Spring term, 2015

# **Final Paper**

#### **General instructions**

Main text: 1500-2500 words

Paper due: Wednesday, July 24, 2015, at 16:00

Where: hand in last class, July 21, or by e-mail (send to galloway@sfc.keio.ac.jp)

**Title and identification:** Specify a title to your essay, your name, course details and due date, on the first page of the work.

**Topic:** Point out which of the optional essay topics, 1-4, you have chosen as your subject

**Summary:** Have a clear thesis statement in an introductory paragraph that informs the reader what will be achieved in the body of the text.

**Images:** Images can be of any number and type (source MUST be identified)

**Sources:** Use scholarly sources to support the research for this paper. Cite those sources properly along the text and in endnotes. Sources should be acknowledged according to the Chicago Manual of Style, 15th ed

**Late submission:** Please note, the due date cannot be postponed; late papers will only be accepted under exceptional circumstances.

Grade: This assignment will constitute 50% of course grade

creativity is rewarded

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### **Term Paper**

#### **Topic One - Self-Directed Topic**

The essay will allow you to research further and in greater accuracy one of the subjects that were taught or dealt with during the course.

### Topic Two - Utopia and Sustainability

Is Utopia possible? This is another way of asking if sustainability is possible through the construction of the built worlds that we live in. In the course of the class we have looked at several models of utopia as precursors and models of sustainability in the built world. Using examples where utopian ideals were constructed, discuss the success and failure of the built works in light of the effects they had (have) on their communities and how utopian models might be used to create a sustainable future today. In addition to text, this option could include supporting graphics like sketches, diagrams or drawings.

#### Topic Three - Analysis of a building or a development

Examine a building or a development and analyse its potential or proved usefulness as a model for sustainability according to the three pillars of sustainability, as well as the stated purposes of the designers (architects/politicians/patrons) themselves. Try to highlight both positive and negative sides of the project if they exist, and suggest areas for improvement. Offer a conclusion about how the ideas used in the development should or should not be used for future projects.

# **Topic Four - Technology Versus Society**

Sustainable design often focuses on technological rather than social issues, and aims at developing ever more efficient systems and/or structures. Sustainability on a large scale may not be possible without engaging social cues and incorporating social incentives. Give evidence from the real world to support your personal stance on this theory and offer suggestions for how it might be possible to make use of lessons learned so far. Subject matter must remain linked closely to the built environment, but need not focus exclusively on architecture or planning.

Note: do not offer opinions that you are unable to support with facts. Be sure to include support of all the ideas you offer in the paper.