AR-522 Difficult Double: Trouble with Classicists
Geers Kersten

Summary
This course is envisaged as a lecture series where each lecturer is invited to present his/her work through the framework of the five themes from the O.M. Ungers' book. Our aim, after two iterations of "Trouble with Classicists", remains the possibility of a design theory, beyond naiveté.

Content
**Architecture as Theme** course will be structured around five public lectures by emerging practices, as well as additional inputs to the discourse, in the format of internal lectures and debates.

Learning Outcomes
By the end of the course, the student must be able to:
- Analyze the projects presented during the lectures in the context of the general theme.
- Consider the relevance of the overall discourse in developing their design theories and skills.
- Develop an argument to support his/her own position.
- Articulate a critical stance within the general debate.
- Formulate an original hypothesis.

Transversal skills
- Give feedback (critique) in an appropriate fashion.
- Demonstrate the capacity for critical thinking

Teaching methods
Series of lectures by selected international architects, artists and theoreticians and active discussions and readings with students moderated by the professor and assistants.

Expected student activities
Students are asked to attend the lectures and actively participate in the debate. During the semester they will also need to read a given selection of texts, in order to develop a broader scope of knowledge. The exam at the end of the semester will be an oral discussion between a small group of students and the professor / assistants. Students are expected to demonstrate a critical position and original ideas concerning the subject and they will be evaluated on the basis of their arguments, rather than factual memorizing.

Assessment methods
The final grade will be assessed on the basis of the oral exam, but a considerable contribution to this mark will be the
student's activity throughout the whole semester - participation in the debates, willingness to pose questions or express opinion.

Supervision
Office hours  Yes
Assistants  Yes

Resources
Virtual desktop infrastructure (VDI)
No

Websites
• http://form.epfl.ch/page-105152-en.html