The Climate-adaptive Design (CAD) Studio is a research partnership with Cornell Landscape Architecture, Cornell Water Resources Institute, and the NYS DEC Hudson River Estuary Program to link student designers with flood-prone Hudson Riverfront communities to explore alternatives for more climate resilient and connected waterfront areas.

A stakeholder-focused approach that provides:
- Community networking and capacity building around climate adaptation issues amongst stakeholders
- Alternative strategies for climate adaptation compatible with community interests
- A process that fits into state-level funding and support structures
- Partners provide ongoing, long-term support and technical assistance

Defining a comprehensive design framework for climate adaptation that develops:
- Emerging techniques for climate adaptation that address multiple climate risks concurrently.
- A new public-academic process for community engagement to inspire climate awareness and action

Integrated Design
Comprehensive, community-driven approaches to climate adaptation.

Water System Support
- Floodable Landscapes
- Green Infrastructure

Ecosystem Support
- Landscape Connectivity
- Assisted Marsh Migration
- Resilient Planting Design

Built Environment Support
- Urban Heat Island Mitigation
- Multimodal Mobility
- Flood-Proofed Structures

Education Benefits
Climate-Adaptive design studios, offered at both the undergraduate and graduate levels, investigate climate adaptation as an opportunity to develop:
- Design skills in climate adaptation and urban ecological design
- Experience with stakeholder engagement methods
- Perspective that every project can be part of the solution for climate change.

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