Two of the most pressing issues facing urban centers today are public space and housing. They share an intricate physical and social relationship, shaping the way people live, work, and play in cities. As density continues to increase with a migration of people towards urban areas, it’s testing these issues along with other infrastructure networks and finite geographical boundaries. This studio will explore the complexities between public space and housing, using New York City as a site of inquiry.

In NYC, over 2 million people do not live within a 10-minute walking distance to a public park. Moreover, for a city with a population of 8 million plus people there are roughly 68,000 housing units currently available on the rental market, which is considered a housing emergency according to federal guidelines. This lack of access to both public space and housing is being further exacerbated by increasing costs and limited space for development. With high quality public space and affordable housing paramount to keeping and creating diverse urban environments, students are asked to develop and test narratives for the future of our 21st century metropolises.