

Arch 582 Alternative Practices: Defining Your Career Goals and Making Them Real

Professor Linda N. Groat

The goal of this course is to inspire students to think creatively about potential career paths beyond the most commonly available formats of design practices. For MArch students, this may mean imagining how to create opportunities in unusual professional niches, build multi-disciplinary hybrid careers, and carve out new kinds of collaboration and engagement. In addition, for undergrads, this course can also help identify the kinds of grad programs that best support your goals and talents.

Specific alternative practices discussed may include: **shifting opportunities within “traditional” practice** (sustainability design, strategic facility planning, marketing, research-based practice, media arts and information technology, programming, adaptive reuse, spin-off and subsidiary specialty companies, etc.), as well as the vast array of **career choices that can usefully build on a foundation in architecture** (architectural journalism, real estate development, furniture or industrial design, design/build, architectural photography, set design, landscape architecture, campus planning, etc.).

The **second, and larger, segment** of the course will incorporate a number of **guest speakers** who are themselves pursuing *alternative practices*. The particular speakers/ topics will depend on the interest areas identified by students at the beginning of the semester. In other words, each student will be able to influence the scope and range of career options presented, discussed and investigated.

In sum, this is your chance to assess the opportunities, define your goals, be inspired by your dreams, and figure out a way to make them real.

Class Time:
Wed 6:30-9:30 pm

