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Visiting Instructor  
College of Architecture  
Georgia Institute of Technology  
Arch. 4011 Architectural Design V  
Fall 2007

## Eco Information Center/Faculty Residences

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### Introduction

The focus of this studio will be the development of a design strategy that incorporates advanced sustainable building techniques with an equally well-developed sense of aesthetic expression. The dawning of the “green revolution” and appreciation for an eco friendly methodology of building brings us to a crossroads of contemporary design discussion. When radically different parameters of solar capture/shielding, wind, material choice, etc. become the major drivers of design expression, how do they react with the prevailing cultural context of architectural style—modern, traditional or regional? While the simplistic approach of adapting traditional typologies to sustainable contingencies is certainly not the answer, likewise, as intelligent and necessary as sustainable parameters are, a dwelling is a place of human habitation, dimension and scale. It is the objective of this course to examine these fundamental principles on all levels (technical, aesthetic, philosophical) in search of a synthesis appropriate to its time. We will design two concurrent projects based on these issues: an Eco Information Center located on the Tech campus and a cluster of sustainable faculty residences located in Home Park.

### Projects

#### Eco Information Center

After the conclusion of the Solar Decathlon Competition in Washington, DC this fall, it is proposed that G.T.'s entry be exhibited in the Eco Commons area adjacent to the Architectural Building. It will be accompanied by an information center explaining both the Decathlon's specific mission and the global issues affecting sustainable construction worldwide. The Center must be a signature design drawing the public into a graphic presentation of its mission.

#### Suggested Program

Lobby: 300 SF

General Information: 250 SF

Exhibit Gallery: 800 SF

1 Office @150 SF, Conference/Classroom @300 SF

Circulation: as required

Total: 800 SF min. to 2400 SF max. to be determined by class research

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### Residences

4-6 exemplary, sustainable units for visitors and permanent faculty

Suggested Program:

2-3 bedrooms, living, dining, work office, parking. Size to be determined by class and sponsor's research.

### Sites

Eco Commons area on the Georgia Tech campus adjacent to Architectural Building and 1072-78 Snyder Street in Home Park.

### Course Procedure

This course involves research into several important topics: site and historic context, technical parameters, social parameters and aesthetic philosophy. The class will be divided into relevant teams researching each topic and presenting their findings to the class at large (format TBA). When a clear definition of the issues has been established, each student will develop his or her own scheme based on the assembled information. There will be a brief (1 week) design exercise exploring relevant issues at this point. This studio is sponsored by Green Habitats, LLC, therefore it will have special requirements: in-progress presentations made to sponsor, attendance to invited lectures by COA faculty and final presentation to sponsor. Timely preparation and active participation in all ensuing discussions is expected. Your design exploration will require the hypothesizing of appropriate details, passages, connections, etc., through drawing or study models, focusing on expression of conceptual idea, sustainability of materials and constructability. There will be a sponsored field trip to Washington, DC to visit the Solar Decathlon Competition October 12<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> and funds available for model building, presentation, etc.

### Studio

In addition to the theoretical issues involved in our discussions, a rigorous and timely development of the technical needs will be required.

Site analysis  
Program organization and research  
Life safety requirements  
Structure  
Materiality/detail

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Requirements

Complete plan, section, elevation and three dimensional representations (tonal sketches, etc.) at appropriate scales must be presented at all developmental and final reviews.

Site plan  
Floor plans  
Elevations  
Sections  
Model/perspectives

You should be able to articulate your critical investigations through diagrams, written and final solutions. Your attendance at all regularly scheduled studio meetings, lectures and review is mandatory.

Schedule

Phase I:	Examination of issues, written and verbal presentation, site model	1-2 weeks
Phase II:	Detail, material connection development Washington, DC field trip	3 weeks
Phase III:	Design Project, presentation	5 weeks

Interim Reviews: TBA

Final Project due: TBA

Final Presentation to sponsor: TBA

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