

CMP 4380 & 6380 Green Communities, “Stream Daylighting: reconnecting our neighborhoods to water.”

Course Background & History

Daylighting, a multi-disciplinary approach among the fields of planning, engineering, architecture, natural sciences, social sciences, and business, will be viewed through the lens of urban hydrology.

2014: Four students from Stephen Goldsmith’s “Urban Ecology and Planning Workshop” created the document “[100 Years of Daylighting](#).” This document received a Utah Chapter of the American Planning Associations Outstanding Achievement award in 2017 and served as the catalyst to form the NGO Seven Canyons Trust.

Seven Canyons Trust is formed. The Seven Canyons Trust is a 501-(c)3 non-profit organization working to daylighting and rehabilitating the seven creeks of Utah’s Wasatch Range, restoring the health and beauty to the hydrology of the Salt Lake valley.

2017: A partnership was formed between the Seven Canyons Trust & to the University of Utah to host the first International Stream Daylighting Series (ISDS) at the University of Utah in September. Elias Cattan, [Taller 13](#) and [Cuatro al Cubo](#), presented to sixty community members, students and staff. His presentation focused on the Rio Piedad daylighting project in Mexico City. The project was funded by a SCIF Grant from the University of Utah.

Later that afternoon forty participants took part in a site visit facilitated by Brian Tonetti and the Seven Canyons Trust. This site visit took place at the Three Creek Confluence site along the Jordan River.

2018: The First Annual ISDS was held in May and Tim Dekker from LimnoTech presented. Afterwards a Jane Jacobs walk was facilitated to highlight the future project known as the Folsom Corridor.

2019: During the Fall Break of 2019 the University of Utah’s School of Architecture and Planning is facilitating the course trip to Mexico City that will focus on Stream Daylighting and the at-large community impacts from such projects. We will once again be working with Elias Cattan and other community members and professionals involved with the Rio Piedad project.

This course provides the opportunity to study abroad in a community that shares many commonalities with Salt Lake City. Those are: both cities are at higher elevations, buried streams & rivers, water quality issues, river basins that don’t lead to an ocean, earthquake activity, growing and expanding public transportation and periods of poor air quality throughout the year.

We will take a whole systems approach to daylighting by exploring the following areas of study:

River Daylighting - Biological, Social and Economic Impacts	Green Stormwater Infrastructure
Earthquake Resilience Planning	Historical Neighborhood Preservation
The integral role of arts in our cities and neighborhoods	Parks & public space
Bicycle/Pedestrian Transportation (or Multi Modal Transportation)	Affordable housing

