

Course guide

210770 - TAC - Contemporary Architectural Topics

Last modified: 16/07/2024

Unit in charge: Barcelona School of Architecture

Teaching unit: 756 - THATC - Department of History and Theory of Architecture and Communication Techniques.

Degree: MASTER'S DEGREE IN ADVANCED STUDIES IN ARCHITECTURE-BARCELONA (Syllabus 2015). (Optional subject).

MASTER'S DEGREE IN ARCHITECTURE (Syllabus 2015). (Optional subject).

Academic year: 2024

ECTS Credits: 5.0

Languages: English

LECTURER

Coordinating lecturer: RUBÉN NAVARRO GONZÁLEZ

Others: Primer quadrimestre:
RUBÉN NAVARRO GONZÁLEZ - CP1

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

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LEARNING OBJECTIVES OF THE SUBJECT

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STUDY LOAD

Type	Hours	Percentage
Self study	87,5	70.00
Hours large group	37,5	30.00

Total learning time: 125 h

CONTENTS

Contemporary Architecture Issues

Description:

The structure of the course is organized in three parts delivered in a sequential order, to enable students to find guidance, as well as theoretical and instrumental tools, to complete their master research.

This course will explore as well the basic elements of any investigation by means of three different, but complementary, approximations: the methodological steps and tools to develop it, the exemplary researches done by other relevant authors, and the mentoring of their own thesis by the professor of the course as well as other professors of the MBArch, the Director of the Fundació Mies van der Rohe, along with Coordinator of the Mies van der Rohe Award : European Union Prize for Contemporary Architecture, and others invited researchers.

The program will consist on three kinds of activities during the course:

- 1/ Master Lessons about how do research working; by Ricardo Devesa.
- 2/ Lectures as exemplify some of the best investigations given by external researchers.
- 3/ Mentoring program for think and develop the master research of each student, followed by the directors of the course and some guest from the Mies van der Rohe Award as well as from MBArch.

The contents of each part will be coordinated in order to the students could receive first a methodological frame, later an example of different protagonists of European Union Prize for Contemporary Architecture, and some other invited researchers or professors, and finally, the students will be able to expose, correct and improve their personal research during all the course. In addition, some external lectures to be held as well, will be suggested to attend.

The master lessons will be organized as follow:

1. How to choose your topic: Aims of any kind of investigation.
2. Research methodologies.
3. Database where compile documents I.
4. How to read critically.
5. How to analyse and evaluate architecture objects.
6. Writing and telling.
7. Communicating, editing and disseminating the research.

The lectures will be done by experts on these five frameworks:

1. Cultural and political
2. Urban and planning
3. Territorial
4. Architectural
5. Mies van der Rohe Award : European Union Prize for Contemporary Architecture

Specific objectives:

The course aim is to establish some methodological and theoretical principles to sustain the academic research production generated from database of the Mies van der Rohe Award : European Union Prize for Contemporary Architecture.

The academic aims are:

1. To know the complexity of the different phases of the whole process of an academic investigation.
2. To analyze critically projects, buildings, texts and any other documents.
3. To develop analytical judgments and reasons of value during the investigations.
4. To improve the writing of academic texts.
5. To know how to extract a few theoretical principles as a conclusion in any kind of research.

The transverse competences that the students have to achieve:

1. To promote critical thought.
2. To develop skills by means of written, oral and graphical communication.



3. To obtain an aptitude to find out and manipulate all kind of documentation for an investigation: bibliographical, visual and audio-visual.

Full-or-part-time: 125h

Theory classes: 15h

Laboratory classes: 30h

Self study : 80h

GRADING SYSTEM

Continuous evaluation (%) Final Evaluation (%)

SE03 Works and reports 80 80

SE06 Public and oral presentation in class 20 20

Public presentation on classroom: Advances on the researches will be valued, as well as the oral, graphical and written communication.

The final research work will be valued by its relevancy of the contents, by the relationships find out from the analyzed projects and buildings, as well as for the theoretical contribution.

EVALUATION SYSTEM

Continuous assessment

Continuous assessment will be based on the work carried out by the student during the academic year, through the submission of assignments or the performance of written and/or oral tests, according to the criteria and timetable established.

Final assessment

If the continuous assessment is not positive, a second assessment may be carried out, which will consist of a final overall test in the established methodology according to the criteria of the lecturer in charge (written or oral test and/or submission of assignments).

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Basic:

- Constructing Europe: 25 years of architecture: European Union Prize for Contemporary Architecture, Mies van der Rohe Award. Barcelona: Fundació Mies van der Rohe, 2013. ISBN 9788493690168.
- Tzonis, A. Architecture in Europe: memory and invention since 1968. . London: Thames & Hudson, 1992. ISBN 0500341230.
- Cohen, Jean-L. Scenes of the world to come: European architecture and the American challenge: 1893-1960. Paris: Flammarion, 1995. ISBN 2080135767.
- Ibelings, H. European Architecture since 1890. Amsterdam: Sun, 2011.
- Atlas: arquitecturas del siglo XXI: Europa. Bilbao: Fundación BBVA, 2012. ISBN 9788492937400.

Complementary:

- McLachlan, E. Euroscan: database of modern European buildings. Oxford: Butterworth Heinemann, 1997. ISBN 0750637390.

RESOURCES

Other resources:

Fundació Mies

<http://miesbcn.com/ca/projectes/> />Please, see all the catalogs published by the Mies van der Rohe Foundation for the EU Mies Award every two years.