

**AAAP 4/510**

**Eco-Preservation:** Exploring the Relationship between  
Historic Preservation and Sustainability

location: UO Portland Center, Room 451  
day/time: Fridays: 9am–11:50pm  
credits: 3 credit hours  
grading: Graded  
instructor: Paul Falsetto  
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▪ **Course Description**

If it's true that the most sustainable building is the one already built, then the historic preservation field should be widely recognized as the forerunner and main proponent of the sustainability movement. Consensus says that this is not the perception, suggesting a need for deeper explorations into the connections and conflicts between these two activities.

Portland could be considered to be the perfect place for this type of study, being home to a number of historic buildings that have achieved LEED silver, gold and even platinum status. Both the sustainability and preservation communities have active followings here, and leaders within both fields will contribute to the class via discussions and tours.

▪ **Course Objectives**

This course was devised to explore two movements with seemingly similar goals: to protect/maintain/sustain elements seen as essential to the human condition. The intent is to conduct a full-bodied investigation into the relationship between preservation and sustainability philosophies and methodologies. Students will research how 'green' is measured, understand what those measurements tend to value, and assess how they might affect historic preservation efforts. Tours of local projects exemplifying preservation and sustainable design will provide in situ learning opportunities and discussions.

The ultimate goal of the course is to have students apply rehabilitation and sustainability standards to a specific project to better understand how they work together or conflict. The results of this work will prove useful to students of both the design and preservation disciplines, and will be shared with interested members of the Portland professional community.

▪ **Instructor**

Paul Falsetto, a graduate of both the University of Oregon's architecture and historic preservation programs, has been practicing in Portland for over ten years and is a LEED Accredited Professional. He has presented lectures and written articles on subjects ranging from the philosophical relationship between preservation and sustainability to the consideration of International Modernism as the next historic style. His past teaching experience for the UO includes a course on preservation theory for the Historic Preservation Program and a design studio for the Architecture Department.

**Final Project**

The Final Project is built upon previous assignments, and cumulatively describes the project buildings, the intended preservation work, and the LEED checklist that achieves a platinum rating. In addition, students are to describe three incidences where the preservation work and the LEED action items are in conflict, and three incidences where they appear to be in support of each other.

In specific, each report is to contain the following:

- a project introduction sheet
- a sheet on exterior architectural character
- a sheet on interior architectural character
- floor-by-floor preservation plan (colored using the four preservation zones)
- program layout, described on floor plans, with annotated descriptions of spaces and elements to be rehabilitated/restored, and key sustainability items
- LEED NC 2.2 checklist, with a brief description of how all desired points are to be achieved
- descriptions of the three incidents where preservation and LEED conflict and support

**Project Buildings** (the first two pages of each project follows this introduction)

**Sixth Church of Christ Scientist** (SW Park & Morrison Street)

Bethany Johnson  
Andres Seminario



**Harlow Building** (NW 8th and Glisan Street)

Bill Kirkwood  
Maggie Fernandez



**Oregon Casket Building** (403 NW 5th Ave)

Celeste Cuti  
Chrisanne Beckner  
Christina Bond  
Patience Churchward



**Pritzlaff Hardware Building** (Milwaukee, WI)

Elliot Young



**Fire Station #7** (1026 SE Stark St)

Danielle Meyers  
Fai Chong



**Motorbank Addition US Bank** (SW 6th & Oak Street)

Masaye Harrison

