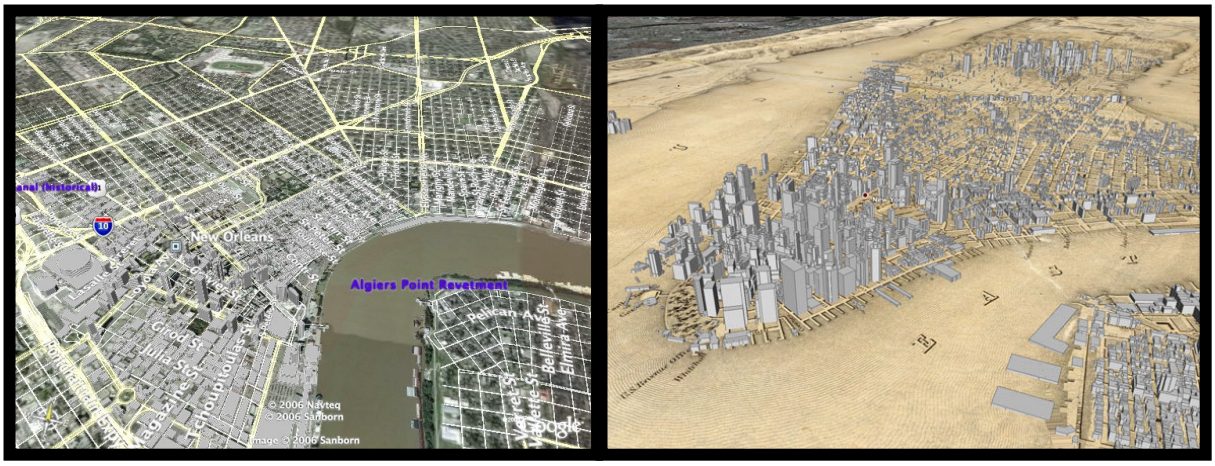

Lang in New Orleans
An Initiative to Remember and Rebuild

In response to the effects of hurricane Katrina in New Orleans, Eugene Lang College The New School for Liberal Arts has developed a series of co-curricular and extra-curricular partnerships which will allow students and faculty to engage in rebuilding efforts taking place in the Gulf Coast area.

New York/New Orleans: Teaching the Levees
Spring 08
In this course, students will explore issues surrounding New Orleans and Hurricane Katrina through the lens of the critically acclaimed film "When the Levees Broke" by Spike Lee. Students will explore the history and politics of the city prior to the disaster and analyze the rebuilding efforts which have taken place thus in an effort to understand how they are affecting the city. During Spring Break, students will go to New Orleans to do field research for final projects. Upon return to New York, they will present their projects to the College and members of the New Orleans community.

Alternative Spring Break with Habitat for Humanity
Habitat for Humanity has been a strong presence in the rebuilding effort in New Orleans. For New School students, the trip provides a wonderful opportunity to be part of a large, well organized effort during a concentrated period of time. In Spring 2007, The New School sent 26 students to Biloxi, Mississippi with Habitat for Humanity. Biloxi is an area that was as deeply affected by Katrina and The New School group was the largest group working at that time. New School students were able to complete work on at least six homes. In Spring 08, we hope to send at least double the amount of students to the Gulf area.

Summer with Operation Reach
Eugene Lang College is an institutional partner of the GulfSouth Youth Action Corps, a national network of college students who are dedicated to rebuilding youth services and opportunities in the hurricane affected areas of the Gulf coast Region. Corps members commit to a summer of service teaching middle school youth through Operation Reach. The program engages, inspires and empowers local youth through the GulfSouth Summer Youth Action Camp.

Dillard University Exchange Program
Dillard University, a Historically Black College in New Orleans, will partner with Eugene Lang College to develop an exchange for students and, in the future, faculty. Each semester, a maximum of two to three students will be able to participate in the exchange. Students will also have the opportunity to be involved in each institution's range of civic engagement opportunities.

For more information, please contact Joseph Heathcott, Faculty Director, heathcoj@newschool.edu