other buildings associated with production.
- Case studies of contemporary production / production facilities in cities
- Guidelines, zoning, and patterns that can help incentivize and guide the return of production to cities.
- The development of graphic representation techniques to help visualize and explain the complex relationships between production, buildings for production, and other urban functions such as dwelling.
- A project of the student's choice, to be approved by the instructor.

The seminar will examine industrial and agricultural production in theoretical ways as well as with actual architectural examples and case studies, seeing production as an essential component of sustainable urbanism. This is the topic of the instructor's next book, and this seminar will help in the development of its material and ideas.

