LECTURES ARE BOTH FREE AND PUBLIC INFO: ARCH.IIT.EDU
Each year student work is showcased at the IIT Architecture Open House. In addition to work from undergraduate and graduate studios, visitors view the innovative Cloud Studio, which brings together students from the various programs—B.Arch., M.Arch., M.S.Arch., M.L.A., Ph.D.—to work on projects related to the City of Chicago metropolitan area.

Cloud Studios Curator: Vedran Mimica
Cloud Studios Coordinator: Agata Siemionow

2014/2015 CLOUD STUDIOS

NEW CITY WITH ZOKA ZOLA AND DOROTHEA SCHULZ
How new technologies and scientific discoveries can be brought to the urban development and serve as a springboard to reimagine a new urban block in Chicago.

MAKING METROPOLIS 3 WITH STEVE BRUBAKER
Can three parallel poetries of place west of Chicago's Loop (Wacker Drive, the river and the railroads) be laced together into the dense, mixed-use, 24/7 metropolis they want to be?

SETTING THE STAGE WITH SUSAN CONGER-AUSTIN
Spaces for learning are proposed in partnership with two Chicago public high schools, Goodman Theater, and IIT’s Department of Mathematics and Science Education to encourage interactions and capture the local culture and desired current needs.

IN THE ZONE WITH MARTIN FELSEN
Recycled freshwater is a catalyst for attracting water-intensive industries to the water-endowed Chicago and Great Lakes region in a design strategy for the re-densification of the Rust Belt’s underutilized post-industrial landscapes.

REFORESTING THE CITY WITH CHRIS GROESBECK AND MONIKA THADHANI, SOM COLLABORATION
Redefine and improve urban livability with integrated city infrastructure while projecting future models for working urban growth in response to new programs, changes of context, and the upcoming epoch of future urbanism.

INTERROGATING SOCIAL-URBAN FACTORS ON DENSITY WITH MARTIN KLÄSCHEN, SOM COLLABORATION
Study density with a focus on social-urban problems such as segregation, mono zoning, ghettolization, migration, demography, living patterns, shared spaces, public/semi-public/private, diversity, and production.

CHICAGO WINTER ACTIVE WITH ANDREW SACHMAN
This studio investigates climatic change to develop new social, aesthetic, and economic agendas. Students consider energy as a compositional element of architecture; rethinking climate to activate civic life; reprogramming Chicago’s spaces and systems; and reconsidering snow, rain, cold, heat and humidity as natural resources.

MOBILITY WITH ROBERT BRACKEN AND ARATHI SOWDA, SOM COLLABORATION
Using Chicago as a laboratory, this studio focused on researching and developing viable mobility solutions that demonstrate value beyond simply moving people—advancing transportation infrastructure’s inherent connection to resource efficiency, demographics, and the economic systems that support it.

FARM BLOCKS—URBAN FARMING BEYOND CLICHÉS WITH WINY MAAS, ULF HACKAUF, AND BRYANT PITAK
The way we produce, distribute, consume, and discard food plays a crucial role in how our cities prepare for the future. We investigate serious proposals, realistic surfaces, and precise models, events of food production, and create a beautiful and fruitful future Chicago.

SOMEWHERE, SOMETHINGS: THE SPACE PROBLEM WITH THOMAS KEARNS
This studio leverages the “Internet of Things” and immersive media for the creation of urban games that challenge the new hybrid space of the city; simultaneously material and computational.

AMERICAN DREAMS: SUPER BLOCKS, BROAD ACRES, AND LOCAL CODES WITH MARSHALL BROWN
Students confront the persistence of the urban/suburban dichotomy through canonical theories and investigations on urban decentralization while engaging in a debate on density in urban restructuring and domestic, commercial, and industrial life.

NAIVE INTENTION WITH MCHAP.EMERGE WINNER
This studio explores the problematic boundaries between sacred and popular, massive and intimate, monumental and idealized building types: a pilgrimage place, the extended version of an architectural promenade, in the format of a zigurat.