

Puerto Rico Project for the Future PR_PF

The North Region

2045

ARC 6399 Advanced Topics in Urban Design / Prof. Nancy Clark/ F Periods 5-6

Introduction

This seminar will investigate scenarios for a sustainable North Region of Puerto Rico by 2045 including a territory that extend from the mountains to the coast. Students will engage in project-based research to generate proposals for the future resilience of this critical area of the island which includes historic pueblos, the Atlantic Ocean Waterfront, water based ecosystems such as bays lagoons rivers and canals, agricultural areas and natural protected conservation areas, primary infrastructure such as highways, railway lines, industrial areas, and tourist developments, as well as formal and informal neighborhoods. The area puts into focus the conflicts between natural systems and human settlement and an emphasis will be placed on the interface between those two systems in areas of tension between development, vulnerability and risks.

The semester's efforts will be centered on the 10-day Puerto Rico Re_Start Workshop II to be held at the Universidad Politecnica de Puerto Rico, San Juan March 21st -30th 2019. Students enrolled in this course will receive a travel stipend* to participate as core team members in Clark's PRRS Design Lab over the duration of the workshop. In addition, students will have the opportunity to attend daily afternoon presentations from leaders in resilience research and design to learn about successful initiatives and case studies. Professionals, faculty and students from UPR, UF, Polytechnic and international institutions from Europe will participate in the six Design Labs. These Labs will convene interdisciplinary expertise into integrated proposals. Representatives from the community, stakeholders and public officials will be invited to join the discussions. Results will be presented publicly and publicized on the final day of the workshop.

Our work leading up to the March event will involve extensive research pertinent to Design Lab including relevant current and historical information about urban development, human settlement, and natural systems through the lens of post-Hurricane Maria recovery and resilience. During the workshop, we will conduct field research and documentation and engage in a 7 day charrette developing conceptual proposals that will be presented to the public the final day of the workshop. Upon return to Gainesville, we will further develop these conceptual ideas into a comprehensive resilience masterplan. The semester *Project for The Future* will result in a publication that compiles the students' research and conceptual proposals in a book format. For further information regarding PRRS Workshop I and II see <http://puertoricorestart.org/>

RESEARCH TOPICS

- **Geography | Natural Systems** (Water bodies, Watersheds, Conservation Areas)SLR Storm Surge and other Risks)
- **Manmade/Engineered Landscapes** (USACE Projects (Dams Canals), Agriculture Lands and other productive landscapes)
- **Infrastructure** (Ports Airports Roads Trains Trolleys Bikes/ Communications/Energy Assets / Water Management Assets including Sewer Water Supply Wastewater. See especially transportation plan 2045 / UBER/ PRRP)
- **Human Settlements Overview** of the neighborhoods towns business and industrial districts (historic growth of the area, characteristics, demographics, formal informal, risk vulnerabilities)
- **Human Settlements Historic Cultural Assets**
- **Housing /Schools / Education Crisis** (Vacancies Informality Inequities Debt)
- **Storm and Climate Change & SLR Hazards** (Flooding and FEMA maps, risk to human settlements and natural systems, vulnerable communities and areas)