210770 - TAC - Contemporary Architectural Issues

**Coordinating unit:** 210 - ETSAB - Barcelona School of Architecture

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

**Academic year:** 2018

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

**ECTS credits:** 5

**Teaching languages:** English

### Teaching staff

**Coordinator:** CELIA MARÍN VEGA

### Teaching methodology

Go to Spanish or Catalan version

### Learning objectives of the subject

Go to Spanish or Catalan version

### Study load

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Total learning time:</strong> 125h</th>
<th>Hours large group: 15h</th>
<th>12.00%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hours medium group: 0h</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hours small group: 30h</td>
<td>24.00%</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Guided activities: 0h</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Self study: 80h</td>
<td>64.00%</td>
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</table>
Content
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title English</th>
<th>Learning time: 125h</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Theory classes: 15h</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Laboratory classes: 30h</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Self study: 80h</td>
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**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 professor of the MBArch and 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 some other 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 gest 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 be hold as well, will be suggested to attentand.

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 analyses and evaluate architecture objects.
6. Writing and telling.
7. Communicating, editing and disseminating the research.

The lectures will 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.

### Qualification system

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Continuous evaluation (%)</th>
<th>Final Evaluation (%)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SE03 Works and reports</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SE06 Public and oral presentation in class</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.
Bibliography

Basic:


Ibelings, H. European Architecture since 1890. Amsterdam: Sun, 2011.


Complementary:

All the catalogs published by the Mies van der Rohe Foundation for the prize.


Others resources: