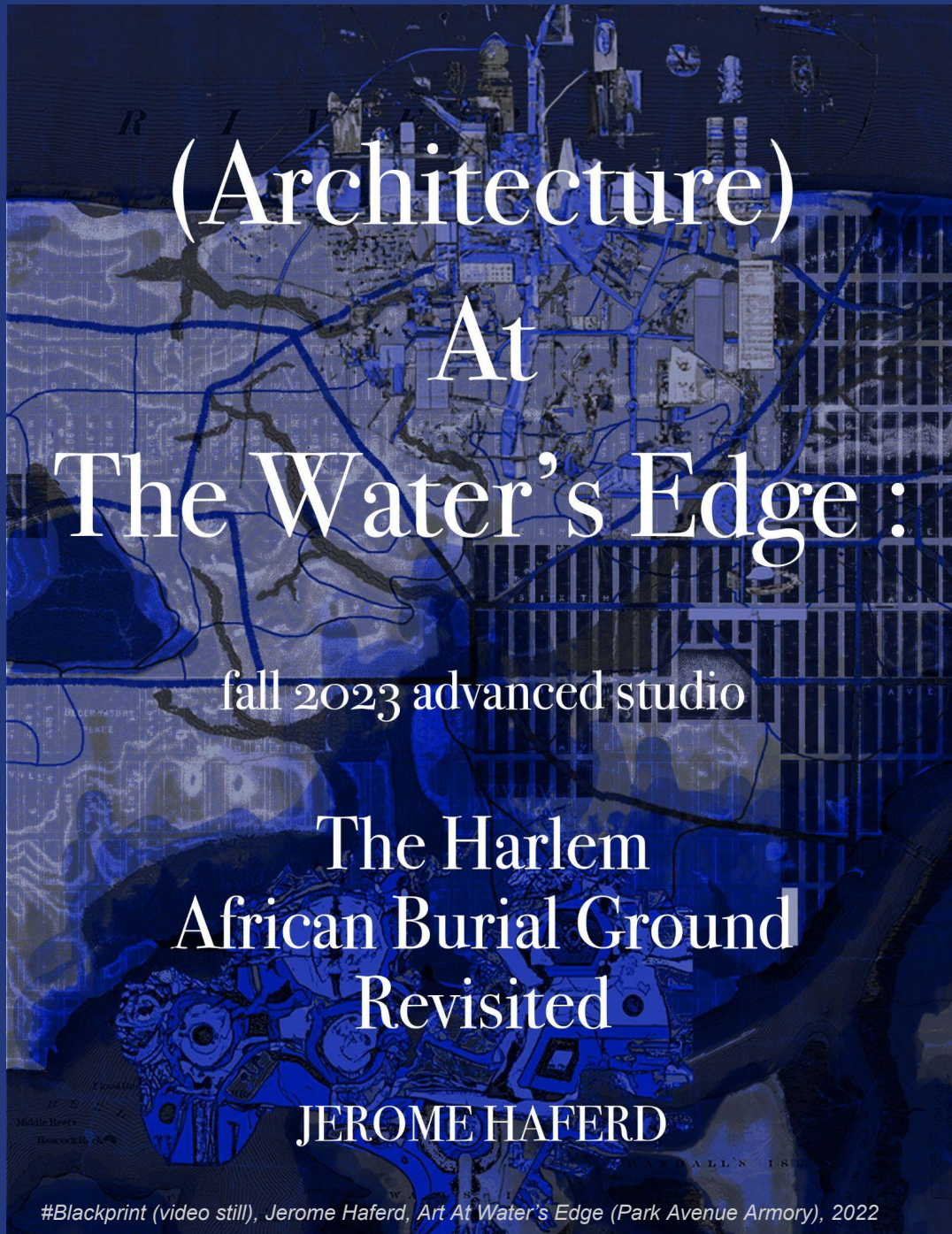


Type of Course: ARCH 51000 Advanced Studio  
Class Meetings: M/TH 2:00-5:20pm  
Office Hours: TH 12pm-2pm, and by appointment  
Instructor: Professor Jerome Haferd ([jhaferd@ccny.cuny.edu](mailto:jhaferd@ccny.cuny.edu), @jhaferd)  
Location: Studio 320  
Semester/Year: Fall 2023



# (Architecture) At The Water's Edge : The Harlem African Burial Ground Revisited

Fall 2023 SSA Place, Memory, and Culture Incubator Studio

Nov 2023 Latest Version

## INTRO

This studio will (re)engage the **Harlem African Burial Ground Site**, its community coalition and investigate it within the cultural, historical, urban, and aesthetic context of **The Water's Edge**. The studio participates in the pedagogical, communal, and institutional context of the new **Place, Memory, and Culture Incubator**, seeking to connect the Spitzer School of Architecture to Harlem through community engagement. Together with prof. Haferd and using existing studies, contemporary movement/ritual practice as a point of departure, students will embark on an innovative pedagogy of collaboration with community members and cultural bearers in the archival stewardship, preservation, and futurity of the site. We seek an architecture of the Water's Edge.



*undercurrents* (left), and *drift* (right), nia love (Harlem-based choreographer), 2023

Harlem African Burial Ground, aerial view

The Harlem African Burial Ground, erased and nearly forgotten for centuries, has recently re-emerged into public consciousness after decades of activism and critical archeological findings. The site is an entire city block currently occupied by the defunct MTA Bus depot. However, the true extents of the burial ground are unknown and indeterminate - having originally sat at the edge of the Harlem River, it is now a constructed landscape in the process of restoration and redesign. The Burial Ground represents a possible **new imaginary for civic, cultural, and memory infrastructure**, and requires a **coalition of numerous cultures**.

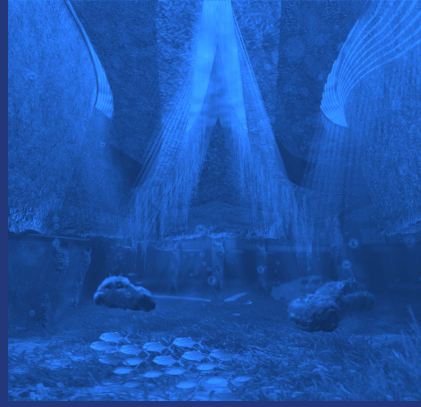
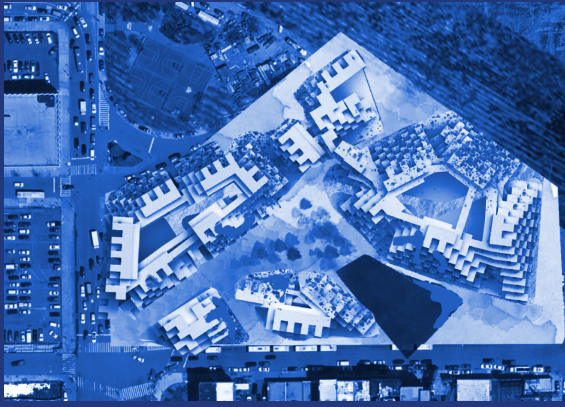
In 2019, the first Harlem African Burial Ground studio, "Shifting Ground" (Haferd) introduced this site into the Spitzer studio and, in doing so, catalyzed a dialogue with the community (HABG Task Force). This also catalyzed an opening and questioning of our discipline<sup>1</sup>, history, and methods for doing place-based memory work. The first studio only scratched the surface, and we seek to address further nuanced layers, including the interwoven **Lenape** legacy of the site. Can we image memory as part of a holistic architectural and urban design future for a community like East Harlem? Can movement and temporal modes inform our work?

## APPROACH

Working within this pilot, experimental container and alongside community partners, students will:

- 1) Use their architectural skillset to document, produce, and represent **new interpretive models / exhibits**, & collaborate on **speculative ritual, cultural, & archival mockups** of the Water's Edge w artist **nia love**, others
- 2) Use these documents and productions as inspiration to inform architectural and/or urban-scale proposals for the **cultural infrastructure, archival/ritual practices** and/or **living memorial** for the Burial Ground, and the surrounding East River Esplanade. The work will happen alongside renewed efforts by the HABG Initiative

<sup>1</sup> "An Archaeology of Architecture : The Harlem African Burial Ground", Log 48 Sp 2020, Jerome Haferd



"Shifting Ground : the Harlem African Burial Ground", student work, Fall 2019 Advanced Studio, CCNY SSA

## SITE + PROGRAM - CULTURAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND PRACTICE

Our "site" focuses on the **Burial Ground, 126th and 1st Ave**, but will include speculation on the **East River Esplanade**, the linear waterfront infrastructure also being reimagined. Shortly after its "rediscovery" in 2015, the Economic Development Corp of New York (EDC) proposed a rezoning and a redevelopment of the site into over 1 million sq. ft mixed-use complex, including housing, office, commercial, cultural facilities. At its heart, a "**living memorial**" is proposed to occupy the archival outline of the burial ground itself. Our studio will focus on the physical and ephemeral **archival, cultural & memorial infrastructure** of the site/surrounds.

## RESEARCH : THE WATER'S EDGE

We will work and consider the site in the trans-historical context of the entire East River Esplanade, larger civic and cultural infrastructure and redevelopment that is ongoing. Research will include engaging artists, traditional and non-traditional archives and archeological material of the site and surrounding waterfront. Particular attention will be paid to the **African archaeology and contemporary memory work, Lenape legacy and contemporary futures**, and **Afro-caribbean diaspora of East Harlem**.

## PLACE MEMORY AND CULTURE INCUBATOR

This project will be supported by, and help to kick off the new **Mellon-funded Place, Memory, and Culture Incubator at City College**. The 3 year initiative hopes to embed new forms of archival knowledge into speculative design pedagogy, and to provide financial and production support to community partners. The Incubator will spark an innovative design process that begins with cultural practice, interdisciplinary collaboration to inform our architectural and programmatic proposals.

## METHODOLOGY (TBD)

### Part 1 : Ritual / Memory Practice

- Cultural exercises and co-produced ritual / event / exhibit

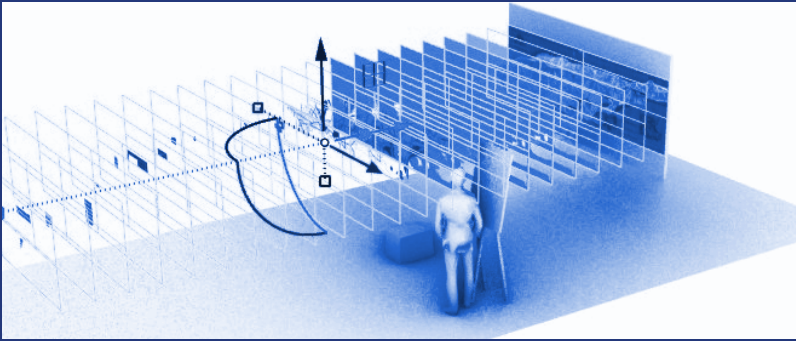
collaborators (TBC) : nia love (multi-media dancer, ritual choreographer), community members

### Part 2 : Archival Practice

- Research and development of collaborative interpretive models / presentations
  - collaborators (TBC) : HABGI, other community members / orgs

### Part 3 : Architectural Practice / Proposal

- urban or architectural memorial visions and exhibit materials, may still be presented as a co-produced ritual, event, or exhibition with community partners.



#Blackprint, augmented reality diagram, Haferd w/ Architag, 2022



Mock-up w/ community members, HABG studio 2019

## POTENTIAL OUTPUTS

Choreographed Installation (with artist, community partners)  
 Innovative / Multi-media Public Educational Materials, Presentations (with artist, community partners)  
 Publically Accessible **Living Archive** Content / Infrastructure  
 Exhibits, Events or Rituals, or Public Art (w/ artist, community partners)  
 Emergent / Experimental Memorial Design Concepts, VR Representations Visualizations

## PROPOSED PARTNERS

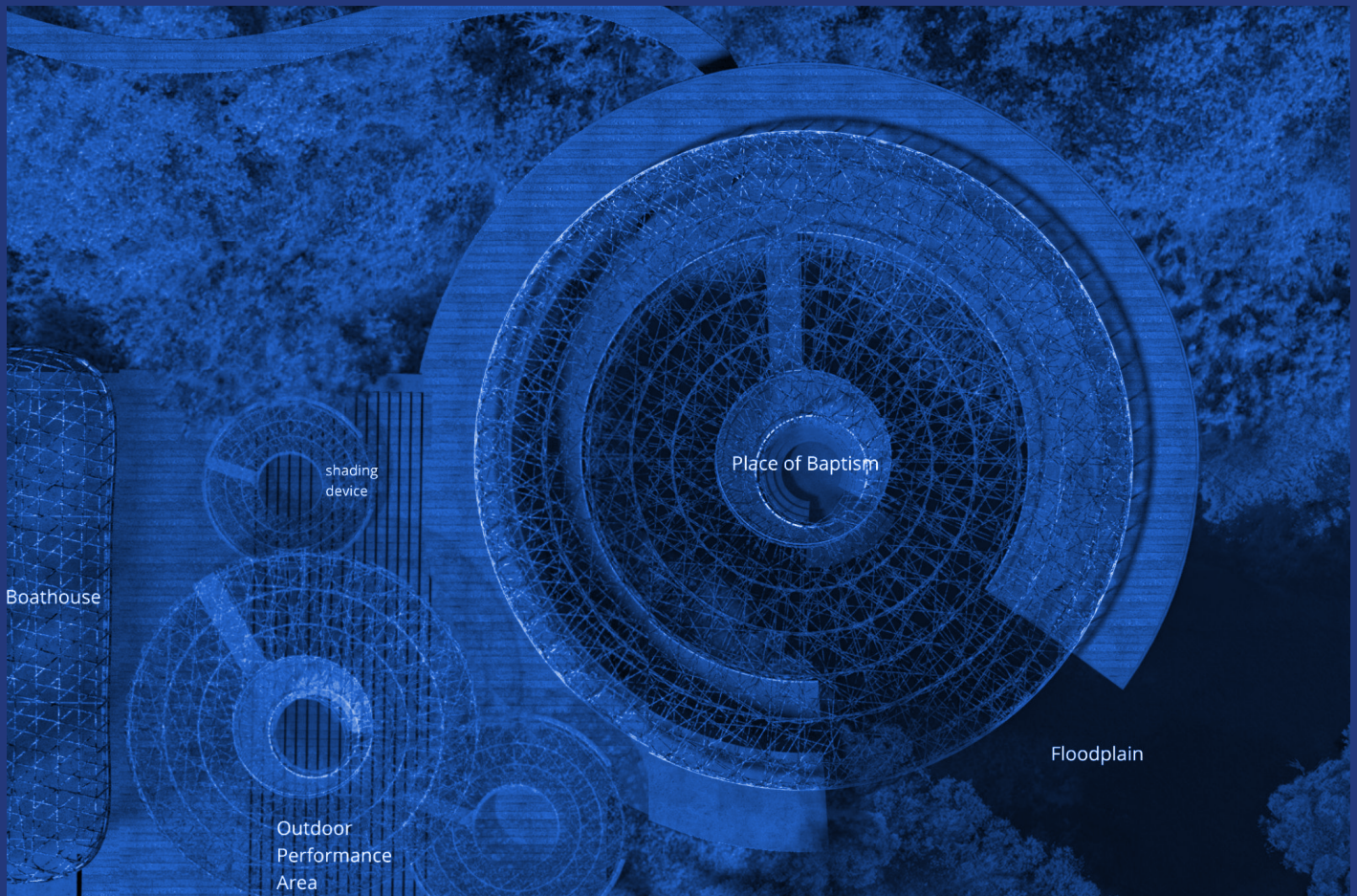
Rev. Patricia Singletary, HABG Task Force  
 Melissa Viverido, HABG Task Force  
 Anthony Carrion, HABG Task Force  
 Sharon Wilkins, HABG Task Force Historian  
 nia love, Harlem based dancer, choreographer and Black ritual artist  
 Abigail DeVille, Harlem-born artist and HABG documentarian  
 Caribbean Cultural Center  
 East Harlem Preservation Council  
 Michelle Commander, Schomburg  
 Elmendorf Reformed Church and other archives  
 Kamal Ware, Black Gotham Experience  
 Valerie Jo Bradley, Save Harlem Now  
 Angel Mescaín, chairperson, CB-11

## REFERENCES

Africatown, Alabama ([Africatown Competition](#))  
[East River Esplanade](#)  
[Art at Water's Edge](#) (symposium, [Park Avenue Armory, 2022](#)), Tavia Nyong'o, curator  
[Undercurrents](#), nia love, choreographic work and water research, 2023

## READINGS / BIBLIOGRAPHY (in progress)

Jerome Haferd, "*An Archaeology of Architecture : The Harlem African Burial Ground*", Log 48 Sp 2020  
 Tiffany Lethabo King, *The Black Shoals : Offshore Formations of Black and Native Studies*, 2019  
 Christina Sharpe, *In the Wake*, 2019  
<https://www.americanbuildingpodcast.com/episodes-all/mark-gardner-of-jaklitsch-/gardner-architects-inwood-sacred-sites-in-new-york-city-sacred-architecture>  
*Torkwase Dyson : A Liquid Belonging*, Text by Dionne Brand, LeRonn P. Brooks, T Dyson, Saidiya V. Hartman, Jaleh Mansoor, Christina Sharpe, Mabel O. Wilson. PACE, 2023  
 "Dance of the Mangroves" *Dele Adeyemo, Jennifer Newsome, & Jerome Haferd Interview*, forthcoming, JAE, 2023



Gateway of Baptism, "In the Wake" - First Place, International Africatown Competition Entry, Jerome Haferd Studio, 2023

## WEEKLY SCHEDULE, M/TH 2:00-5:20pm

*Note: schedule below is subject to revision through the duration of the semester.*

### W1

Mon 08.28  
Th 08.31

**LOTTERY @ 2pm, followed by first studio meeting**  
Studio  
**Convocation @ 5:30pm**

### W2

Mon 09.04  
Th 09.07

College Closed (Labor Day), no classes  
Studio, including *Hours SSA*. nia love guest, circle workshop

### W3

Mon 09.11  
Th 09.14

Studio  
Studio, **Site Visit HABG/Water's Edge**, nia love guest, consultant workshop

### W4

Mon 09.18  
Th 09.21

Studio, **HABGI Community Meeting**  
Studio, nia love guest consultant, Burial Ground workshop

### W5

Mon 09.25  
Th 09.28

No classes  
Studio

### W6

Mon 10.02 Studio  
 Th 10.05 Studio nia love guest consultant, installations guest lecture  
**Sat 10.07 All Nations Pow-wow, Randall's Island (attendance strongly advised)**

#### W7

Mon 10.09 College Closed (Columbus/Indigenous Peoples' Day), no classes  
 Tu 10.10 Studio (Classes for a Monday schedule)  
 Th 10.12 Studio Jeannie Terepka, archives guest workshop, nia love consultant co-workshop

#### W8

Mon 10.16 Studio  
 Th 10.19 Studio nia love consultant Harlem workshop

#### W9

Mon 10.23 Studio  
 Th 10.26 MID REVIEW (TBC) / Mid-semester assessments & Hour SSA

#### W10

Mon 10.30 Studio  
 Th 11.02 Studio

#### W11

Mon 11.06 Studio  
 Th 11.09 Studio nia love consultant guest

#### W12

Mon 11.13 Studio  
 Th 11.16 Studio nia love consultant guest

#### W13

Mon 11.20 Studio  
 Th 11.23 College Closed (Thanksgiving), no classes

#### W14

Mon 11.27 Studio  
 Th 11.30 Studio nia love consultant Harlem workshop

#### W15

Mon 12.04 Studio nia love consultant workshop

#### FINAL REVIEWS, Dec 5-11

| Tu 5 Dec      | Wed 6 Dec       | Th 7 Dec       | Fri 8 Dec                            | Mon 11 Dec              |
|---------------|-----------------|----------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Core Studio 1 | Core Studio 5   | Core Studio 3  | Advanced                             | Advanced                |
| Horn (coord)  | Volkman (coord) | Wainer (coord) | Edmiston,<br>Stigsgaard, Ebo,<br>Kim | Gebert, Haferd,<br>Zhao |

M 12.11 CCCADI Exhibit Prep, Melody Capote, exhibit prep consultant  
 Tue 12.12 CCCADI Stakeholder Presentations, Sabine Blaizin, Mario Carrion, consultant exhibit prep  
 W 12.13 End of Semester Assessment (faculty only)

## FINALS

Th 12.14

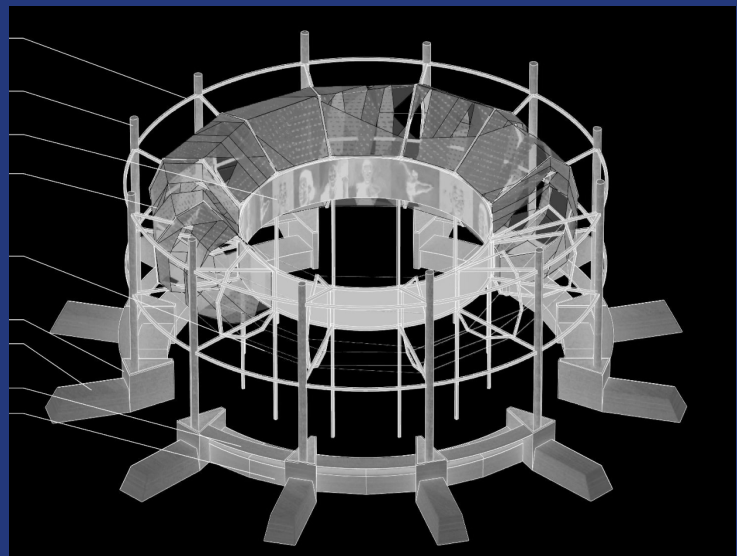
### Exit interviews

Tu 12.14

Student Portfolios due for: SSA/CCNY Archive, etc. as directed by instructor

Tu 12.26

Final Grade Submission Deadline



AR TAG, ART AT WATER'S EDGE #BLACKPRINT, 2022

SANKOFA INSTALLATION, AXONOMETRIC DRAWING, JEROME HAFERD

## GRADING/ATTENDANCE POLICIES AND STUDIO CULTURE

### Course Expectations:

- That students will develop a high level of independent thought and rigor and a willingness to go beyond both basic project requirements and their own perceived limits and abilities.
- That students will successfully complete all project requirements. No make-up or postponed project submissions will be accepted except in the case of medical emergencies or other extraordinary circumstances. Excused absences and project delays must be officially cleared by professor in advance to be considered valid.

### Community Agreement:

- During the first full studio meeting, the professor will make time for an *Hour SSA* session for a supportive open discussion among students.
- Studio members will work *together* to create a community agreement for interacting together over the semester. Definition: "A consensus on what every person in our group needs from each other and commits to each other in order to feel safe, supported, open, productive and trusting... so that we can do our best work." <https://www.nationalequityproject.org/tools/developing-community-agreements>
- *Hour SSA* will be repeated at the middle of the semester.

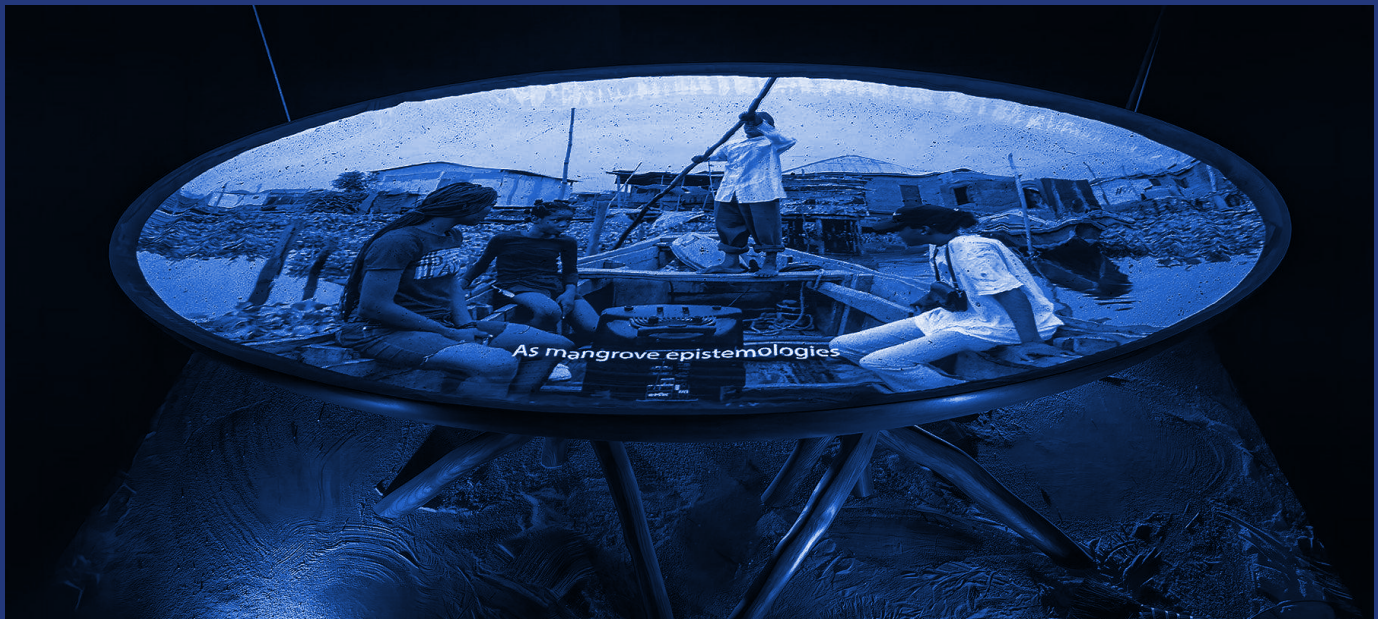
### Methods of Assessment:

- Attendance and participation in class discussions and other activities: 10%
- Project development in response to semester schedule: 60%
- Project presentation, level of completion and resolution: 30%

### Grading Assessment & Learning Outcomes:

- **Studio performance & work habits:** Ability to respond to studio discourse & feedback in a consistent & clear manner throughout the semester as demonstrated in the evolution and development of design work.
- **Clarity of representation & mastery of media:** Ability to utilize both digital and manual drawing and model-making techniques to precisely and creatively represent architectural ideas.
- **Research & innovation:** Understanding of the theoretical and applied research methodologies and practices used during the design process, and test and evaluate recent innovations in the field of architecture.

- **Pre-design:** Ability to prepare a comprehensive program for an architectural project that includes such tasks as: an assessment of client and user needs; an inventory of spaces and their requirements; an analysis of site conditions (including existing buildings); a review of the relevant building codes and standards, including relevant sustainability requirements, and an assessment of their implications for the project; and a definition of site selection and design assessment criteria.
- **Integrated evaluations and decision-making in the design process:** Ability to demonstrate the skills associated with making integrated decisions across multiple systems and variables in the completion of a design project, in different settings and scales of development, from buildings to cities. This demonstration includes problem identification, setting evaluative criteria, analyzing solutions, and predicting the effectiveness of implementation.
- **Attendance:** Consistent level of preparation and on-time presence for each studio class and scheduled evening lectures.
- **Portfolio:** Completion of final portfolio or collection of studio work as directed by instructor and/or coordinator and attendance at all scheduled portfolio related events.



*DANCE OF THE MANGROVES, DELE ADEYEMO, 2023 (VENICE)*

### Grading Criteria:

- A (+/-)** Work meets all requirements and exceeds them. Presentations are virtually flawless, complete, and finely detailed. Work exhibits professional, “museum quality” level of craft. Student has developed an individual design process that shows a high level of independent thought and rigor. Work shows evidence of intense ambition and effort to go beyond expectations, and beyond the student’s own perceived limits of their abilities.
- B (+/-)** Work meets all requirements. Presentations are complete and finely detailed. Work exhibits professional level of craft. Student has developed an individual design process that shows a high level of independent thought and rigor.
- C (+/-)** Work meets minimum requirements. Deadlines are missed. While presentations may be somewhat complete, student has struggled to develop an individual design process and/or is lacking in craft or design resolution.
- D** Work is below minimum requirements. Presentations are incomplete, student has struggled to develop an individual design process and/or is lacking in craft or design resolution.
- F** Work is well below minimum requirements. Student does not develop adequate design process, and/or does not finish work.



original work. Any copying, even short excerpts, from another book, article, or Internet source, published or unpublished, without proper attribution will result in automatic failure of the entire course.

The CCNY Academic Integrity Policy: <https://www.ccnycuny.edu/about/integrity>

For citations, the Chicago Manual of Style is recommended:

[http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools\\_citationguide.html](http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide.html)



Clotilda Boathouse / Interpretive Archive, Jerome Haferd, International Africatown Competition First Prize, "In The Wake", 2023

### **AccessAbility Center (Student Disability Services):**

The AccessAbility center (AAC) facilitates equal access and coordinates reasonable accommodations, academic adjustments, and support services for City College students with disabilities while preserving the integrity of academic standards. Students who have self-identified with AAC to receive accommodations should inform the instructor at the beginning of the semester. (North Academic Center 1/218; 212-650-5913 or 212-650-6910 for TTY/TTD). For further information, go to <http://www.ccnycuny.edu/accessability/> or email [disabilityservices@ccny.cuny.edu](mailto:disabilityservices@ccny.cuny.edu)

### **Health And Wellness Support:**

City College's Office of Health and Wellness Services offers free and confidential counseling. Contact: Health and Wellness Services, Marshak Science Building, room J-15: [counseling@ccny.cuny.edu](mailto:counseling@ccny.cuny.edu).

### **Gender Based Violence Resources**

City College has resources to support you if you have experienced sexual violence, intimate partner/domestic violence, gender-based discrimination, harassment or stalking. For confidential support, you can contact the Student Psychological Counselor: Confidential Advocate at (212) 650-8905 or the Gender Resources Program at (212) 650-8222. If you would like to report sexual misconduct, you can contact the Chief Diversity Officer and Title IX Coordinator, Diana Cuzzo, at 212-650- 7330 or [dcuzzo@ccny.cuny.edu](mailto:dcuzzo@ccny.cuny.edu). If there is an emergency on campus, you can call Public Safety at 212-650-777 and off campus call 911. <https://www.ccnycuny.edu/affirmativeaction>

### **Library:**

The school's library is a shared resource that is necessary supplement to all research and design work. Please direct questions to the library staff or the Architecture Librarian [Zinnat Sultana: zsultana@ccny.cuny.edu](mailto:Zinnat Sultana: zsultana@ccny.cuny.edu)

**NAAB (National Architectural Accrediting Board):**

The National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB) is the sole agency authorized to accredit US professional degree programs in architecture. Since most state registration boards in the United States require any applicant for licensure to have graduated from a NAAB-accredited program, obtaining such a degree is an essential aspect of preparing for the professional practice of architecture. While graduation from a NAAB-accredited program does not assure registration, the accrediting process is intended to verify that each accredited program substantially meets those standards that, as a whole, comprise an appropriate education for an architect.

More specifically, the NAAB requires an accredited program to produce graduates who: are competent in a range of intellectual, spatial, technical, and interpersonal skills; understand the historical, socio-cultural, and environmental context of architecture; are able to solve architectural design problems, including the integration of technical systems and health and safety requirements; and comprehend architects' roles and responsibilities in society.

The following student performance criteria from the 2020 NAAB Conditions are addressed in this course:

**Program Criteria (PC)** These criteria seek to evaluate the outcomes of architecture programs and student work within their unique institutional, regional, national, international, and professional contexts, while encouraging innovative approaches to architecture education and professional preparation.

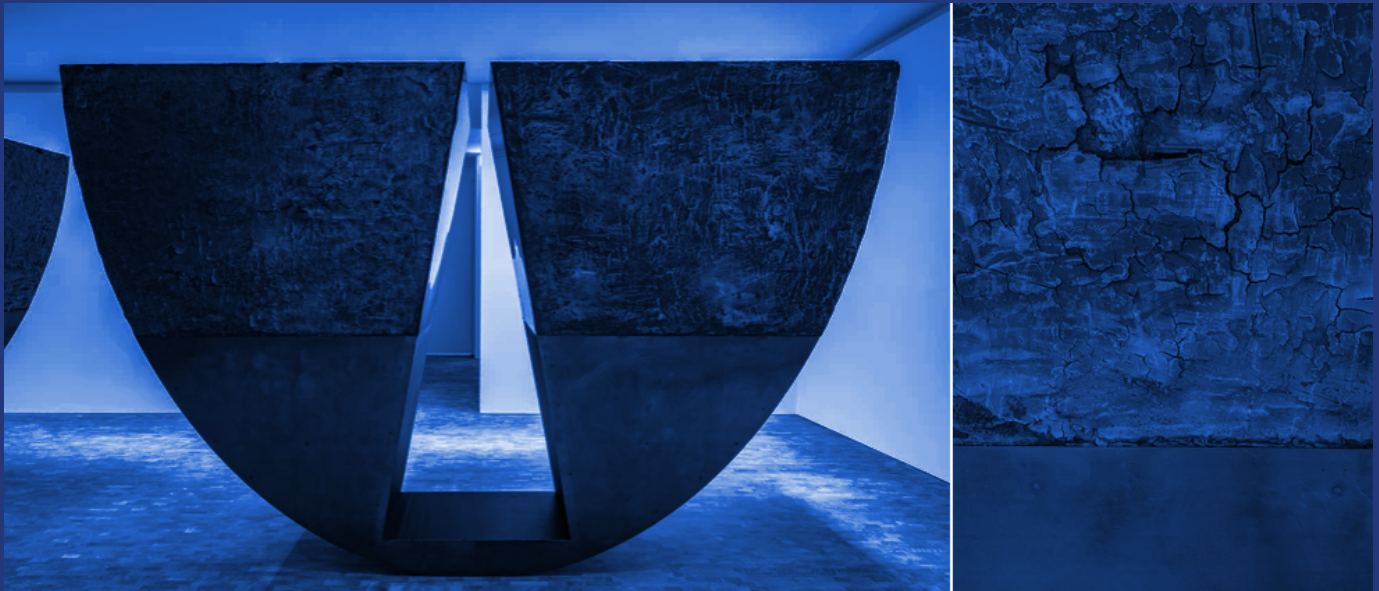
**PC.2 Design:** How the program instills in students the role of the design process in shaping the built environment and conveys the methods by which design processes integrate multiple factors, in different settings and scales of development, from buildings to cities.

**PC.5 Research and Innovation**—How the program prepares students to engage and participate in architectural research to test and evaluate innovations in the field.

*Students should consult the NAAB website [www.naab.org](http://www.naab.org) for additional information regarding student performance criteria and all other conditions for accreditation.*

**CONTACT INFORMATION:**

jhaferd@ccny.cuny.edu



**LIQUID A PLACE, TORKWASE DYSON, 2022, PACE GALLERY**