Studio Description and Summary:

For Spring Semester 2018, the Historic Preservation Design Studio in the Graduate Architecture Program will be designing a new multi-purpose facility for the Chapel of St. John the Devine, the Episcopal campus ministry to the University of Illinois. The current complex consists of the historic Chapel and the Parish activities building, Canterbury House. It is located on the corner of Armory and Wright Streets in Champaign.

The first three bays of the English Gothic-inspired limestone Chapel were originally constructed from 1925-27, based on the design by Chicago, and English-born, architect John E.O. Pridemore. Due to financial shortfalls, caused by the Great Depression, Pridemore’s design was never completed. In 2008, a fourth bay was added to the Chapel nave. In 1966, Canterbury House, a steel-framed, brick clad building, was built, north of the Chapel. This building currently accommodates student apartments, offices, and activity rooms for the Parish.

Currently, the St. John Parish is exploring options to replace Canterbury House with a larger facility, consisting of student apartments, new Parish offices, and new church activity rooms. This new building will directly connect to the Chapel and be compatible in design to the historic Chapel. In this studio, you will learn how to design an addition to a historic structure that conforms to the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Historic Preservation, pertaining to compatible additions, and satisfy the needs of a university-based ministry in the 21st century.