Loneliness and weak social connections are associated with a reduction in lifespan similar to that caused by smoking 15 cigarettes a day.¹ This studio explores an architectural solution to social isolation: Cohousing. Cohousing is an intentional community² of people living in private homes with shared amenities and activities. Cohousing³ started in Denmark, has spread throughout the United States⁴, and yet there is not yet a Cohousing community in Illinois. Want to speculatively design one?

Consider this studio if you ...
... know that the built environment impacts our health and wellbeing.
... think housing design is a complicated and fascinating puzzle.
... need your comprehensive (575) studio to focus on low-rise, wood-frame construction.
... believe in architecture for good.
... want to integrate research and your design process.
... heard that Bollo takes elevations seriously and makes them fun.

FYI:
Work can be done in teams of two, or alone.
The chosen site is in Urbana, but you may site your community elsewhere.⁵
There is a field trip within driving distance the first weekend of the term.
Presentations are primarily digital, with a paper set of working drawings.
We will incorporate mechanical, structural and landscape design throughout the term.
You will read and report on an academic article each week.

QUESTIONS? email CHRISTINA BOLLO cbollo@illinois.edu

² https://www.ted.com/talks/grace_kim_how_cohousing_can_make_us_happier_and_live_longer?language=en
³ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DmW1x0ntATU
⁴ https://www.cohousing.org/map
⁵ In consultation with the instructor