

UIUC/Illinois Institute of Technology College of Architecture (Joint Studio) Spring 2025

Peace Museum – A Forum for Discussion | Reflection | Transformation

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PROJECT BRIEF

PEACE MUSEUM: A Forum for Discussion | Reflection | Transformation

The Peace Museum will be an impactful city catalyst aimed at addressing Chicago's largest societal challenges: violence in our communities, poor economic opportunities, inadequate mental health services, homelessness, global war and safety. The Museum will be programmed to strengthen local key partnerships with organizations and businesses that share a passion for an egalitarian Chicago.

The site is located in Chicago's Grant Park, at the South West end at Michigan Ave.

The building design will incorporate inspirational and welcoming/safe environments through materiality, transparency/opacity and visibility. The students will analyze societal challenges and develop building programmatic solutions via the creation of a signature architectural statement located at a prominent intersection of Chicago. The studio will address accessibility, new techniques of inquiry and construction technology, and sustainability with an emphasis on ethical building materials.

The studio will submit for the ACSA Design for Freedom Ethical Materials Design Competition and includes an optional trip to the Design for Freedom Summit in New Canaan Connecticut the week of March 27, 2025. The trip will include a site tour of NYC and visits to NYC architecture firms.

Studio Goals

- The goal is to generate designs that do not merely provide function. The designs must transform the vacant parcel into a new city nucleus.
- The goal is to present your materials in order to convey the benefit of your design concepts to the city.
- The goal is to clearly define the terms "ethical sourced materials" as they pertain to this studio project. To have a full understanding of the technologies and the economic benefit of these technologies. The research will be documented in a publishable book form.
- The goal is to meet the studio criteria of design excellence.

RECOMMENDED: It is recommended for students also take the **401 Future of Materiality: Ethical and Equitable Building Materials Seminar**. Exceptions will be made for those with class schedule conflicts.

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Key Studio Topics

The list of key issues to be addressed in this studio will include, at a minimum: research methodologies, urban contexts, sustainable building strategies, site analysis methodology, site planning strategies, precedents, use-program development and analysis, integration of building and landscape design, and a special emphasis on ethical and equitable building materials.



SITE: SouthWest parcel of Grant Park in Chicago

Reading and Resources

1. VA Healing Environments Design Guidelines

https://www.wbdg.org/FFC/VA/VADEMAN/healing_envir.pdf

2. Trauma Exposure and PTSD Symptoms Associate with Violence in Inner City Civilians

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5107154/>

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3. Creating Restorative Justice Spaces

https://designingjustice.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/Creating_Restorative_Spaces_Booklet_PDF.pdf

Sustainability:

1. Design for Freedom – Ethical Material Sourcing

<https://www.designforfreedom.org>

2. Living Building Challenge: Standard 4.0

<https://living-future.org/lbc/>

3. The Practice of Biophilic Design, Stephen R. Kellert & Elizabeth F. Calabrese

http://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/21459d_81ccb84caf6d4bee8195f9b5af92d8f4.pdf

4. Biophilic Design Toolkit

<https://www2.living-future.org/biophilicdesigntoolkit>

5. Early Energy Modeling

Cove Tool: <https://www.cove.tools/>

Sign Up here for one year free: <https://app.covetool.com/login/>

6. Who Builds Your Architecture Publication

<http://whobuilds.org/who-builds-your-architecture-a-critical-field-guide>

Student Work Evaluation Criteria

I. Attitude

- A. Willingness to generate ideas
- B. Willingness to develop ideas
- C. Willingness to respond to criticism
- D. Degree of participation (attendance, group discussion, etc.)
- E. Seriousness of purpose as demonstrated by hard work

II. Methodology

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- A. Ability to generate relevant architectural ideas
- B. Ability to distinguish between relevant and irrelevant ideas
- C. Ability to develop ideas in a coherent fashion
- D. Ability to express relevant ideas in a graphic format
- E. Ability to articulate and present ideas verbally

III. Studio Project evaluation

- A. Quality of intentions
- B. Quality of ideas
- C. Quality of formal resolutions
- D. Demonstrated common sense
- E. Demonstrated technical awareness
- F. Completeness of project
- G. Quality of presentation

The studio project will receive two grades. The first will reflect the assessment of the quality of the ideas contained in each project. The second will reflect the assessment of how well you have presented the ideas graphically and verbally. Comments of the guest reviewers may influence a portion of the grade. The final studio project grade will reflect judgments about individual growth, overall effort, and contribution to the studio's shared learning through discussions in studio project pin-ups.

Grade Weight Distribution:

Attitude and Participation	10%
Research and Presentations	20%
Studio Project	70%