University of Michigan Taubman College of Architecture + Urban Planning Thesis Studio – Winter 2025

Screen Space // Green Space

Course Information

Instructors:

Location: Meeting times: Office hours: Adam Fure (he/him) Thom Moran (he/him) A&AB 3rd Floor Monday/Thursday, 1pm - 6pm EST Contact your instructor for appointment

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Course Description

This thesis section asks students to use the tools of scenography, virtual production, and livestreaming to conceive of an architectural thesis. Rather than pit digital against physical, we will collectively reflect on the possibility of architecture to ground human experience in media rich environments.

The term "virtual production" refers to the workflows that hybridize digital and physical spaces in real time. These technologies are most often used in broadcast television productions like sports commentary and cable news. Live feeds of people and physical objects in front of a chroma key (green screen) are blended with digital objects and spaces to create a seamless image of people in space in real time. "Livestreaming" refers to the workflows most often used by well-known gamers to broadcast their gameplay and simultaneously interact with their live audience, usually via chat. Our thesis group will begin by experimenting with these workflows to explore their possibilities as representational tools and architectural propositions that hybridize physical and digital embodiment. By incorporating the ever-expanding array of digital tools into architectural design, our hope is to infuse bodily experience with the same vivid visuals our screens use to hold our attention.

During the winter semester, you will develop your proposals from Thesis Prep into an architectural thesis. Working independently or in groups you will chart a course of development that you will follow consistently throughout the semester. You will work closely with your faculty and also be responsible for your own progress. As your culminating studio experience, this is a moment to demonstrate your full scope of capacities as an architect - from organization, to design, and execution. The studio will have two major reviews at the midpoint and end of the semester similar to other studios. The semester will culminate in a Thesis exhibition with an accompanying set of awards.