



Spring 2013 Elective Seminar
 ~ Tuesday 7:00-9:30 PM ~

The Traditional City: Theory and Reality

Prof. J. Alimanestianu with collaboration from Prof. D. Duany

The seminar will uncover emerging theory of the traditional city for its relevance in urban design.

In the pursuit of human, resilient and authentically local neighborhoods buildings and landscapes the Western traditional city is our inspiration. We will discuss and decipher concepts and theories, and how to reapply them as we retrofit existing and design new urban and natural environments. Along with short readings and previews of images, students will sketch and draw, during classes and independently, testing ideas brought out in the seminar and how they impact future resilient settlements. An 11½ X 14” sketchbook is required. The final assignment will be to compose graphic representations of an idea.

Bruno Mohring

“ET IN TERRA PAX”

1914

SUBJECTS

Civitates Orbis Terrarum *The Cities of the World called Earth* & the Renaissance project in pattern recognition
Hellas *The Greek city as foundation and model*
From Poland to New England *Settlement patterns of the Saxon March*
Armatures in Great Britain *Traditional pattern as parti & development*
Urban Morphology *The different parts of the balanced citta, and their spatial and associational structure*
The Grand Manner *Recovering French Classical garden design in formal city planning*
Loft typology & the Vorstadt *The work suburb, typology and energy in the dawning age of sustainability*
The XXth Century German City Planning School *Post-Sitte mastery in urban design*
Stadia & Furlong, connectivity & enclaves *Pedestrian scales in the fully developed city*
Patterns in Defensible Urbanism *Questions of security in the coming age*
Organic Town Design *Breaking down organic design into six steps*
Pre-sets, OODA & Recursive Loops *How we actually design*
Generative Theory in Practice *Design Principles & multiple nodes as field*
The Transect in Rome and in Great Britain *Typology & mixed fabric across the time and rural divides*
Transect Weaves and Juxtapositions *Advanced applications of transect investigation*
Designing for the Clear-Eyed *Children, parks and the questions of edges*
Bureaucracy, Protocols & Abstraction *Entropy and the failure of technical reasoning*
“To build a city, whose terraces are the color of stars” *The numinous city as a carrier of meaning*
Parataxis *Architectural elements and ornament in urban language*
Hydromonists, Carbonists & the End of the World *Eschatological projections of our time*
Genius Locii *Approaches to place & the regionalist sensibility*

Class Structure: Lectures by professors, invited colleagues and professionals~Round table discussions~Sketching & drawing