Recent reliance on the overhead view of the urban condition through technologies like Google-Earth results in a lack of understanding and appreciation for the z-axis.

This seminar seeks to re-center the z-axis as critical to our understanding and occupation of urban space.

Through case study analysis, students will investigate the Urban Zed in an effort to understand the spatial variability of urban public spaces and how the z-axis is integral to the experience of urban space.

Our principal output will be the urban section, although other diagrams and infographics will augment our efforts. We will seek graphic representations of data sets that can be visualized on the third axis -- variables that can be represented as the z-axis within urban spaces.

This class will be drawing intensive. Students will be expected to produce weekly graphic output commensurate with 9 hours of drawing time outside of class. Drawings will be produced using both analog and digital tools.

Class will consist of a combination of group critques, curated analyses of exemplars, and some discussion of each case study.

Students will produce a final project drawing that is a representation of an urban public space. This case study project will be selected in consultation with the instructor.

Class will be limited to 12 participants.
References:

The Urban Section, Robert Mantho

Great Streets, Alan Jacobs

The Manual of Section, Lewis, Tsuramaki, Lewis

Architecture Drawn, Klauss Philipp