ARCH 4/510 Spring 2024
DESIGN THE UNSEEN
CRN 36044 / 36045 - Monday Wednesday 9:00-10:50am in 231 Lawrence Hall

Instructor: Prof. Mark Fretz, mfretz@uoregon.edu

“Yet we must guard against the notion that only those sense perceptions that are easily and consciously registered really count...”
— Richard Neutra, Survival through Design, 1954

This course explores the unseen design of the built environment that impacts the health of human occupants, communities, and planet. Design the Unseen uses a scientific approach to examine human exposure and health to building materials, lighting, acoustics, thermal conditions, pollutants, and the microbial communities resulting from the design and construction of modern environments, allowing the class to study the impacts of design decisions in historic and modern buildings, the landscape and community.

For this seminar, students will learn through lecture, readings, discussion, hands-on investigation, and collaboration with design professionals to research relevant projects that integrate topics of health, energy, equity, and design. The major deliverables will include a Pecha Kucha style presentation of findings and research paper (graduate students).

Degree requirement fulfillment: Advanced Technology

Pre-requisites and targeted student audience: Architecture Majors; Interior Architecture majors; Historic Preservation major