Network City
An Extreme Cities Seminar

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Avery 115, Friday 11-1

"Cities are communications systems." – Ronald Abler

This course fulfills the Urban Society M.Arch distributional requirement.

Network City explores how urban areas have developed as ecosystems of competing networks since the late nineteenth century. This seminar is part the Extreme Cities collaboration between the Graduate School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation and Audi AG.

Networks of capital, transportation infrastructures, and telecommunications systems centralize cities while dispersing them into megalopoleis, that is larger posturban fields such as the megalopolis of the Northeastern seaboard, the Great Lakes region, or Southern California. Such cities form the core of global capital, producing the geography of flows that structures economies and societies today.

If cities can be thought of as communications systems or networks, we have to understand these as products of historical development. To this end, the first half of the course surveys the development of urbanization since the emergence of the modern network city in the late nineteenth century while the second half focuses on conditions in contemporary urbanism.

A fundamental thesis of the course is that buildings too, function as networks. In this sense, the city can be thought of not just as a network but as an internet (originally "internetwork"). We will consider the demands of cities and economies together with technological and social networks on program, envelope, and plan, particularly in the office building, the site of consumption, and the individual dwelling unit. In addition we will look at the fraught relationship between signature architecture (the so-called Bilbao-effect), tourism, and the neoliberal city.

It is essential to understand that we do not take the network as a given or as positive per se. Rather, throughout the course we set out to develop a critique of the network as both ideology and effect.

Throughout the course, we will explore the growth of both city and suburbia (and more recently postsuburbia and exurbia) not as separate and opposed phenomena but rather as intrinsically related. Although the material in the course is applicable globally, our focus will be on the development of the American city, in particular, New York.

As part of the Extreme Cities collaboration, this spring's course pays special focus on the development of the megalopolis of the American northeast.

This course is offered by the Network Architecture Lab

Project

The term project will be **one chapter within a research book**, treated as a self-contained book itself.

In accordance with the Network Architecture Lab's spring research work for the Extreme Cities collaboration between GSAPP and Audi AG, this year the project investigates a specific project in the Northeastern Megalopolis that stretches from Boston to Washington DC (BOSWASH) from the period between 1976 and 2001.

Students are asked to identify projects that specifically address the future of the city and that were realistically proposed or actually were built. Students are asked to investigate the project in depth, using the library together with newspaper and periodical archives to give us an understanding of the project in question.

Research, writing and design are all integral to the term project. Material should not be formulated into a traditional research paper, but rather assembled as a dossier of information that tells a story through the designed and composed sequence of images and texts lead by a narrative you have written yourself.

Length is variable. 2,500 words is a minimum except for the most concise writers. 3,500 or 4,000 would be more common.

Imagery is key to telling your story. Please provide credits for all images on a separate credits page at the end of the book.

Examples of student work are available at:

http://www.networkarchitecturelab.org/teaching/seminars/network_city

Wolfgang Scheppe's *Migropolis: Venice / Atlas of a Global Situation* in Avery (and soon on our reserve shelf) is a great example of what we are after. Carefully drawn graphics, graphs, and charts are welcome when they are used to contribute to your story.

InDesign templates will be posted on courseworks for registered students to download.

All work is to be carefully proofread and fact checked.

Citations are required, using the Chicago humanities footnote method.

Plagiarism of any sort will result in immediate failure.

A Brief Bibliography of Books regarding Design and Presentation

Kimberley Elam, *Grid Systems: Principles of Organizing Type* (New York: Princeton Architectural Press, 2004).

Allen Hurlburt, *The Grid: A Modular System for the Design and Production of Newspapers, Magazines, and Books* (New York: Van Norstand Reinhold, 1978).

Enric Jardí, *Twenty-Tips on Typography* (Barcelona: ACTAR, 2007).

Josef Muller-Brockmann, *Grid Systems in Graphic Design* (Zurich: Niggli, 2001)

Tomato, *Bareback: A Tomato Project* (Corte Madera, CA: Gingko Press,1999).

* denotes classic reading that demands special attention.

1 1.25 **Introduction: Towards Network City**

The First Network Cities

* Ronald F. Abler "What Makes Cities Important," *Bell Telephone Magazine*, March/April. (1970).

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Robert M. Fogelson, "The Business District: Downtown in the Late
2.01   Nineteenth Century," *Downtown: Its Rise and Fall, 1880-1950,* (New Haven: Yale, 2001), 9-42.

Anne Querrien, "The Metropolis and the Capital," *Zone* 1/2 (Cambridge: MIT Press, 1986), 219-221
The Metropolitan Subject

* Georg Simmel, "The Metropolis and Mental Life," *On Individuality and Social Forms,* ed. David Levine, ed. (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1971), 324-339.

* Ernest W. Burgess, "The Growth of the City: An Introduction to a Research Project," *The City: Suggestions for Investigation of Human*
3   *Behavior in the Urban Environment,* ed.Robert E. Park and Ernest W. Burgess (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1925), 47-62.

2.08
* Louis Wirth, "Urbanism as a Way of Life," In *American Journal of Sociology* 44, 1-24.

* Michel Foucault, "Docile Bodies," *Discipline and Punish: The Birth of the Prison.* (New York: Vintage Books, 1995), 135-156.

Gilles Deleuze, "Postscript on Societies of Control ," *October* 59 (Winter 1992), 73-77.
Fordism and the Decongested City

* David Harvey, "Fordism" in *The Condition of Postmodernity,* (Oxford,
4   UK: Blackwell, 1989), 125-140.

2.15   * Harvey Molotch, "The City as a Growth Machine," in *American Journal of Sociology* 82 , September 1976, 309-332.

Robert M. Fogelson, "The Central Business District: Downtown in the

1920s," *Downtown,* 183-217.

Peter Galison, "War Against the Center," *Grey Room* 4,Summer 2001, 6-33.

Research Week

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2.22

Your instructor is away giving a lecture at a conference.
Please spend this week working on your project

The Corporate Machine

* William H. Whyte, "Introduction" and "A Generation of Bureaucrats," *The Organization Man,* (New York: Simon and Schuster, 1956), 3-13 and 63-78.

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3.01

Abalos and Herreros, "The Evolution of Space Planning in the Workplace."*Tower and Office: From Modernist Theory to Contemporary Practice* (Cambridge: Buell Center/Columbia Book of Architecture/The MIT Press, 2005),177-196. (first half of chapter)

Reinhold Martin, "The Physiognomy of the Office," *The Organizational Complex,* (Cambridge: The MIT Press, 2003), 80-105, 114-121.
The Megalopolis and the Individual

* Stanley Milgram, "The Individual in the City" *The Individual in the Social World,* (Addison-Wesley, 1977), 3-118.

* David Riesman, *The Lonely Crowd: A Study of the Changing American Character,* abridged and rev. ed. (New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 2001), 3-65.

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3.08

* Herbert J. Gans, "The Vitality of Community Culture," *The Levittowners. Ways of Life and Politics in a New Suburban Community* (New York: Random House, 1967), 185-219

* Victor Gruen, "Cityscape and Landscape," *Arts and Architecture* 72 (September, 1955), 18-19, 36.

Peter Rowe, "Corporate Estates," *Making a Middle Landscape* (Cambridge: MIT Press, 1991), pp. 149-181.

The Network Enterprise

* Melvin M. Webber, "Order in Diversity: Community Without Propinquity," *Cities and Space: The Future of Urban Land,* ed. Lowden Wingo, Jr. (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1963), 23.

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3.15

* David Harvey, "From Fordism to Flexible Accumulation," *The Condition of Postmodernity,* 141-172.

* Manuel Castells, "The Network Enterprise" in *The Rise of the Network*

Society, 2nd edition,(New York: Blackwell, 2000), 163-296.

* Richard Barbrook and Andy Cameron, "The Californian Ideology," http://www.hrc.wmin.ac.uk/theory-californianideology-main.html. *

"Office Landscape," *Progressive Architecture,* (September 1964), 201-203.

* "Bürolandschaft, U.S.A.," *Progressive Architecture,* (May 1968), 174-177.

Abalos and Herreros, 197-211. (second half of chapter)

Malcolm Gladwell, "Designs for Working," *The New Yorker,* December 11, 2000, 60-70.

9

3.22 **Spring Break**
Neoliberalism, the Cult of the Authentic, and the City Core

Projects Due

* Jane Jacobs, "Introduction," *The Death and Life of Great American Cities* (New York: Vintage Books, 1961), 2-25.

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3.29

* Sharon Zukin, "Living Lofts as Terrain and Market" and "The Creation of a 'Loft Lifestyle" in *Loft Living* (New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 1982), 1-22, 58-81.

Richard Florida, "The Transformation of Everyday Life" and "The Creative Class,' in *The Rise of the Creative Class* (New York: Basic Books, 2002), 1–17, 67–82.

David Harvey, "The Constructing of Consent," *A Brief History of Neo-Liberalism* (Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press, 2005), 39-63.

Global Cities

* Saskia Sassen, "On Concentration and Centrality in the Global City," Paul L. Knox and Peter J. Taylor, eds.,*World Cities in a World-System* (Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, 1995), 63-78.

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* Ignasi Sola-Morales, "Terrain Vague", in *Anyplace* (Cambridge: MIT Press, 1995), p. 118-123.

4.0
5 * Castells "The Space of Flows," *The Rise of the Network Society,* 407-459.

Saskia Sassen, "Global City 20 Years Later," *A+U* 485 (2011)

Martin Pawley, "From Postmodernism to Terrorism," Terminal Architecture, 132-154.

The Unmarked Megalopolis and the Edgeless City

Robert Fishman, "Beyond Suburbia: The Rise of the Technoburb," *Bourgeois Utopias: The Rise and Fall of Suburbia* (New York: Basic Books, 1987), 182-208.

Rob Kling, Spencer Olin, and Mark Poster, "Beyond the Edge: The Dynamism of Postsuburban Regions," and "The Emergence of Postsuburbia: An Introduction,"]Rob Kling, Spencer Olin, and Mark Poster, eds. *Postsuburban California: The Transformation of Orange County* (Berkeley: University of California Press, **12** 1995), vii-xx, 1-30.

4.1 2 Selections from Michael J. Weiss, *The Clustered World: How We Live, What We Buy, and What it All Means About Who We Are* (New York: Little, Brown, and Company, 1999).

Bill Bishop, "The Power of Place," *The Big Sort: Why the Clustering of Like-Minded America Is Tearing Us Apart* (New York: Houghton Mifflin, 2008), 19-80.

Robert E. Lang and Jennifer LeFurgy, "Edgeless Cities: Examining the Noncentered Metropolis," *Housing Policy Debate* 14 (2003): 427-460.
The Financialized City

Karen Ho, "Wall Street's Orientation: Exploitation, Empowerment, and the Politics of Hard Word," *Liquidated. An Ethnography of Wall Street* (Durham: Duke University Press, 2009), 73-121. See http://site.ebrary.com.ezproxy.cul.columbia.edu/lib/columbia/docDetail.action?docID=10335353&p00=li quidated%20ethnography

13
4.1 9 Julian Brash, "Running Government Like a Business" and "The Luxury City" in *Bloomberg's New York. Class and Governance in the Luxury City* (Athens: University of Georgia Press, 2011), 75-129.

Kevin Phillips, "Preface," "Introduction. The Panic of August," "Finance: The New Real Economy?" *Bad Money. Reckless Finance, Failed Politics, and the Global Crisis of American Capitalism* (New York: Penguin, 2009), xi-lxxiv and 1-68.

Kim Moody, "Behind the Skyline: New York's Elite Remakes the City and Itself," *From Welfare State to Real Estate. Regime Change in New York City, 1974 to the Present*, 196-242.
Oversaturation

Wolfgang Scheppe,*Migropolis: Venice / Atlas of a Global Situation* (Berlin: Hatje Cantz, 2009).

14 4.2 6 Rem Koolhaas, "Junkspace" *October* (Spring 2002), 175-190. John Urry, "Cultural Changes and the Restructuring of Tourism," *The Tourist Gaze* (London: Sage, 2002),74-93.

Kazys Varnelis, "Introduction: Networked Ecologies," *The Infrastructural City: Networked Ecologies in Los Angeles* (Barcelona: ACTAR, 2008), 04-17.

Robert D. Putnam, "Bowling Alone: America's Declining Social Capital." *Journal of Democracy* 6 (1995): 65-78