The HOPES Conference (Holistic Options for Planet Earth Sustainability) was established in 1994 by UO architecture, landscape architecture and art students eager to direct their design education. Each year, HOPES provides a platform for students, professionals, leaders and activists to engage in rich discussion on sustainable solutions to contemporary issues.

The theme for this year’s HOPES Conference is “Structures in Transition; Design as Catalyst.” The conference will explore how designers play a pivotal role in cultural and institutional structures and question whether we are doing our best to steward a more just and sustainable future. An interdisciplinary group of speakers has been invited from across the country to lead conversations in questioning colonial structures, rethinking economic systems, and radically reimagining the future of design. For a full list of speakers and planned presentations, please reference our website: hopes.uoregon.edu

In order to receive credit for completing this course, students must choose ONE of the following options for conference participation:

- Mode 1: Submit a Paper (Deadline April 1st)
- Mode 2: Attend and Volunteer

Both modes of participation require in person attendance at the event, hosted at Lawrence Hall April 19th-21st, 2024. Students registered for the course must also register for the conference in advance, informing conference organizers that they are pursuing course credit. Attendance will be taken for each presentation/workshop.

Please note that this is largely self-guided. If you have questions or need support completing the requirements, please reach out to the HOPES team at edc.hopes@uoregon.edu and copy Karianna Muller at karianna@uoregon.edu and Arica Duhrkoop-Galas at aricad@uoregon.edu.

Open to ARCH, IARC, and LA. Please request departmental approval otherwise.
Mode 1: Submission

This year, HOPES has announced a call for papers. Time has been set aside on the 20th and the 21st to hold small panels and presentations of submitted work. In order to receive credit for this course through Mode 1, students must submit an abstract on their selected topic by March 1st. If selected, the student will be in contact with the HOPES team to determine how and when their work will be presented. Students should be aware that if their submission is not accepted, they will be asked to complete the second mode of participation (Attend and Reflect).

A submitted paper may be a presentation of a student’s personal or academic project, an original essay or presentation on the topics related in the conference, or an alternative presentation. Students should reach out to the HOPES team if you have ideas or questions; the call to papers is intentionally vague to encourage creative participation from the student body.

Questions should be directed to edc.hope@gmail.com and copy karianna@uoregon.edu.

Suggested Topics include but are not limited to: Design Pedagogies, Spatial Justice, Food Systems, Post-Capitalist Utopias, Labor Organizing as a Sustainable Practice, Speculative Design, and Artificial Intelligence.

Mode 2: Attend and Volunteer

In order to receive credit for this course through Mode 2, students must sign up to volunteer for a minimum of 4 hours during the conference and attend at least 3 presentations of workshops. Volunteering may include setup and teardown of catering and workshops, but volunteers will primarily be tasked with tracking attendance to events. This process will be crucial in supporting students seeking class credits for attendance and professionals seeking continuing education credits for attendance.

To receive credit in this way, volunteers registered for the HOPES course credit must attend a number of meetings beforehand to understand the sign in process and develop an understanding that can be used to guide non-credit seeking volunteers. These meetings have not been scheduled, but will likely be during the regular HOPES meetings time on Wednesdays, 5:00-6:00 pm.

Volunteer sign up: https://forms.gle/B6SdfGpcuAnPCcu2A
Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course students will have:

- Explored the academic conference as an alternative mode of learning
- Gained skilled in public presentation or presentation engagement
- Developed professional connections in a collaborative learning environment
- Explored interdisciplinary connections across design industries
- Explored how the topics covered in the conference might apply to their own academic and professional work

Course Outline and Schedule:

Mode 1: Submission

April 1st: abstracts for presented papers are due
April 8th: Paper selections will be sent out by beginning of Week 2
April 8-19th: Meetings will be schedule with presenters to discuss format
April 19th-21st: Conference and Final Presentation of Materials

Mode 2: Attend and Volunteer

March 23rd: Sign up to volunteer by the beginning of Spring Term
Early April: Attend required training meetings
April 19th-21st: Conference is held at Lawrence Hall (students must volunteer for a minimum of 4 hours and attend a minimum of 3 presentations or workshops)