

Faculty of Environmental Design / University of Calgary

Senior Research Studio in Architecture
T/Th 3:00 – 6:00 PM, Barcelona Studio

EVDA 782 B03 F (0-8)

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Barcelona Studio, hours by appointment

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Introduction

The course is a research design studio in which students collaborate with design faculty in exploring projects that engage contemporary issues defining the built and natural environments. Students choose topics outlined by faculty research expertise, including sustainable design, digital design and fabrication, architecture and the contemporary city, and innovative practice. Studio to be taken with two EVDS half courses complimentary to the studio topic. Includes field trips to studio site and exemplary built work.

Objectives

1. To become familiar with the culture and spatial practices of another part of the world, especially as these relate to architecture and urbanism.
2. To gain an understanding of the ways that architecture and urban design are shaped by—and in turn shape—urban life.
3. To apply empirical observation and analysis of an unfamiliar built environment toward a design problem in that very environment.
4. To develop and refine architectural design skills for dense, multiple-use, and highly complex urban situations.
5. To resolve an architectural and urban design problem beyond the scale of a singular architectural object so as to include those of building typology, the city block, landscape, public open space, and infrastructure.

Teaching Approach

Students work on their projects individually, except in some stages in which work is carried out in groups. The course is conducted as a design studio, with studio instructors meeting with students on a regular basis to review progress, discuss matters related to the project, provide feedback, and give direction. Project content and progress is also discussed and reviewed through informal pin-up sessions, and formal project presentations (i.e. interim and final reviews). Formal reviews normally include invited reviewers from within the Faculty, the University and/or elsewhere. The Barcelona offering of EVDS 782 is conducted as a design investigation of relevant current urban issues through hypothetical projects for real sites in that city. All classes, meetings and reviews will take place in the studio situated at Makers of Barcelona (MOB) at C/ Bailén 11.

Content: Topic Areas & Detailed Class Schedule

Students will propose a solution for the architectural design of a new housing cooperative of 47 units in Barcelona. The site is Ronda Sant Pau 46, a plot of land of 814 m² with a one-story structure containing a gym that opened in 1992 and was turned into a worker's cooperative in 2012. The gym is to be included in the project to maintain the social use of the ground floor. The site borders two central neighborhoods currently undergoing gentrification: El Raval and Sant Antoni (Eixample).

The project will include a mix of uses but also a social mix: 11 units will be dedicated to emergency housing in a temporary basis. 1 unit will host the social worker of the project. The rest will be permanent housing for different income levels.

Throughout the course, students will keep a sketchbook. This should be a book with blank pages (not lined). Students must use it as a record of visual observation (sketches, diagrams, collages, or visual notes of some kind) of the course visits, lectures and their personal reflections. Content from the sketchbook, using any technique the students prefers at any time (ink, watercolor, graphite...), must be shown at all reviews.

1/ DOMESTICITY

What does domesticity mean? How do we live today? Society is diverse and evolving all the time, but do our homes evolve? We will look at how housing adapts to different types of households, at non-hierarchical spaces, and how spaces can accommodate mixed uses. With this first approach to the topic we will discuss how design can influence our behavior and enhance or discourage interaction. Students will have to analyze their own way of inhabiting and propose a program applying the previous theoretical discussions.

Deliverables:

A plan of the student house representing one week of life (reference: "Increasing Disorder in a Dining Table" by Sarah Wigglesworth and Jeremy Till)
A diagram of the program
5 sketches on domesticity

2/ URBANITY

Approximation to the site. Understanding the specific urban scale of the area. Although the piece of land belongs to the Raval (a poor area of the city since its medieval origin) it faces toward the neighbourhood of Sant Antoni, part of the rational expansion planned by Cerdà in 1860. We will pay attention to the impact that context might have on the project. Students will observe the diversity of spaces that the city offers to its inhabitants.

Deliverables:

General massing volume, relation with the context and distribution of the program
5 sketches on urbanity of the area
Scale model of the area (group project)

3/ SUSTAINABILITY

We will look at how projects might respond to social and ecological sustainability, including strategies for saving and producing energy and resources, as well as how to include inhabitants in the design, through participation, appropriation and customization. We will reflect on the use of space, from the *existenzminimum* to do "more with less" (Lacaton&Vassal) and "less is enough" (Pier Aurelio).

Deliverables:

First layout of the project
5 sketches of references and reflections on the subject of sustainability

4/ MATERIALITY

The structural system will be developed in order to view the project from another perspective. Students will have to define some construction details of the project and revise how those choices affect their project.

Deliverables:

Construction details and basic definition of the structural system
Revision of the layout
5 sketches on materiality

5/ GLOBALITY (final presentation)

The project will be presented as a whole, from the relation with the context, the response to the program, the constructive decisions, and the inner coherence.

Deliverables:

A4 booklet of project (landscape orientation), printed and bound, and PDF file

PROJECT PHASES

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|-----------------------|---|
| 1. Domesticity | Review I Thursday 20 September 15:00 |
| 2. Urbanity | Review II Tuesday 9 October 15:00 |
| 3. Sustainability | Mid-Term Review III Thursday 25 October 15:00 |
| 4. Materiality | Review IV Thursday 15 November 15:00 |
| 5. Final Presentation | Final Review V Thursday 29 November 10:00 |
| 6. Documentation | Hand in Monday 5 December 12:00 MST |

More detailed items such as site information, programmatic requirements, methodology, and deliverables will be handed out in the form of assignment sheets at the outset of each stage.

Means of Evaluation

Evaluation is based on the assignments to be completed during the term. Each assignment will be graded for both content and presentation. Most of the assignments are individual work. Assignment 6 documents the work of the semester in an 8.5x11 PDF publication that will contain graphic and written descriptions of the minor and major design projects as well as a written critical reflection on the research work. Graphic standard for the publication and further details on the critical reflection will be provided during the term. Students will be expected to complete each of the course assignments. There will be no final exam. Students must obtain an overall passing grade to pass this course, however, if a student fails any phase of the course worth 30% or more they will fail the course.

Assignment 1:	10%
Assignment 2:	10%
Assignment 3:	30%
Assignment 4:	10%
Assignment 5:	35%
<u>Assignment 6:</u>	<u>5%</u>
Total:	100%

Course Session Schedule

1	Tuesday	04 Sep	Program Introduction. Studio Course Outline distribution. Organize studio workspace.
2	Thursday	06 Sep	Lecture on domesticity by Cristina Gamboa (Lacol), and tour of La Borda Housing Cooperative construction site.
3	Thursday	13 Sep	Work in Studio / Desk Crits
4	Tuesday	18 Sep	Work in Studio / Desk Crits
5	Thursday	20 Sep	Review I
6	Tuesday	25 Sep	Sketchcrawl in Sant Antoni with Victor Swansky / Site visit
7	Thursday	27 Sep	Work in Studio / Desk Crits
8	Tuesday	02 Oct	Work in Studio / Desk Crits
9	Thursday	04 Oct	Work in Studio / Desk Crits
10	Tuesday	09 Oct	Review II
11	Thursday	11 Oct	Lecture on sustainability by Luca Volpi (Societat Orgànica)
12	Tuesday	16 Oct	Work in Studio / Desk Crits
13	Thursday	18 Oct	Work in Studio / Desk Crits
14	Tuesday	23 Oct	Work in Studio / Desk Crits
15	Thursday	25 Oct	Mid-Term Review III
16	Tuesday	06 Nov	Lecture TBA
17	Thursday	08 Nov	Work in Studio / Desk Crits
18	Tuesday	13 Nov	Work in Studio / Desk Crits
19	Thursday	15 Nov	Review IV
20	Tuesday	20 Nov	Work in Studio / Desk Crits
21	Thursday	22 Nov	Work in Studio / Desk Crits
22	Tuesday	27 Nov	Work in Studio / Desk Crits
23 24	Thursday	29 Nov	Final Review V

Grading Scale

Faculty shall use the following methods for reporting grades and for determining final grades. Final grades shall be reported as letter grades, with the grade point value as per column 2. Final grades shall be calculated according to the 4-point range in column 3.

Should faculty members evaluate any individual exams or assignments by percentage grades, the equivalents shown in column 4 shall be used.

Students must be informed of the method of calculation, and should be able to, from the grades provided by the instructor, determine their standing.

Final grades will be reported as letter grades, with the final grade calculated according to the 4-point range.

Assignments 1-6 will be evaluated by percentage grades, with their letter grade equivalents as shown.

Grade	Grade Point Value	4-Point Range	Percent	Description
A+	4.00	4.00	95-100	Outstanding - evaluated by instructor
A	4.00	3.85-4.00	90-94.99	Excellent - superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of the subject matter
A-	3.70	3.50-3.84	85-89.99	Very good performance
B+	3.30	3.15-3.49	80-84.99	Good performance
B	3.00	2.85-3.14	75-79.99	Satisfactory performance
B-	2.70	2.50-2.84	70-74.99	Minimum pass for students in the Faculty of Graduate Studies
C+	2.30	2.15-2.49	65-69.99	All final grades below B- are indicative of failure at the graduate level and cannot be counted toward Faculty of Graduate Studies course requirements.
C	2.00	1.85-2.14	60-64.99	
C-	1.70	1.50-1.84	55-59.99	
D+	1.30	1.15-1.49	50-54.99	
D	1.00	0.50-1.14	45-49.99	
F	0.00	0-0.49	0-44.99	

Notes:

- A student who receives a "C+" or lower in any one course will be required to withdraw regardless of their grade point average (GPA) unless the program recommends otherwise. If the program permits the student to retake a failed course, the second grade will replace the initial grade in the calculation of the GPA, and both grades will appear on the transcript.

Students are expected to complete all course assignments on time. A student who feels that a piece of graded term work (term paper, essay, test, etc.) has been unfairly graded may have the paper re-graded. The student shall discuss the work with the instructor within **fifteen days** of being notified about the mark or of the item's return to the class. More information can be found in the Graduate Calendar:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/grad/current/gs-o.html>

Readings (Recommended)

- Joan Busquets, Barcelona: *The Urban Construction of a Compact City* (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University, 2002)
- Jae Sung Chon and Kent Mundle, eds., *House Us* (Winnipeg: OCDI Press, 2018)
- Manuel Gausa, Marta Cervelló, Maurici Pla, Ricardo Devesa, *Barcelona Modern Architecture Guide 1860 – 2013* (Barcelona: ACTAR, 2015)
- Manuel Gausa, *Housing: New Alternatives, New Systems* (Barcelona: ACTAR, 1998)
- Gustau Gili Galfetti, *Model Apartments: Experimental Domestic Cells* (Barcelona: GG, 1998)
- Oliver Heckmann and Friederike Schneider, *Floor Plan Manual: Housing* 5th edn (Basel: Birkhäuser, 2017)
- Robert Hughes, *Barcelona* (New York: Vintage Books, 1993)
- Tim Marshall, ed. *Transforming Barcelona* (London: Routledge, 2004)
- Maurici Pla, *Catalonia: A Guide to Modern Architecture 1880-2007* (Barcelona: COAC, 2008)
- Estanislau Roca, Inés Aquilué & Renata Gomes, *Walking the City: Barcelona as an Urban Experience* (Barcelona: Universitat de Barcelona, 2015)
- Peter G. Rowe, *Building Barcelona: A Second Renaixença* (Barcelona: ACTAR, 2006)
- Manuel de Solà-Morales, *10 Lessons on Barcelona* (Barcelona: ACTAR, 2008)
- Arturo Soria i Puig, ed. Cerdà: *The Five Bases of the General Theory of Urbanization* (Madrid: Electa España, 1999)
- "Agenda 21, the Possible Future", *Barcelona Mediterranean Metropolis #59*
- "Sustainability and New Energies", *Barcelona Mediterranean Metropolis #67*
- Collective Housing Atlas collectivehousingatlas.net

CACB Student Performance Criteria (for architecture courses only):

Example: "The following CACB Student Performance Criteria will be covered in this course at a primary level (other criteria will be covered at a secondary level): A2: Design Skills; A4: Program Analysis; A5: Site Context and Design; C3: Structural Systems; D1: Comprehensive Design."

(see NEW CACB Conditions and Terms for Accreditation)

Notes:

1. Written work, term assignments and other course related work may only be submitted by e-mail if prior permission to do so has been obtained from the course instructor. Submissions must come from an official University of Calgary (ucalgary) email account.
2. Academic Accommodations. Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfil requirements for a graduate degree, based on a protected ground other than disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to their Instructor or the designated contact person in EVDS, Jennifer Taillefer (jtallefer@ucalgary.ca). Students who require an accommodation unrelated to their coursework or the requirements for a graduate degree, based on a protected ground other than disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the Vice-Provost (Student Experience). For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/
3. Plagiarism - Plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done expressly for that particular course when, in fact, it is not. Most commonly plagiarism exists when:(a) the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for

one's own in an examination or test), (b) parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author, (c) the whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source, and/or, (d) a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved. While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted. Plagiarism is an extremely serious academic offence. It is recognized that clause (d) does not prevent a graduate student incorporating work previously done by him or her in a thesis. Any suspicion of plagiarism will be reported to the Dean, and dealt with as per the regulations in the University of Calgary Graduate Calendar.

4. Appeals: If a student has a concern about the course, academic matter, or a grade that they have been assigned, they must first communicate this concern with the instructor. If the concern cannot be resolved with the instructor, the student can proceed with an academic appeal, which normally begins with the Faculty:
<http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds/appeals>
5. Information regarding the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act
(<https://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip>)
6. Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points
(<http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>)
7. Safewalk information (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>)
8. Contact Info for: Student Union (<https://www.su.ucalgary.ca/contact/>); Graduate Student representative (<https://gsa.ucalgary.ca/about-the-gsa/gsa-executive-board/>) Student Union Wellness Centre: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/>; Library Resources: <http://library.ucalgary.ca/> and Student Ombudsman's Office (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/ombuds/>).