Hayden Island occupies a poignant location at Portland’s northern edge. Situated in the Columbia River near the confluence with the Willamette, the island is a strategic and sought-after hub for multiple landscape systems. Its largely undeveloped western half provides key habitats for wildlife, while also serving as an active dredge depot for material pulled from nearby shipping channels. The city is currently exploring requests for additional infrastructure on the island, including recreational facilities and industrial shipping terminals; seeking to temper these desires with environmental concerns for the island’s existing ecologies.

In this studio students will explore proposals for the future of West Hayden Island by developing a critical understanding of these converging, migrant infrastructures and how they embed themselves in select landscapes. Through design speculation, students will explore how these competing systems might best be sited and conjoined. Particular attention will be given to the thresholds where these processes and active materials intersect, testing the limits and design possibilities for their cohabitation.

As an introduction to Portland and a primer for the studio, the first week of the course will consist entirely of guided tours of the city’s finest examples of landscape architecture and planning, providing first-hand experience with local designers of how the city has implemented progressive and sustainable innovations.

Instructors: Robert Ribe, Brett Milligan, Jim Figurski
Dates: June 20 - August 5, 2011
Days: Monday - Thursday
Times: 12:00 - 4:00 PM
Location: Portland White Stag Building
Course Number: LA 4/508 Workshop, UO Summer Quarter
Summer in the city Program: http://aaa.uoregon.edu/programs/portland/summerintheicity
Number of credits: 6
Prerequisites: Good current standing in an undergraduate or graduate program in landscape architecture, architecture or urban design, having completed at least two studio courses
Non-UO students wishing to apply for enrollment should email Robert Ribe at rribe@uoregon.edu