Arch 476: Post-war Reconstruction in Somalia

TOPIC: Post-Conflict Urban Microcosms in Mogadishu, Somalia

BACKGROUND: Since the 1990’s, the city of Mogadishu, Somalia has been ravaged by incessant civil conflict. The result of these conflicts, which still trouble the country today, is an urban infrastructure that is unable to accommodate the most basic necessities of human life. Mogadishu stands as an infamous poster child of an increasingly familiar post-war urban condition.

THESIS: In what way can architecture rehabilitate and reintegrate a displaced, ethnically diverse, civilian population? Furthermore, what form does this architecture take with regards to the economic, political, cultural, and social climate of a post-conflict city?

GOAL: The goal of this studio is to give an opportunity for students to investigate an extreme condition of architecture and urbanism; to create an authentic source of empathy that can, in turn, propel future investigations towards a truly sustainable resolution.