

IBE 215: Healthy Design and Community Planning



This seminar focuses on the Building Biology principles and their relevance and practical applications in the design of our homes, workplaces, public spaces and communities in North America today. Both provocative and practical, the curriculum provides the inspiration and the know-how for creating healthier and more ecologically sound built environments.

Open to all working professionals as well as to the general public, this seminar benefits architects, builders, interior designers, indoor air quality consultants, home inspectors, home dwellers, and other building professionals.



Building Biology Institute
The science of healthy buildings

Seminar Syllabus: IBE 215

Table of Contents

Cancellation Policy	3
Extended Policy Stipulation	3
Discrimination: Zero Tolerance	3
Seminar Synopsis	4
Seminar Objectives	4
Seminar Venue	Erro
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Seminar Schedule	5
Meet Your Instructor	6

The Building Biology Institute (BBI) does not and shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion (creed), gender, gender expression, age, national origin (ancestry), disability, marital status, sexual orientation, or military status, in any of its activities or operations. These activities refer to any and all interactions involving our potential or current students and our alumni; these operations include, but are not limited to, hiring and firing of staff, selection of volunteers and vendors, and provision of services. We have been and remain committed to providing an inclusive and welcoming environment for all.

BBI does however reserve the right to deny enrollment, whether first-time or continuing, of students it deems to present the risk of being or becoming disruptive of our program presentations, and/or a distraction for our students from what they have come to us to learn and experience.



Please direct all inquiries to:
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Click [here](#) for more information on Building Biology

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Cancellation Policy

Seminar students who paid their tuition in full, and then cancel at least thirty (30) days before the first day of classes, will receive a tuition/tuition deposit refund in full (100%). Those who cancel less than thirty days out, but more than ten days out, and had paid their tuition in full, will receive a fifty percent refund; the amount they forfeited will be considered on deposit for one year, and may be applied toward any subsequent BBI event or online course. Those who cancel ten or fewer days out will not receive a refund, but their entire forfeited payment will be considered on deposit for one year.

If a student cancels out of a seminar after having received a digital and/or hard-copy of that seminar's manual, and elects to apply their tuition credit to a seminar *other* than the one for which they cancelled out, their tuition credit will be reduced by the value (\$425.00 USD) of the course manual for the seminar out of which they cancelled.

Regarding seminar room & board, our refund policy is dependent on the chosen venue's cancellation policy; if the venue should issue a refund, BBI will pass 100% of the venue's refund to the student. In like manner, should the venue refuse BBI a refund, in whole or in part, then said venue's policy becomes fully representative of BBI's policy.

Extended Policy Stipulation

BBI does not endorse products, methods, practices, services and/or business opportunities (hereafter referred to as “offerings”) that are extraneous to BBI’s policies, practices, and/or curriculum, regardless of whether they are vended/sponsored by our alumni, students, or by outside third parties or organizations.

This policy extends to our seminars, our biennial conference, and all other live or interactive events. And while participants in our events are not restricted by BBI from apprising their fellow participants of any offerings, regardless of whether they are or may be or may not be in conflict and/or in competition with BBI, they may in no way solicit or otherwise “pitch” their fellow attendees during said event(s). Subsequent to said events, neither offerings nor follow-up appraisals of offerings may be made or attempted by any means - telephone, e-mail, or snail-mail - without the expressed *prior* consent of their intended recipient(s).

BBI reserves the right to deny/rescind enrollment, whether first-time or continuing, to students it deems to present the risk of being or becoming disruptive of our program presentations, and/or a distraction for our students from what they have come to us to learn and experience.

Discrimination: Zero Tolerance

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Seminar Syllabus, IBE 215

Seminar Synopsis

This 4-day seminar focusses on a broad spectrum of Building Biology design principles and applications for design and building professionals. It is also a beneficial course of study for homeowners with a special interest in creating healthy environments for their family. From family residence to community design we will explore the Building Biology principles and criteria and their application to modern day North American built environments.

Topics include:

- Site selection
- Community design
- Design for Climate
- Building product evaluation
- Interior furnishings and finishes
- Renovation
- Prioritizing for health

Resources: *IBE Natural, Healthy Building Course* [IBE 101], *Prescriptions for a Healthy House*, by Paula Baker-Laporte, et al.

Seminar Objectives

1. Learn about the considerations for analyzing and choosing a healthy building site.
2. Examine the historical context for the formulation of the Building Biology recommendations for community design. Understand the challenges occurring world-wide and those specific to North America and study current exemplary movements and case studies.
3. Explore passive design strategies for each of the climate zones that maximize comfort while minimizing fossil fuel dependence.
4. Gain practical knowledge using the available tools to screen for healthy building products and learn about the limitations of these tools.
5. Discover the 16 Building Biology criteria for selecting finishes and furnishings.
6. Learn the essential priorities for building and renovating to support optimal health.

Seminar Venue (online)

Administering an abundance of caution, we have decided to move this seminar online. We are currently working on the specific details with our staff and instructors to ensure each student still receives personalized attention and learning for which we are known. The seminar will consist of prerecorded sessions accessible online, augmented by live Q & A sessions with the instructor.

Seminar Syllabus, IBE 215

Seminar Schedule

Day One, Saturday, October 9, 2021

DESIGN FOR CLIMATE

- Student introductions
- BBI Introduction
- Preview/review Building Biology-Building Physics
- Design strategies for passive climate control
- Four Climate Zones and natural building responses for health, comfort and energy efficiency
- Student Practicum
- Daily Quiz

Day Two, Sunday, October 10, 2021

COMMUNITY DESIGN, FIELD TRIP

- Day One Review
- Site Design
- Community Design
- Field trip to “The Commons”-a co-housing community.

Daily Quiz

Day Three, Monday, October 11, 2021

PRODUCT EVALUATION

- Day 2 Review
- Evaluating Toxicity MSDS, SDS
- Evaluation Tools
- BB 16 criteria for selecting interior finishes
- Daily Quiz

Day Four, Tuesday, October 12, 2021

PRODUCT EVALUATION

- Day 3 Review
- Furnishing
- Room by room: specifying health, Design decisions and material choices.
- Renovation priorities for health
- Summary
- 1:00 PM Proctored exam (2 hour time limit)

Meet Your Instructor

The author of this seminar



Paula Baker-Laporte FAIA was graduated from the University of Toronto, School of Architecture in 1978 and from The International Institute of Bau-Biologie and Ecology in 1995. In 2007, she was elected into the College of Fellows of the American Institute of Architects. She has headed a wide- ranging architectural practice based in Santa Fe, New Mexico since 1986 and now lives and works in Ashland Oregon. Since 1992, Paula has dedicated her practice to the precepts of environmentally sound and health-enhancing architecture and her firm continues to lead in the fields of healthy and natural design and design and consultation for the chemically sensitive. She was selected as one of our nation's top 10 green architects in Natural Home's July/August 2005 edition.

Paula has lectured, taught and published extensively on the topic of healthy and ecological design throughout the USA and Canada. She is the primary author of *Prescriptions for a Healthy House*, 1st,- 3rd edition, (New Society Publishers 2008) and co-author with husband Robert Laporte, of *EcoNest: Creating Sustainable Sanctuaries of Clay, Straw and Timber*, (Gibbs Smith, 2005). She is a contributing author to several other books.

Together, Paula and her husband Robert, have developed the EcoNest® home concept. EcoNest projects have been built throughout North America and featured in several books including *Designing your Natural Home* by David Pearson, *Green by Design* by Angela Dean, *Sustainable Residential Interiors* by Associates III, and *Space Matters* by Katherine Cox as well as nationally published magazines including *Natural Home*, *Fine Homebuilding*, *Residential Architect*, *Organic Style Magazine*, *Yoga Journal*, *Inspired House* and *Ultimate Home*. For photos of Paula's architectural designs, articles, upcoming seminars and lectures and to contact Paula please visit the website: www.econest.com