Beaches represent some of America’s most valuable land and fragile environments. On the eastern seaboard, commercial, recreational, and resort developments alongshore have been proven unsustainable by Hurricane Irene and Superstorm Sandy. Across the country, private development, illegal and misleading signs, and hidden rights of way have made accessing Malibu’s beaches one of greater Los Angeles’s most pressing public space problems. The issues of property rights, government oversight, urban design, and community activism converge alongshore. Join the Urban Studies program for a discussion of the physical policy, social and ideological structures that impact coastal resilient design strategies and social justice activism in New Jersey and California.

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