The Site Evaluation Plan is a collaborative project that documents a holistic framework of the OBO process of Site Acquisition, Site Evaluation, and Site Selection for a US post abroad.

This new plan:
- **REORGANIZES** Content
- **PROVIDES** Efficient Workflow
- **PROMOTES** Design Excellence

The Site Evaluation Plan includes all current content and repackages it to be comprehensive of the entire Site Acquisition and Site Selection process in a single document.

One deliverable provides a more efficient hand-off to later project phases, and a single template eliminates the need for multiple formats per post project. Additionally, pages within the document are used as modular components to populate briefings, books, and other presentations.

This plan also integrates Design Excellence goals and sustainable objectives into the planning process framework rather than providing a supplemental document.

The plan framework remains the same for each post project. Pages and content are added to the framework throughout the planning process. The modular concept allows for flexibility between plans and within a single document.
Knot Café was completed as a competition entry and an independent study project in partnership with Gaston Dietz.

Knot links farm-fresh food, hometown artists, and the Seattle community together inside an innovative new space, dwelling within a typical metropolitan retail building. The restaurant’s entwining series of reclaimed material bands loop together to create an enjoyable dining environment and state-of-the-art kitchen, while mediating the narrowness of the space. The connective bands transform into table tops in the dining space and then morph into shelves for various storage needs in the kitchen. The dining area is tied to the area of circulation against the southern wall, which displays work from local artists along the patron’s promenade to eat their meal and engage with the community. The diverely crafted menu of local and seasonal ingredients, combined with local art displays, and an educational campaign centered on the promotion of sustainable practices forms a Knot within the Seattle community. This Knot rethink and redesigns the traditional restaurant model, and instead ties local food and practice together with the local community to promote a healthier, more sustainable lifestyle.

While the formal design elements of the space knot together with the building’s form, Knot’s design and operation also focus to lessen its carbon impact on the earth. Renewable energy systems generate electricity and limit the restaurant’s need for city utilities. A low-flush toilet and high efficiency dishwasher prevent excessive water consumption, while a graywater system allows water from the dishwasher and sinks to be reused in the toilet. An Energy Star rated mini split air conditioner and an inventive radiant heat system keep the restaurant at a comfortable temperature year-round, while conserving electrical energy. An array of photovoltaic panels produces energy needed for Knot’s electrical consumption even on Seattle’s cloudiest days. In addition to the PVs on the roof, Knot’s innovative radiant heating system is powered by the flat plate collectors of a solar hot water system. The piping system, following the formal bands down the wall towards the concrete floor slabs of the tables, provides radiant heat particularly to the areas where patrons of Knot dine and where Knot employees work for maximum efficiency.
The Knot Café is an expression of its interior organization. The bright green massing begins its progression by the dining space, mandarins through the kitchen space, and eventually functions towards the public at its culmination by pushing outwards towards the street. The green band links to the street through the public and the pedestrian entrance, inviting passers to come inside and enjoy a meal crafted with quality local ingredients.

The green band links to the exterior facade and visually draws the customer to the to-go window and into the interior dining space of the restaurant.

Formal band elements in the restaurant loop together in order to create a design inspired by interweaving. In addition, Knot leads by example, promoting a sustainable dialogue that ties together locally grown food, talented Seattle artists, and members of the community.
In the design for UVA’s graduate and faculty housing at Piedmont, the traditional definition of a boundary, as something that bounds or limits, is reconsidered. In this scheme the boundary may serve as a physical definition of space, but it does not limit space usage. Rather, the system of bounded conditions, from the site scale to the scale of a room, provides a framework for modular flexibility.

At the scale of the site, a field of building units, pathways, and individual garden spaces holds a community garden and park space located west of the existing farmhouse. This field-like condition works to create boundaries around the important figures on the site, the farmhouse and the community garden, and also holds the site boundary as an important figure.

In the building units, the grid-like structural system allows for flexibility in the placement of pathways and individual gardens on top of and outside of the house. Building modules and garden modules configure in a variety of ways, catering to the variability of residential preferences.

The interior modules allow for multiple interior plan configurations and also provide the framework for storing the necessities for daily living.
The ecoMOD Group Home was a collaborative project in partnership with two architecture students and two urban planning students.

The project was funded through a Jefferson Public Citizen’s Grant from the University of Virginia.

The group adapted the plans for ecoMOD4 to accommodate sites for People INC in Southwest Virginia and Building a Bridge in Charlottesville, Virginia.

Through the adaptation of the designs, the group investigated the potential adaptability and commercial ability of ecoMOD’s modular, sustainable design premise. The group further developed and worked towards finalizing a design for a group home that would be built next to an existing group home located in the Belmont neighborhood of Charlottesville. The design provides an open community space for the residents, while providing private rooms for each of the residents, including the caretaker.
The NYC Gym departs from the vertical layering strategy of Rem Koolhaas’ Downtown Athletic Club. Rather, the gym is reinvented as a place where two distinct types of program can come together to serve the needs of the community through a collage-like layering of experiences.

This scheme brings people to the forefront of the design. A connection is established, linking what is going on inside of the building to what is going on out on the street. The building’s dynamic façade reveals programmatic activity inside the building from the exterior.

The building contains relaxation program, consisting of massage rooms, Pilates space, and yoga space, while also providing space for quicker pace exercise program. The two types of program celebrate the gym as a place of retreat from the congestion of the city, creating a place that celebrates the individual in the context of the greater community.

The reinvented Downtown Athletic Club encourages the health and the happiness of New York residents in the midst of the hectic city.

In order to emphasize the importance of the community, the preexisting mural on the parti wall is exposed within the gym to reinforce the history and cultural significance of the place.

Circulation within the building encourages connections through a series of spatial layers. The layers work to create specific qualities through the construction and use of materials that are particular to different activities or experiences within the building.
Exercise to Sculpture investigates how angular human movement can serve as a precedent for the design of an installation art sculpture. The angular weave reaches out from a point, an area of anchor and rest. The extended bands form niches, which encourage people to engage with the sculpture. The formal abstraction of motion within the sculpture provides space for angular human movement to occur. This study informs how later exercise to sculpture serves as a precedent for the design of the NYC Gym. The extended bands form niches, a point, an area of anchor and rest. The angular weave reaches out from a point, an area of anchor and rest. The extended bands form niches, which encourage people to engage with the sculpture. The formal abstraction of motion within the sculpture provides space for angular human movement to occur. This study informs how later exercise to sculpture serves as a precedent for the design of the NYC Gym.

The movement study translates exterior locations. The versatile design allows for multiple site options of both interior and exterior locations. The movement study translates directly to the design the NYC Gym.

The locations of resources are looked at in relation to areas of vehicle ownership. This study informed how later exercise is a contextual study of the Ridge Street Neighborhood, City of Charlottesville, and Albemarle County for the design of a community digital library on Ridge Street.

This study looks at how transportation and city infrastructure affect both path to and usage of various resources along Ridge Street, including grocery stores and emergency response stations. The yours here are locked at in relation to areas of vehicle ownership. This study informed how later designs within the studio responded to transportation issues.
INTERIOR PASSAGE
ARCH 5800 | Studio Menefee | Padova, Italy | Ravenna, Italy | Summer 2010

the URBAN PIAZZA
ARCH 5800 | Studio Menefee | Vicenza, Italy | Summer 2010
The Idea Store Library combines the educational program of a library with the community building program of a neighborhood park.

In the Washington D.C. neighborhood of Anacostia, the library caters toward multiple age groups to promote community togetherness and to bridge the digital technology gap. The main library and the educational wing form an armature that holds the neighborhood park as a gathering space, filtering into the residential area beyond.