

“Human beings do not, in their movements, inscribe their life histories upon the surface ...; rather, these histories are woven ... into the texture of the surface itself.”

*Perceptions of the Environment*, Tim Ingold

# S U P E R <sup>+</sup> L E G G E R A

**position description:** We are faced with escalating climate change, economic inequity and social unrest, and architecture must confront fundamental questions regarding the matter of nature and the place of humans within a material world. The development of the automobile was fueled by racing research and enthusiasm in the quest for ever more speed, as well as refinement; the superleggera models pursued a strategy of decreased weight to this end. Design projects will pursue emergent, provocative investigations that address an entangled context of natural environment, history, identity, technology and embodied humanism...projects that posit how human needs might be met through a compelling material choreography that seeks to understand “lightness” in relation to site and building fabrication. Students will work collaboratively and in small groups to research and model the environment and matter of the site, being exploratory and less conventional in order develop *cognitive physical models* as a rich context in support of design inquiry.

...

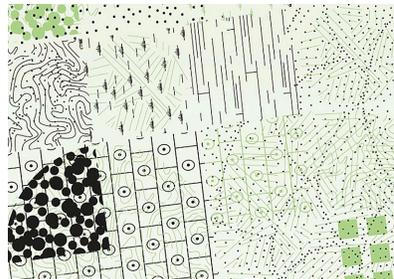
lightness

time and motion

containers

matter

infrastructures



surfaces

energy and activity

alt vehicles

mobility

**project description:** A cluster of clean tech businesses surrounding transportation technology and alternative vehicles continues to evolve in the Pacific Northwest. Alongside the Columbia River, the Portland International Raceway, resides within what is now an unusual city park. The proposed project calls for a (re)mediated landscape and campus that will include a multi-faceted vehicular facility for testing, drive-performance research and an exhibition center. The project will incorporate the following: - - vehicle track + testing center with short term living quarters\* - - exhibit and education center (automotive history, racing, vehicle design)\* - - access, parking - - requirements of the site. Pairs of students will develop a metaphor for future use (this-as-that) and propose a comprehensive design for the landscape+park+campus. Individual students will develop a schematic design proposal for one of the \* programs.

**methodology:** The first part of the term will require reading, discussion, research and a fieldtrip. Structured schedule and assignments will require investment in active participation and demanding regular work. Collaborative, team and solo work will figure in the processes. The initial focus will be on making research and design context visible in artful ways. Emphasis will shift to design inquiry, intervention, and the growth and development of design solutions that emerge from those initial modeling processes; the clear articulation of questions and intentions; the representation through 3D/2D&hybrids. There will be multiple pin-ups/peer critiques throughout, two mid-reviews and a final.