

# SECUROCRATIC ADVANCE

ARCH 5670 Adv Design Studio | Fall 2017

Instructor(s) : Stephen Mueller, Ralph Hawkins Visiting Professor | Ricardo Muñoz, Lecturer

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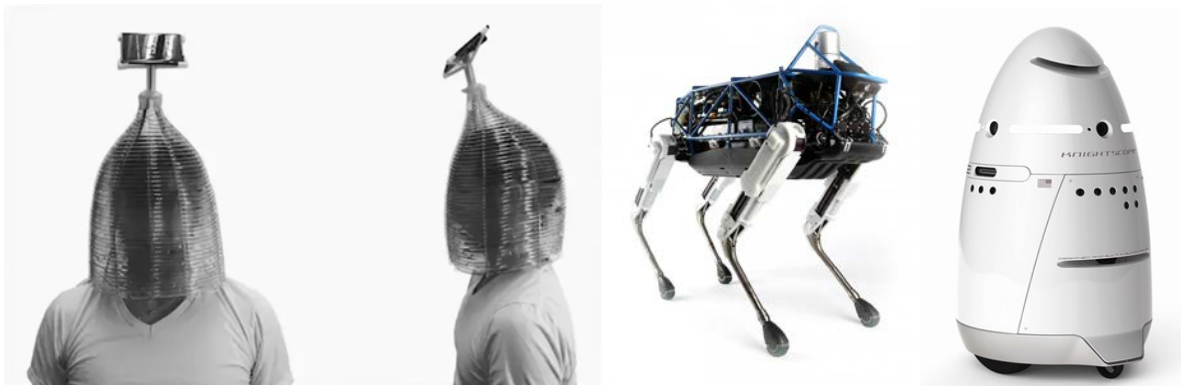
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Office Hours: by appointment

Section Information: ARCH 5670 Section 004 Mueller + Muñoz

Time and Place of Class Meetings: MWF 2p-5:50p CAPP ARCH 430



Description of Course Content:

## \\TECH TRANSFER

The studio interrogates the militarization of public space, co-opting the technologies, typologies, and tactics of urban surveillance and warfare to imagine near-future urban and architectural scenarios for the city to come. Advances in military technology pervade and infiltrate the interfaces, interactions, and experiences of the contemporary city, injecting a logistical matrix of sensing, targeting, and threat analysis through the spaces we inhabit. Drone swarms, 'wearable robots', cybernetic implants, and terrain-specific robotics, among other advances, are reshaping – and expanding – the battlefield. This next-gen tech physically augments bodies, broadens human perception, and automates security responses to human behavior, radically reconfiguring the 'public' and public space.

Students will extend the entrenched histories of technology transfer between military and civilian space to imagine new worlds for recently declassified and emerging security technologies. As the US domestic security posture shifts radically from expansionist projections of power abroad to a domestic protectionist agenda, the sites and situations of securocratic advance increasingly occupy the American city, its institutions and its space. While the military benefits simultaneously from an environment of increased spending, reduced legislative oversight, and financial deregulation, private contracts, local police forces, and autonomous special forces are uniquely empowered to reshape the domestic interior.

In today's threat environment, military space is decidedly off-base. Simulated urban and suburban training grounds proliferate in the far reaches of the domestic hinterland. Struggling cities vie for position in this new order, rebranding themselves as ideal sites for brigade- and battalion-level training operations. New cities are designed ex nihilo as shared sites of civilian and military urban research. Under-populated regions are recast as operational theaters; low-resource neighborhoods unsuspectingly provide practice grounds for infiltration training.

## OPTIONAL TRAVEL

Optional studio travel is planned to the El Paso/Ciudad Juarez region, exposing students to both emerging and established 'securocratic territories'. A likely itinerary, conditional on student interest and access to sites, would include: the international border crossing in El Paso, TX, one of the largest binational metropolitan regions in North America divided by an infrastructural channel; a remote site north of the city where a planned expansion of the International Border Fence is underway; Fort Bliss, one of the nation's largest military installations adjacent to the city, home to several simulated training towns and villages, and White Sands, NM, home of White Sands Missile Range, among others.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of the course, successful students will be able to:

- Critically assess and evaluate emerging technologies and their potential impact on public space
- Conduct self-directed design research, identify salient questions for further research and areas of study
- Communicate a breadth and depth of knowledge concerning the relationship of security and urban life to current and emerging design tech
- Develop and communicate design ideas for the contemporary and near-future city through architectural representation and other means

Required Textbooks and Other Course Materials:

Required: Stephen Graham. Cities Under Siege : The New Military Urbanism.

Other Recommended Course Materials:

Pierre Belanger. Ecologies of Power

Keller Easterling. Extrastatecraft : The Power of Infrastructure Space Eyal Weizman. Forensic: The Architecture of Public Truth.

Eyal Weizman. Before and After : Documenting the Architecture of Disaster Trevor Paglen. Blank Spots on the Map

Benjamin Bratton. The Stack : On Software and Sovereignty Chantal Mouffe. Agonistics

Mark L. Gillem. America Town : Building the Outposts of Empire David Vine. Base Nation

Derek Gregory. The Colonial Present : Afghanistan, Palestine, Iraq. Bishop, et al. The City as Target.  
Michael Sorkin. Indefensible Space Brian Massumi. Parables for the Virtual.  
Manuel Delanda. War in the Age of Intelligent Machines. Gilles Deleuze. Nomadology.  
Paul Virilio. Pure War.  
Paul Virilio, Bunker Archaeology. Paul Virilio. City of Panic  
Paula Antonelli. Safe: Design Takes on Risk Bryan Finoki. Subtopia (weblog).  
Geoff Manaugh. BLDG BLOG (weblog).

Other readings and resources as directed and/or supplied by instructor/s.

Descriptions of major assignments and examinations:

#### Project 1 \ NEAR- FUTURE ARTIFACTS

Students will begin by designing and constructing 'near-future artifacts' , projective relics of an immediate securocratic future. Artifacts will be tools to uncover, understand, manipulate, or reverse emerging confluences of military technology and domestic space. Artifacts will be built full-scale, and portable, for continued documentation and use throughout the semester, including travel, and will be accompanied by narrative drawings and descriptive text for exhibition and review.

#### Project 2 \ URGENT TYPOLOGIES

Students will then conduct individual design research with the guidance of the instructors, to elaborate a speculative architectural typology. Students will present their work in models, drawings, textual and graphic analyses. Students will develop their presentations, creating highly refined models and drawings for exhibition, publication, and final review.

Attendance:

At The University of Texas at Arlington, taking attendance is not required but attendance is a critical indicator in student success. Each faculty member is free to develop his or her own methods of evaluating students' academic performance, which includes establishing course-specific policies on attendance.

As the instructor of this section, my attendance policy follows: Instructors will note attendance each day. A student will be considered absent for the class time if he/she: arrives to class late; leaves class early; is not within the classroom for the full duration of the scheduled class period; or, is occupied with matters other than the course material at any point during the class period. Excessive absences will negatively affect student grades and possibly be grounds for failing the course. Absence at a scheduled review, pinup, or external site visit, unless expressly authorized by the instructor(s) before the start of the class, will result in a 'zero' grade for the portion of the work presented. Absence at midterm review or final review without prior authorization will result in a 'zero' grade for the project/s due at that time. A student will be

considered absent at scheduled reviews and pinups if the student has not yet printed, completed models, pinned up, and/or prepared files for video/projection by the start of class.

However, while UT Arlington does not require instructors to take attendance in their courses, the U.S. Department of Education requires that the University have a mechanism in place to mark when Federal Student Aid recipients “begin attendance in a course.” UT Arlington instructors will report when students begin attendance in a course as part of the final grading process. Specifically, when assigning a student a grade of F, faculty report the last date a student attended their class based on evidence such as a test, participation in a class project or presentation, or an engagement online via Blackboard. This date is reported to the Department of Education for federal financial aid recipients.

Grading:

Studio instructor/s will conduct expert assessment of overall student performance through daily and weekly ‘desk crits’ in person or remotely, in presentations, pin-ups, mid-term review, and final review, and through digital submissions by the student on the course website and in a final digital submission. The following criteria will be considered: originality, risk, craft, consistency, completion, precision, resolution, and presentation.

Project 1 : 20%

Project 2 : 50%

Daily Progress: 10%

Web Entries + Digital Portfolio: 20%

Daily Progress

Student work will be reviewed daily for progress toward assignment objectives, response to instructor feedback, and consistency of self-directed study.

Web Entries + Digital Portfolio

Students will document their progress in weekly entries on a course blog or website, containing a curated selection of models, drawings, images, and videos produced by the student that week, along with descriptive text outlining major questions, discoveries, methods used, and directions for continued work. While a majority of this work will be the student’s own, students will also use this format to link to individually-sourced resources and references via hyperlinks or embedded content, providing resources to fellow students and others following the studio via the course website.

Students will compile their complete digital content at the end of the semester and format it per the instructor/s specifications as a final digital portfolio.

#### Drop Policy:

Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance. Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (<http://www.uta.edu/aao/fao/>).

#### Disability Accommodations:

UT Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), The Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act (ADAAA), and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of disability. Students are responsible for providing the instructor with official notification in the form of a letter certified by the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD). Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Students experiencing a range of conditions (Physical, Learning, Chronic Health, Mental Health, and Sensory) that may cause diminished academic performance or other barriers to learning may seek services and/or accommodations by contacting:

The Office for Students with Disabilities, (OSD) [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability) or calling 817-272-3364. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability).

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Counseling and Psychological Services, (CAPS) [www.uta.edu/caps/](http://www.uta.edu/caps/) or calling 817-272-3671 is also available to all students to help increase their understanding of personal issues, address mental and behavioral health problems and make positive changes in their lives.

#### Non-Discrimination Policy:

The University of Texas at Arlington does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, disabilities, genetic information, and/or veteran status in its educational programs or activities it operates. For more information, visit [uta.edu/eos](http://uta.edu/eos).

Title IX Policy: The University of Texas at Arlington ( "University" ) is committed to maintaining a learning and working environment that is free from discrimination based on sex in accordance with Title IX of the Higher Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs or activities; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VII), which prohibits sex discrimination in employment; and the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE Act). Sexual misconduct is a form of sex discrimination and will not be tolerated. For information regarding Title IX, visit [www.uta.edu/titleIX](http://www.uta.edu/titleIX) or contact Ms. Jean Hood, Vice President and Title IX Coordinator at (817) 272-7091 or [jmhood@uta.edu](mailto:jmhood@uta.edu).

Academic Integrity:

Students enrolled all UT Arlington courses are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington' s tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.

I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.

UT Arlington faculty members may employ the Honor Code in their courses by having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System Regents' Rule 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university' s standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student' s suspension or expulsion from the University. Additional information is available at <https://www.uta.edu/conduct/>.

Electronic Communication:

UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php>.

#### Campus Carry:

Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes as prohibited. Under the new law, openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/news/info/campus-carry/>

#### Student Feedback Survey:

At the end of each term, students enrolled in face-to-face and online classes categorized as "lecture," "seminar," or "laboratory" are directed to complete an online Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student's feedback via the SFS database is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. Students' anonymity will be protected to the extent that the law allows. UT Arlington's effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law and aggregate results are posted online. Data from SFS is also used for faculty and program evaluations. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.

#### Final Review Week:

For semester-long courses, a period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week unless specified in the class syllabus. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.

**Emergency Exit Procedures:** Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit, which is located down the stairs in the center of the building. Another nearby exit is the South stairwell which is at the South end of the building. When exiting the building during an emergency, should never take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist individuals with disabilities.

Students should also be encouraged to subscribe to the MavAlert system that will send information in case of an emergency to their cell phones or email accounts. Anyone can subscribe at <https://mavalert.uta.edu/> or <https://mavalert.uta.edu/register.php>

Student Support Services: UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include [tutoring](#), [major-based learning centers](#), developmental education, [advising and mentoring](#), personal counseling, and [federally funded programs](#). For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to [resources@uta.edu](mailto:resources@uta.edu), or view the information at <http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/resources/index.php>.

The IDEAS Center ( 2nd Floor of Central Library) offers free tutoring to all students with a focus on transfer students, sophomores, veterans and others undergoing a transition to UT Arlington. To schedule an appointment with a peer tutor or mentor email [IDEAS@uta.edu](mailto:IDEAS@uta.edu) or call (817) 272-6593.

The English Writing Center ( 411LIBR): The Writing Center Offers free tutoring in 20-, 40-, or 60-minute face-to-face and online sessions to all UTA students on any phase of their UTA coursework. Our hours are 9 am to 8 pm Mon.- Thurs., 9 am-3 pm Fri. and Noon-6 pm Sat. and Sun. Register and make appointments online at <http://uta.mywconline.com>. Classroom Visits, workshops, and specialized services for graduate students are also available. Please see [www.uta.edu/owl](http://www.uta.edu/owl) for detailed information on all our programs and services.

The Library's 2nd floor Academic Plaza offers students a central hub of support services, including IDEAS Center, University Advising Services, Transfer UTA and various college/school advising hours. Services are available during the library's hours of operation. <http://library.uta.edu/academic-plaza>

Other resources:

Library Home Page [library.uta.edu](http://library.uta.edu) Resources for Students

Academic Help

Academic Plaza Consultation Services [library.uta.edu/academic-plaza](http://library.uta.edu/academic-plaza) Ask Us [ask.uta.edu/](mailto:ask.uta.edu)

Library Tutorials [library.uta.edu/how-to](http://library.uta.edu/how-to)

Subject and Course Research Guides [libguides.uta.edu](http://libguides.uta.edu) Subject Librarians [library.uta.edu/subject-librarians](http://library.uta.edu/subject-librarians)  
Resources

A to Z List of Library Databases [libguides.uta.edu/az.php](http://libguides.uta.edu/az.php) Course Reserves

[pulse.uta.edu/vwebv/enterCourseReserve.do](http://pulse.uta.edu/vwebv/enterCourseReserve.do) FabLab [fablab.uta.edu/](http://fablab.uta.edu/)

Special Collections [library.uta.edu/special-collections](http://library.uta.edu/special-collections) Study Room Reservations [openroom.uta.edu/](http://openroom.uta.edu/)

Teaching & Learning Services for Faculty Copyright Consultation [library-sc@listserv.uta.edu](mailto:library-sc@listserv.uta.edu)

Course Research Guide Development, Andy Herzog [amherzog@uta.edu](mailto:amherzog@uta.edu) or your subject librarian Data

Visualization Instruction, Peace Ossom-Williamson [peace@uta.edu](mailto:peace@uta.edu)

Digital Humanities Instruction, Rafia Mirza [rafia@uta.edu](mailto:rafia@uta.edu)



Graduate Student Research Skills Instruction, Andy Herzog [amherzog@uta.edu](mailto:amherzog@uta.edu) or your subject librarian  
Project or Problem-Based Instruction, Gretchen Trkay [gtrkay@uta.edu](mailto:gtrkay@uta.edu)  
Undergraduate Research Skills Instruction, Gretchen Trkay [gtrkay@uta.edu](mailto:gtrkay@uta.edu) or your subject librarian.

Emergency Phone Numbers: In case of an on-campus emergency, call the UT Arlington Police Department at 817-272-3003 (non-campus phone), 2-3003 (campus phone). You may also dial 911. Non-emergency number 817-272-3381

## Course Schedule

The following constitutes a draft schedule for the course. The instructors of the course reserve the right to adjust this schedule in any way that serves the educational needs of the students enrolled in this course.

Students are encouraged to please check for other relevant schedule information published by the Office of Records and Registration and the Academic Calendar.

|    | S     | M         | T  | W            | R  | F   | S  |
|----|-------|-----------|----|--------------|----|---|--|
| 1  |       |           |    |              |    | Aug 25<br>STUDIO KICKOFF<br>Mueller / Kripa   | 26<br><b>P1 Kickoff</b><br>Mueller / Kripa               |
| 2  | 27    | 28        | 29 | 30           | 31 | <b>Sep 1</b><br><b>Mueller</b><br><b>PROTOTYPE DUE</b>  | 2  |
| 3  | 3     | 4         | 5  | 6            | 7  | 8<br>Mueller<br>OPTIONAL<br>TRAVEL<br><b>ARTIFACT DUE,</b><br><b>PHOTODRAWING</b><br><b>DRAFT</b> | 9<br>Mueller<br>OPTIONAL<br>TRAVEL                       |
| 4  | 10    | 11        | 12 | <b>13</b>    | 14 | 15<br><b>PHOTODRAWING</b><br><b>DUE, VIDEO</b><br><b>DRAFT – post to</b><br><b>blog</b>           | 16   |
| 5  | 17    | 18        | 19 | 20           | 21 | <b>22</b><br><b>Mueller</b><br><b>VIDEO DUE</b><br><b>P1 REVIEW</b>                               | 23<br>Mueller<br><b>P2 Kickoff</b>                       |
| 6  | 24    | 25        | 26 | 27           | 28 | 29  | 30   |
| 7  | Oct 1 | 2         | 3  | 4            | 5  | 6<br>Mueller  | 7<br>Mueller   |
| 8  | 8     | 9         | 10 | 11           | 12 | <b>13</b>   | 14   |
| 9  | 15    | 16        | 17 | 18           | 19 | 20<br>Mueller   | 21   |
| 10 | 22    | <b>23</b> | 24 | 25           | 26 | 27<br>AGENCY Lecture<br>Mueller / Kripa   | 28<br>MID-REVIEW<br>Mueller/Kripa<br><b>P2 Midreview</b> |
| 11 | 29    | 30        | 31 | <b>Nov 1</b> | 2  | 3<br>Mueller  | 4<br>Mueller   |
| 12 | 5     | 6         | 7  | 8            | 9  | <b>10</b>   | 11   |
| 13 | 12    | <b>13</b> | 14 | 15           | 16 | 17<br>Mueller   | 18   |
| 14 | 19    | 20        | 21 | <b>22</b>    | 23 | 24<br><i>Thanksgiving-No</i><br><i>Class</i>  | 25   |
| 15 | 26    | 27        | 28 | 29           | 30 | Dec 1<br>Mueller  | 2  |

|    |    |    |    |    |    |                                      |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|--------------------------------------|----|
| 16 | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8<br>FINAL REVIEW<br>Mueller / Kripa | 9  |
| 17 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15<br>DIGITAL<br>SUBMISSION<br>DUE   | 16 |