

# ARCHON studio / VOLTERRA-WORLD HERITAGE SITES

Illinois School of Architecture Graduate DESIGN Studio



**Arch 571/S2022**

**Professor Chasco, FAIA**

*"All of my life I have dreamed of the essence of dwelling not just for oneself, but for all humanity-to dwell in a garden, or in a grove, or on a hill, water's edge, or in an open space, all with a view, near or far, simply, humbly, poetically like Thoreau or Walden Pond, joining as well in the joy, pride and well-being of community life." A. Richard Williams, FAIA, Professor Emeritus*

The **ARCHON studio** is a graduate studio awarding the Archon Prize for a 1000 sq. ft. "Essential House." The studio will be judged by an invited national jury.

**STUDENTS WILL CHOOSE A SITE IN VOLTERRA, ITALY IN THE TUSCANY VALLEY AND ONE SITE IN A WORLD HERITAGE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT. Two permutations of the same house will be designed to fit on both sites. Students will pick their preferred World Heritage Site. Form,**

structure, materiality and technology will fully the inform the student's solution be among the pivotal *Essential House* designs of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

**SITE :** Volterra, Italy. Volterra started as the Etruscan seat of a 3000 year old culture. Volterra then became a Roman City and then a walled Medieval City atop a high plateau, 1500 ft above the Tuscany valley. The Roman Theatre and Baths are the only visible signs of the old Roman City. The completely walled city is served by four primary gate (Porta's) entry. The Porta All' Arco is the only original Etruscan gate into the city left.



[Volterra, Italy](#)