Course Code | Course Title | ECTS Credits
---|---|---
ARCH-512 | Critical Practice | 10

Department | Semester | Prerequisites
---|---|---
Architecture | Fall | None

Type of Course | Field | Language of Instruction
---|---|---
Required | MA Architecture | English

Level of Course | Year of Study | Lecturer
---|---|---
2nd cycle | 1st | Eleonore Zippelius

Mode of Delivery | Work Placement | Co-requisites
---|---|---
Face – to - face | N/A | None

Objectives of the Course:
- To research and study the intersection of design and society, politics, economics, culture and environment
- To cross disciplinary boundaries and develop a trans-disciplinary, holistic approach
- To challenge the conventions of design practice and reevaluate and rework the tenets of sustainability thinking
- To foster creative, process based thinking and action
- To increase the agency of design and other disciplines
- To rethink and expand the role of designers outwards

Learning Outcomes:
After completion of the course students are expected to be able to:
- to critically question economic and political change, technological innovation and social and cultural transformation
- to understand design within a wider and more complex set of dynamics of processes and networks
- to demonstrate knowledge of the concepts, values, and practices of other disciplines
- to develop constructive and transformative concepts
- to apply an inquiry-based approach to learning and knowledge production

Course Contents:
1. Charles Jencks theory of evolution: the evolutionary tree
2. Times of constant change, innovation and transformation
3. Architecture as interface
4. Scarcity and austerity (politics, economy and environmental ressources)
5. Globalising forces and architecture by none architects
6. Branding, mass culture, mass production and the ruling taste
7. Power, culture, and collective identities
8. Critical regionalism, deconstruction and projective practices
9. Oxymorons and the reconciliation of seemingly opposed forces (Natural Capitalism)
10. Eco-system approach: Homeostasis, feedback loops and resilience

Learning Activities and Teaching Methods:
Lectures, guest lectures, workshops, group discussions

Assessment Methods:
Assignments based on case studies and literature reviews

Recommended Textbooks/Reading:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Authors</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Publisher</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>ISBN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Frampton K.</td>
<td>Towards a critical regionalism: six points for an architecture of resistance,</td>
<td>In Foster H., Postmodern Culture, Pluto Press</td>
<td>1985</td>
<td>0745300030</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name(s)</td>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Publisher/Editor</td>
<td>Year</td>
<td>ISBN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sassen S.</td>
<td>A Sociology of Globalization</td>
<td>W. W. Norton &amp; Company</td>
<td>2007</td>
<td>0393927261</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Till J.</td>
<td>Scarcity contra Austerity</td>
<td>The Design Observer Group</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>