

ARCHDES 700 | ADVANCED DESIGN 1 | TOPIC OUTLINE | SEM 1 2019

Advanced Design 1 is the integrated design project for the MArch(Prof). Students are required to address a challenging and conceptually complex architectural design and to achieve a fully resolved design project, together with developed design studies sufficient to explain the proposed building's construction, structure, materials and natural environmental performance. Emphasis will fall upon the development of strategic responses to differing, changing or extreme environmental conditions. Focus on site, thermal, natural environment, material and ecological issues.

JON RENNIE and CHRIS BARTON

Jon Rennie is a principal of Athfield Architects based in the firm's Auckland studio. He has a particular interest in public projects and urbanism. Chris Barton is editor of Architecture NZ and a member of the teaching staff at the Auckland School of Architecture.

THE THIRD PLACE



GENERAL COURSE INFORMATION

Course :	Advanced Design 1 ARCHDES700
Points Value:	30 points
Course Director:	Sarosh Mulla: s.mulla@auckland.ac.nz
Course Co-ordinator:	Aaron Paterson:aaron.paterson@auckland.ac.nz
Studio Teacher:	Chris Barton; Jon Rennie
Contact:	chris@barton.co.nz ; jon@athfieldarchitects.co.nz
Location:	TBC
Hours:	Tuesday and Friday 1:00-5:00pm

THE THIRD PLACE

In his 1989 book, The Great Good Place, US sociologist Ray Oldenburg, explored the positive contribution of the third place to democracy, neighbourhood communities and residents' wellbeing. Oldenburg proposed that to be emotionally healthy every person needs three places: home, work, and a third, as yet undefined, place. Home should be safe and comfortable, work should be consistent and satisfying, and the third place, which represents our informal public life, is where other needs should be met.

Such third places might be a community centre, cafe, bar, restaurant, shopping mall, market, hairdressers, recreation centre, pool, movie theatre, church, school, university, club, library, park, street, neighbours' backyard or various forms of social media.

This studio examines the changing social role of libraries as the 'third place' next to home and workplace and draws on the vast expertise of Athfield Architects in library design including: Wellington Central Library (<https://athfieldarchitects.co.nz/projects/civic-community/wellington-central-library>); Te Pātaka Kōrero o Te Hau Kapua, Devonport Library (<https://athfieldarchitects.co.nz/projects/civic-community/te-pataka-korero-o-te-hau-kapua-devonport-library>); VUW Campus Hub & Library (<https://athfieldarchitects.co.nz/projects/education/vuw-campus-hub-library>) and the Palmerston North City Library (<http://www.historicmanawatuhorowhenua.org.nz/Records/DIC%20Building.pdf>)

In a time when all things digital are in ascendance and books and other old media seem redundant, the library is staging a comeback. It's a revival that isn't about books — electronic or actual — but about creating a community living room. Apart from public libraries, there

aren't many places in a city or town which are open to all comers, free of charge, with heating and no one on the door to check your identity. Increasingly, libraries are taking on a role as social hubs, sharing costs and some of the traditional functions of other social services and agencies.

"It's this notion of the last public space that is serving other needs beyond just a collection," says Athfield Architects Jon Rennie. "It's not a repository of stuff. It's a social space and it's where the role of the librarian is one of curator rather than collector." Rennie gets some backup from British novelist Zadie Smith, who wrote in a New York Review of Books blog that the new-old library was "the only thing left on the high street that doesn't want either your soul or your wallet". An example the scope of what's possible in library design can be seen in Sydney architects Stewart Hollenstein's Green Square project for the City of Sydney Council. The project, which won The Architectural Review Library Award 2018, fuses public plaza and library and challenges the traditional concept of the library as a receptacle for books through a series of spaces for engaging with knowledge and learning. The design includes a café that spills out onto the plaza as well as news and magazine sections; information point and self-check-out machines; a double-height reading room; a computer lab for teaching (coding, robotics and 3D printing); a 'black box' theatre and sprung floor music room for practice and performance (from mixing decks to baby grand piano); plus a flexible, bookable community space called the 'Anything Room'.

This studio invites students to adopt the design practices of Athfield Architects, particularly in relation the firm's decades of experience in library design. The firm follows a five-stage design process broadly categorised as: listening; looking and gathering, testing; proposing, presenting. The framework has been incorporated into the 12-week studio process.

The vehicle for this exploration is a design for the Auckland Central Library which will involve students researching the institution of libraries, their spaces and the nature of a central library in New Zealand and investigating its current location and whether alternative Auckland sites would be more suitable.

The first six weeks of the studio involves library precedent research uploaded to a group Library Instagram account; Auckland central library site analysis; and a series of library site visits – including a trip to Wellington and Palmerston North staying at Athfield Architects studios at 105 Amritsar Street, Khandallah. Students will document the site visit

process recording their critique and analysis of the various library buildings visited using a personal Library Instagram account. At the mid-semester crit students will combine the various threads of their research, select a site and produce an initial, speculative concept design. Following mid-semester crit students will then develop their library design through a series of iterative processes recorded on their personal library Instagram, testing out their design ideas and following Athfield Architects' design process to produce a final design, describe its potential and compile the collected work into a 'library'

TOPIC STRUCTURE AND CONTENT

SPECIAL NOTE: THIS STUDIO - THE THIRD PLACE - INCLUDES A FIELD TRIP TO WELLINGTON (2 NIGHTS AT ATHFIELD ARCHITECTS, 105 AMRITSAR STREET, KHANDALLAH) AND TO PALMERSTON NORTH: FLYING TO WELLINGTON ON THE AFTERNOON OF FRIDAY 5 APRIL AND RETURNING TO AUCKLAND FROM PALMERSTON NORTH ON THE EVENING OF SUNDAY 7 APRIL AT A COST OF APPROXIMATELY \$600 per person. PAYMENT IS DUE AT THE BEGINNING OF WEEK 2.



Week	Date	Event
Week 1 "listening"	Mon 4.3	12:00 All architecture meeting, Rm 311 3:15 AD1 staff presentations, studio ballot; ,JR,CB

	Tue 5.3	Studio introduction Jon Rennie presentation, includes brief and site possibilities. Assignment of precedents to research.	
	Fri 8.3	Auckland Central Library site visit, JR, CB; record for personal library research book (Instagram)	
Week 2 <i>"looking/ gathering"</i>	Tue 12.3	Precedent research of selected libraries, CB	Studio
	Fri 15.3	Precedent presentation, JR, CB, scale plan, section and library activity – pinup one A1 sheet; upload to group Library Instagram. Assignment of Auckland Library Precedents to research.	Studio
Week 3 <i>"looking/ gathering"</i>	Tue 19.3	Precedent research of selected Auckland libraries, CB	Studio
	Fri 22.3	Precedent presentation, JR, CB, scale plan, section and library activity – pinup one A1 sheet; upload to group Library Instagram. Assignment of sites to investigate.	Studio
Week 4 <i>"testing"</i>	Tue 26.3	Auckland central library site analysis research, CB	Studio
	Fri 29.3	Site analysis drawings, diagrams, first thoughts, CB, JR; upload to upload to personal Library Instagram	Studio
Week 5 <i>"testing"</i>	Tue 2.4	Compile research and initial speculative concepts into half Pecha Kucha presentation for Wellington (10 slides, 20 seconds/slide), upload to personal library Instagram; CB	Studio
	Fri 5.4	Akl-Wn Flight departs around 1pm, stay Athfield Architects, – afternoon crit (Pecha Kucha presentation) and shared dinner with John Hardwick Smith and Zac Athfield	Athfield Architects, Wellington
	Sat 6.4	Site visits - Central Library, National Library, Victoria University Hub, Johnsonville Library; record for personal	Athfield Architects, Wellington

	Sun 7.4	Library Instagram book; stay at Athfield; Architects; Shared Dinner Wn-PN train departs 07:55am arrives PN 09:59am - Palmerston North library site visit; record for personal Library Instagram book Flight PN- Auckland departs around 3pm	Palmerston North
Week 6 <i>"testing"</i>	Tue 9.4	Compile site visit analysis, drawings. etc into personal Library Instagram book, modify speculative concepts, CB	Studio
	Fri 12.4	AD1 Mid-semester crit, 1 Bd combining precedent and site visit research, initial speculative thoughts, upload to personal Library Instagram; CB, JR and guests	Exhibition Studio
	15-26 April	MID-SEMESTER BREAK	
Week 7 <i>"testing"</i>	Tue 30.4	Development of first iteration of library design development, CB	Studio
	Fri 3.5	Show, test drawings of first iteration of library design proposal, upload to personal Library Instagram; CB, JR	Studio
Week 8 <i>"testing"</i>	Tue 7.5	Development of second iteration of library design development, CB	Studio
	Fri 10.5	Show, test drawings of second iteration of library design proposal, upload to personal Library Instagram; CB, JR	Studio
Week 9 <i>"testing"</i>	Tue 14.5	Development of third iteration of library design development, CB	Studio
	Fri 17.5	Show, test drawings of third iteration of library design proposal, upload to personal Library Instagram; CB, JR	Studio
Week 10 <i>"testing"</i>	Tue 21.5	Development of fourth iteration of library design development, CB	Studio
	Fri 24.5	Show, test drawings of fourth iteration of library design	Studio

		proposal, upload to personal Library Instagram; CB, JR	
Week 11 "proposing"	Tue 28.5 Fri 31.5	Develop presentation drawings of final library design CB Show progress of presentation drawings of final design CB JR	Studio Studio
Week 12 "presenting"	Tue 4.6 Thu 6.6 Fri 7.6	Refine presentation drawings Studio Submission, 4-5pm, CB AD1 Final Studio Reviews, CB, JR and guests; upload to personal Library Instagram	Studio Studio Exhibition Studio
Week 13	Thu 13.6	Design Grading Moderation Internal: leave work in studio	Exhibition Studio
Week 14	Mon 17.6 Wed 19.6	Design Grading Moderation External with DGMR panel Students remove work	Exhibition Studio

RESOURCES

Required Reading:

Extracts from - Oldenburg Ray. The great good place: cafés, coffee shops, community centers, beauty parlors, general stores, bars, hangouts, and how they get you through the day, New York: Marlowe 1997. 2nd ed.

MODEL PROGRAMME FOR PUBLIC LIBRARIES,
<http://modelprogrammer.slks.dk/en/>

Black, A, Pepper, S, Bagshaw, K. 2009. Books, Buildings and Social Engineering. London: Ashgate.

Auckland Libraries Strategic plan: Te Kauroa - Future Directions,
<https://www.aucklandlibraries.govt.nz/Pages/strategic-plan-te-kauroa.aspx>

Public Libraries of New Zealand A Strategic Framework 2012 – 2017,
http://www.publiclibraries.org.nz/Portals/150/Resources/NZ_Public_Libraries_Strategic_Framework.pdf

Shannon Mattern, "Library as Infrastructure," *Places Journal*, June 2014. Accessed 21 Jul 2016.

<https://placesjournal.org/article/library-as-infrastructure/>

Rients Dijkstra & Jason Hilgefort, "The Learning Jungle", *The Architecture of Knowledge: The Library of the Future Paperback*, Edited by Huib Haye van der Werf, October 2010.

Typology: Libraries. The Architectural Review,

<https://www.architectural-review.com/essays/typology/typology-libraries/8621638.article?blocktitle=Typology:-Library&contentID=21876>

Outrage: our libraries are not failing us, we are failing them, The Architectural Review, <https://www.architectural-review.com/essays/outrage-our-libraries-are-not-failing-us-we-are-failing-them/10038575.article>

Editorial: reading around it before reading inside it, The Architectural Review, <https://www.architectural-review.com/essays/editorial-reading-around-it-before-reading-inside-it/10038486.article>

AR Library shortlist, The Architectural Review, <https://www.architectural-review.com/awards/ar-library/ar-library-shortlist/10037391.article>

Pepper, S. 2006. 'Storehouses of Knowledge: the free library movement and the birth of modern library architecture', in *The Cambridge History of Libraries in Britain and Ireland. Vol. 3 1850-2000*, edited by A Black and P Hoare. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Third place, Wikipedia, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Third_place

Metric Handbook: Planning and Design Data, by Pamela Buxton (Editor) or *Neufert Architects' Data*, by Ernst Neufert (Author), Peter Neufert (Author)

Recommended Reading:

Oldenburg Ray. *The great good place: cafés, coffee shops, community centers, beauty parlors, general stores, bars, hangouts, and how they get you through the day*, New York: Marlowe 1997. 2nd ed.

Battles, M. *Library: An Unquiet History*, New York: W.W. Norton c2003

Black, A. 2005. 'The Library as Clinic: A Foucauldian Interpretation of British Public Library Attitudes to Social and Physical Disease, Ca. 1850-1950'. *Libraries & Culture*. Vol. 40, no. 3, 2005: 416-34.

Brawne, M. 1970. *Libraries: Architecture and Equipment*. London: Pall Mall Press

Champneys, B. January 1902. 'The Design of Libraries'. *The Architectural Review*. Vol. XI.

Cotgreave, A. 1901. *Views & Memoranda of Public Libraries*. London: Library aids co.

Edwards, E. 1859. *Memoirs of Libraries: including a Handbook of Library Economy*. London: Trubner & Co.

Levine, N. 1982. *The Book and the Building: Hugo's Theory of Architecture and Labrouste's Bibliothèque Ste-Geneviève in The Beaux-Arts and nineteenth-century French architecture*, edited by R Middleton. London: Thames & Hudson

REQUIRED PRODUCTION

- Friday 08.03** Record site visit for personal Library Instagram
- Friday 15.03** Precedent drawings 1: scale plan, section and library activity – one A1 sheet; upload to group Library Instagram
- Friday 22.03** Precedent drawings 2: scale plan, section and library activity – one A1 sheet; upload to group Library Instagram
Group production of library precedent booklet Instagram 'chatbook' or similar
- Friday 29.03** Site selection, site research booklet, first thoughts speculative concept proposals – one A1 sheet; upload to personal Library Instagram
- Friday 05.04** Half Pecha Kucha presentation to Athfield's Wellington staff (10 slides,20 seconds/slide) showing research to date and speculative concepts; upload to personal Library Instagram
- Saturday 06.4** record site visits for personal library Instagram
- Sunday 07.4** record site visits for personal library Instagram

Friday 12.04 Mid-semester crit presentation of initial concepts - 1 board of drawings (3XA1) combined with imagery and research (Library Instagram) from site visits; upload to personal library Instagram

Friday 03.05 First iteration drawings of design proposal; upload to personal library Instagram

Friday 10.05 Second iteration drawings of design proposal; upload to personal library Instagram

Friday 17.05 Third iteration drawings of design proposal; upload to personal library Instagram

Friday 24.05 Fourth iteration drawings of design proposal; upload to personal library Instagram

Friday 07.06 Final Crit presentation; upload to personal library Instagram. Personal production of individual project booklet (Instagram 'chatbook' or similar)

DESIGN REPORT

All AD1 students are required to prepare a Design Report. This will take the form of a 350-400 word abstract. An abstract is a condensed piece of writing that highlights the major aspects of your design project: the content, context, scope and outcomes of the design research. The abstract should be a finely crafted piece of text accompanied by a single image of your project. A template will be given and all abstracts must be submitted in the template both in print and in digital format (venue TBC). All final Design reports are due on **Friday 31 May** so that they can be published and circulated to your critics well ahead of crit week.

ASSESSMENT & FEEDBACK

This course is assessed as 100% coursework. Conversational feedback is given throughout the semester. Written feedback, with indicative grading, is given at a date around the mid-point of the semester. All further information regarding assessment is available in the ARCHDES 700 Advanced Design 1 Course Outline (on Canvas).

LEARNING OUTCOMES

General Course Outcomes: On successful completion of this course students should be able to:

- *Theory:* Show evidence of development of critical thinking and conceptual consistency throughout the design process.
- *Architectonics:* Demonstrate abilities to advance conceptual thinking and design propositions through identifying and addressing issues of materiality, structure and construction.
- *Performance:* Show abilities to advance conceptual thinking and design propositions through interrogating and addressing in depth the natural environmental, contextual, and programmatic factors underlying the project.
- *Form and Space:* Demonstrate skill in the development of three dimensional architectural form and space, both exterior and interior.
- *Media:* Display skill in the communication and development of conceptual, preliminary and developed design propositions through the strategic use of architectural media.

Specific Topic Outcomes: This studio topic will engage the general course outcomes in the following ways:

- *Theory:* Demonstrate an understanding of Athfield Architects' design methodology and the concept of 'the third place' in library design
- *Architectonics:* Through precedent and site visit research develop and present key material, structural and constructional propositions for viable large scale library design.
- *Programme:* Produce iterative design drawings to demonstrate how the project will perform in relation to a range of library activities and how these propositions inform the building and urban designs.
- *Performance:* Demonstrate an understanding of the environmental performance of the design across a range of scales – from energy efficiency to relationships with adjoining spaces, neighbours, and the wider community over time.
- *Form and space:* Produce drawings to develop and demonstrate abilities to develop three dimensional

architectural form and space, both exterior and interior that respond to contextual and usage changes

- *Media*: Advance representational practice to be sequential through iterative drawing following Athfield Architects' design process that explore the tension between generative media operations and pragmatic project requirements.