

URBAN ACUPUNCTURE:

Renovating the Historic Greyhound Bus Station for Social Housing

We know that the planning process of a city takes time - and it has to - for it involves a multitude of actors and issues, as well as long-term guidelines; however, sometimes, simple, focused interventions can create new energy, demonstrating the possibilities of a space in a way that motivates others to engage with their community. It can even contribute to the planning process. This gets to the essence of true urban acupuncture - it needs to be precise and quick, that's the secret.

-Jamie Lerner, Architect and former mayor of Curitiba Brazil



Source: Lane County Historical Museum, 1949 with edits by Lyndsey Deaton

This studio will use the lens of “urban acupuncture” to incorporate social housing into the major renovation of the recently sold Greyhound Bus Station in downtown Eugene, OR. Urban acupuncture is a socio-spatial theory that leverages small projects to address important social issues. Housing insecurity is a core issue for the Pacific Northwest and Eugene, in particular, has piloted innovative approaches. **How can architecture leverage this critical site toward the relief of housing insecurity while still engaging the public and commercial functions of a prominent urban street?**

The Greyhound Bus Station is a historic building with unique Art Deco elements. The Urban Acupuncture studio will work through themes of **historic preservation, mixed-use development, and social housing** to propose concepts that engage the public realm and stimulate spatial equity in the city. Students will study the morphology of Eugene over the twentieth century and assess the success of turn-of-the-century urban renewal efforts. They will work individually to propose a program and ultimately a **building concept and site development plan** that complies with the city's master planning guidelines and growth goals as well as prescriptive sustainability standards. Studio work includes site visits, stakeholder interactions, in-studio work and review, lectures and readings.