

AR-610

**Digital minds**

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Cursus	Sem.	Type
Architecture et sciences de la ville		Opt.

Langue d'enseignement	français / anglais
Crédits	1
Session	
Examen	Exposé
Charge	30h
<b>Heures</b>	<b>16</b>
Cours	16
<b>Nombre de places</b>	

**Fréquence**

Tous les ans

**Remarque**

June 11th 2021

**Résumé**

The course deals with the role of digital culture in Architecture and Sciences of the city research. Stories of the vicissitudes, the potential for innovation and the research problems related to digital culture and technology will be at the centre of the presentations and debates.

**Contenu**

5th Rencontres de l'EDAR

The course deals with the role of digital culture in architecture and sciences of the city research. At this aim, it takes the form of an inquiry upon the role of digital culture in EDAR doctoral research. Stories of the vicissitudes, the potential for innovation and the research problems related to digital culture and technology will be at the centre of the presentations and debates that will bring together EDAR phd students and key witnesses to the digital turn in research.

A major issue for research at EPFL, the digital transition is commonly referred to in the singular, while at the same time constituting a specific aspect of the historical transition that is at work today on the climate, energy, health, and social fronts too. However, if we consider the field of architecture and sciences of the city, digitisation - understood as the transfer of knowledge from the physical world to the digital world, determining the conditions of immaterial reproduction and simulation of material processes - in fact identifies a specific discontinuity within a bundle of processes with disparate temporalities. Over the very long term, it is part of the history of calculated representation which, since the Middle Ages, has progressed in parallel with the evolution of construction and building site techniques. Over the very short term, it refers to the advent of the big data regime and artificial intelligence, impacting in very specific ways different fields of study, such as statistical sociology, territorial analysis, typological studies, history writing, or constructive experimentation.

Therefore, it seems necessary to recognise the wide variety of forms taken by digital culture in relation to EDAR research in terms of study topics, research questions or methodologies. Thus, digitisation counts in the definition of research topics relating, for example, to forms and processes of representation; project conception and design; construction; territorial analysis, modelling and simulation; and history, theory, and criticism. At the same time, it influences operational methodologies relating to investigation, corpus constitution, knowledge production, as well as data verification, archiving and accessibility. It guides the constitution of bibliographies, the system of references and the researcher's "imaginary museum". It conditions the elaboration of collection or study case systems, within which to make comparisons; it determines the choice (or arrangements) between quantitative or qualitative approaches, as well as between classification approaches - species, families, types, etc. -#, or monographic approaches as a study of a unicum. Finally, digitisation is as much an accelerator of interdisciplinarity as it is a condition for strong disciplinary specialisation.

The course will be public, corresponding to the yearly Seminar day 5th Rencontres de l'EDAR. The course will take place on June 11, 2021.

The participation of Phd students for the obtention of 1 credit ECTS will consist in two different forms:

- Oral 15 minutes## presentation: EDAR doctoral students who have already passed the candidacy exam are invited to submit a presentation proposal by means of a 5,000 to 7,500 signs abstract, accompanied by a critical bibliography where the main bibliographical references, relating to relevant aspects of digitisation and digital culture, will be briefly commented on. The deadline for submission (addressed to elena.cogatolanza@epfl.ch) is 3 May 2021.
- Submission of a written paper after the seminar: all Phd students who do not present an oral contribution, are invited to attend the whole seminar and submit a term paper of 10,000 signs. The paper will deal with a peculiar problematic raised during the seminar and related to to the phd student's ongoing research project; it will be completed by a critical bibliography where the main bibliographical references, relating to relevant aspects of digitisation and digital culture, will be briefly commented on.

### **Méthode d'évaluation**

Also Term Paper.