Senior Research Studio in Architecture EVDA 782 B03 F (0-16)
Barcelona Studio: Culture and the City Fall 2012

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Primary Instructor: Rafael Gómez-Moriana

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Secondary Instructors: Judith Leclerc

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Course Schedule: Please refer to Program Calendar (annex 1) as well as

each studio instructor's Project Outline as meeting times

vary.

Introduction

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.

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 experience and understand the dynamics of working in a group situation to develop a common architectural response.
- 6. 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 in groups. The course is conducted as a design studio, with studio instructors meeting with group members 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 regular 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. Projects are worked on in groups of three students, each group working on a different site and/or program. All classes, meetings and reviews will take place in the studio seminar space situated at La Nau Ivanow (C. Hondures 28-30) unless indicated otherwise by your instructor.

Content: Topic Areas

STUDIO THEME: Culture and the City

A town or city, as a place of human concentration, is and has always been a place where "culture" occurs. But more recently, as the "symbolic economy" has begun to displace the industrial one, culture has become an important urban development strategy. Far from being a "byproduct" of urban life then, culture is increasingly called upon to shape it. Architecture itself has also transformed, over the last decades, into much more of a cultural phenomenon, with exhibitions, biennales, festivals and other events increasingly becoming the object of architectural discourse.

Barcelona is a prime example of a city based on a symbolic economy: tourism, heritage, sport, fashion, advertising, publishing, architecture and design are the activities most associated with the global "Barcelona brand". This can be seen by the city's many dormant smokestacks, which have been transformed into a part of the city's heritage.

The studio will investigate this new role of culture in the city by way of three different urban development strategies in three different neighborhoods.

PROJECT PHASES

Phase 1. Context analysis, information, mapping.
Phase 2. Experimentation, alternatives, massing.
Phase 3. Design, action, making.
Phase 4, Documentation

Review 1: Friday 5 October 9:00
Review 2: Tuesday 6 November 10:00
Review 3: Friday 30 November 10:00
Hand in: December 14 10:00

Each group's studio instructor will issue a more detailed set of requirements such as site information, programmatic requirements, and process related to the particular project you will be working on.

Means of Evaluation

The course evaluation will be based on the projects to be completed during the term. Each project will be graded for both content and presentation. Phases 1-3 of the studio are entirely comprised of group project work and the grades will be assigned to each group as a whole and each student working in the group will receive the same grade. Phase 4 is an individual project to document the work of the semester in an 8.5x11 PDF publication. The document 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. There will be no final examination.

Phase 1: 20% Phase 2: 30% Phase 3: 40% Phase 4: 10% Total: 100%

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. Assignment(s) evaluated by percentage grades will be converted into letter grade equivalents as shown.

| Grade | Grade Point Value | 4-Point Range | Percent | Description |
|-------|-------------------|---------------|----------|---|
| A+ | 4.00 | 4.00 | 92.5-100 | Outstanding - evaluated by instructor |
| A | 4.00 | 3.85-4.00 | 85-92.49 | Excellent - superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of the subject matter |
| A- | 3.70 | 3.50-3.84 | 80-84.99 | Very good performance |
| B+ | 3.30 | 3.15-3.49 | 76-79.99 | Good performance |
| В | 3.00 | 2.85-3.14 | 73-75.99 | Satisfactory performance |
| B- | 2.70 | 2.50-2.84 | 70-72.99 | Minimum pass for students in the Faculty of Graduate Studies |
| C+ | 2.30 | 2.15-2.49 | 66-69.99 | All final grades below B- are indicative of failure at the graduate level and cannot be counted toward Faculty of Graduate Studies course requirements. |
| С | 2.00 | 1.85-2.14 | 63-65.99 | |
| C- | 1.70 | 1.50-1.84 | 60-62.99 | |
| D+ | 1.30 | 1.15-1.49 | 56-59.99 | |
| D | 1.00 | 0.50-1.14 | 50-55.99 | |
| F | 0.00 | 0-0.49 | 0-49.99 | |

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.

Readings

- 1. Barcelona Mediterranean Metropolis #59 "Agenda 21, the Possible Future" (Barcelona, 2002)
- 2. Barcelona Mediterranean Metropolis #67 "Sustainability and New Energies" (Barcelona, 2006)
- 3. Busquets, Joan. Barcelona: The Urban Construction of a Compact City (Boston: Harvard University, 2002)
- 4. Hughes, Robert. Barcelona (New York: Vintage Books, 1993)
- 5. Marshall, Tim, ed. Transforming Barcelona (London: Routledge, 2004)
- 6. Pla, Maurici. Catalonia: A Guide to Modern Architecture 1880-2007 (Barcelona: COAC, 2008)
- 7. Rowe, Peter G. Building Barcelona: A Second Renaixença (Barcelona: ACTAR, 2006)
- 8. Soria i Puig, Arturo, ed. Cerdà: The Five Bases of the General Theory of Urbanization (Madrid: Electa España, 1999)
- 9. Manuel de Solà-Morales: 10 Lessons
- 10. Rafael Gómez-Moriana: "Pillow Talk: Media-TIC by Cloud 9" Mark Magazine #25

CACB Student Performance Criteria:

The following CACB Student Performance Criteria will be covered in this course at a secondary level: A3: Graphic Skills; B1: Design Skills.

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. It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 220-8237. (http://www.ucalgary.ca/drc/node/46) Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course.
- 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. Information regarding the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy) and how this impacts the receipt and delivery of course material
- 5. Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points (http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints)
- 6. Safewalk information (http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk)

Contact Info for: Student Union (http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/page/affordability-accessibility/contact); Graduate Student representative (http://www.ucalgary.ca/gsa/) and Student Ombudsman's Office