ARCHST 2100

Understanding Architecture and the American City

An introduction to the people, processes and ideas shaping our cities and making them livable.

PATH   EDGE

DISTRICT   NODE   LANDMARK

Instructor: Dr. Robert Walsh
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**Text Book: *What Makes a Great City*
by Alexander Garvin**

Course Overview

Why did the first skyscrapers develop in the American cities of Chicago and New York?

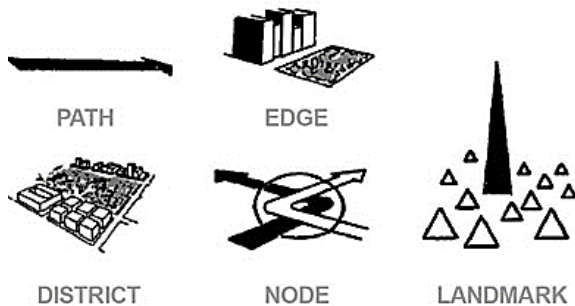What are the origins ad impacts of suburban sprawl?

How has the invention of the shipping container contributed to the creation of public waterfront parks and urban revitalization?

Why have some large housing developments succeeded wonderfully, while others have required demolition?

What are the characteristics that make for a lively city?

What role might the American City play in meeting the challenges of creating a more sustainable future for all?

Understanding Architecture and the American City, ARCHST 2100, addresses these and other intriguing questions. This course explores how American buildings and cities have evolved, their histories, struggles and triumphs. Students who take this course will develop a well-rounded appreciation of the complex and multifaceted challenges faced by the different players who have a hand in shaping the way we live now. We will also be exploring emerging problems and some of the ways you may play a part in shaping life in the cities of the future.

This course meets a General Education requirement for either:
- **Humanities Fine Arts**
- **Social Sciences**