

AR-401(c)

**Studio MA1 (Geers)**

Geers Kersten

Cursus	Sem.	Type
Architecture	MA1, MA3	Opt.
Mob. AR	H	Opt.

Language of teaching	English
Credits	13
Session	Winter
Semester	Fall
Exam	During the semester
Workload	390h
Weeks	14
<b>Hours</b>	<b>6 weekly</b>
Lecture	2 weekly
Project	4 weekly
<b>Number of positions</b>	

**Remark**

Inscription faite par la section

**Summary**

This is the last semester of *Architecture Without Content*. It is time to look back. For 10 years, we investigated architecture, its tools, its power and its failures in the face of the blatant banality of everyday life. Since quite some years, architecture is no more. Still, we need to carry on.

**Content****Architecture Without Content: Epilogue**

This is the last semester of *Architecture Without Content*. It is time to look back. For 10 years, *Architecture Without Content* investigated architecture, its tools, its power and its failures in the face of the blatant banality of everyday life. Since quite some years, architecture is no more. Still, we need to carry on. *Try again. Fail again. Fail better.* There never was a clear and simple theory of/for architecture without content. We asked ourselves questions and, collectively, tried to come up with answers. These exercises in collective failure obviously have an expiry date. We believe that the expiry date of *Architecture Without Content* is now. Even more, one could say that we already passed that date a few semesters ago, without noticing. So the next semester will be one of a kind. Perhaps, in the ideal world it should not have been at all. Still, with the right attitude, any fraught situation can become an opportunity. The case of the next semester is no way different. In our last semester of *Architecture Without Content* we will thus take some time to tie up the loose ends left behind in this decade or so of work. To fill in the blanks in this still rather haphazard argument. To look back and reach forward to make a final step. In simple terms, we will use the semester to finish reporting from the world of *Architecture Without Content*. To compile missing reports, to contemplate how they should be made, to figure out a set of meta arguments. In parallel, we will design and detail a big box for the EPFL: a last and *lasting* contribution to a school that gave so much to us. This 'big box' (50x50x50m) will be the home of the (new) architecture department. The current building will thus be symbolically handed over to the engineering faculty. Our hope in this last act is to recognise that architecture is able to speak without words, perhaps demonstrating that, even without content, a discourse can be produced.

**Learning Prerequisites****Required courses**

UE N : Art et architecture: constructing the view I (Schaerer)  
 De la structure à l'ornement (Picon)  
 Visions et Utopies (Braghieri)  
 Projets métaphoriques d'Archizoom à Koolhaas (Gargiani)  
 Architecture et construction de la ville I (Gilot)

**Recommended courses**

UE N : Art et architecture: constructing the view II (Schaerer)  
Architecture et construction de la ville I et II (Gilot)  
Urbanisme en Asie (Ferrari/Graezer-Bideau)  
Caractères architecturaux et urbanismes de l'Islam. (Gachet)

**Important concepts to start the course**

- basic knowledge of English

**Teaching methods**

- lectures, workshops, practical work (individual)
- intermediate exercises and final work
- desk critiques.

**Assessment methods**

Final presentation

**Supervision**

Office hours	Yes
Assistants	Yes
Forum	No