Evidence-based design (EBD) uses credible research to make design decisions, and uses design to create research questions. A well-established method with professional accreditation, EBD is used by major design firms, industry and NGOs. EBD supports innovation and makes design more effective in achieving goals of users, clients and society. Applicable to a wide range of design problems, this lecture and discussion class uses healthcare settings as a focus to explore how to find, evaluate and synthesize evidence and use it for design.

The class is aimed at graduate students and advanced undergraduates in Architecture, Industrial Design, Systems Engineering, HCI, BME and others. Students will learn specific techniques for finding and evaluating research and will write two initial reports describing the state of the research and a final project applying this work to innovative healthcare designs that improve wellness and the quality, experience and effectiveness of care.

The class has a unique opportunity to work with clinicians, people with mild cognitive impairment and families to contribute to the Emory Georgia Tech Mild Cognitive Impairment (MCI) Program to create evidence-based designs for a therapeutic space to be opened in January 2020 and for home settings that allow people to have safe, joyful and engaged lives.

Instructors: Craig Zimring, David Cowan

Tues, Thurs 3:00-4:30