PPPM 407/507 | Seminar
SPATIAL EQUITY IN COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
CRN 35831 | Mon/Wed | 8:30-9:50am | 171 LIL

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“If you have come here to help me, you are wasting your time. But if you have come because your liberation is bound up with mine, then let us work together.”

- Lilla Watson - Murri Activist, Artist and Academic

Community engagement is an essential process to cultivate equitable design and planning practices. The process of bringing the community into the decision-making process helps planners, designers and architects gain a better understanding of the issues that directly impact communities. But as we face the systemic imbalances of power and access to resources, now more than ever requires a collective investment of reflecting on our role as professionals and outsiders in these communities.

In this seminar we will learn about alternative perspectives of the history of inequity in planning and design, and the impacts on the marginalization and exclusion of underrepresented communities. From this foundation, we will gain an understanding of our personal identities and how our role in this work is shaped by those identities to deepen our methodologies of community-based practice. We will learn methods for more inclusive spatial design, and learn practices that prioritize relationships and connection with communities that aim to build trust.

This seminar will include research, required readings, visiting lecturers and outdoor field work.