

AR-301(m)

Studio BA5 (Gay and Menzel)

Gay Menzel Catherine Odile, Menzel Götz

Cursus	Sem.	Type
Architecture	BA5	Obl.
HES - AR	H	Obl.
Mob. AR	H	Opt.

Language of teaching	English
Credits	10
Withdrawal	Unauthorized
Session	Winter
Semester	Fall
Exam	During the semester
Workload	300h
Weeks	14
Hours	6 weekly
Courses	2 weekly
Project	4 weekly
Number of positions	
It is not allowed to withdraw from this subject after the registration deadline.	

Remark

Inscription faite par la section

Summary

The studio is focused on contextual imaginary. Developing narratives, inspired both from the site and from the student's imagination leads to a theme sustaining the project. The narrative helps the student to intervene in the complexity of a given context.

Content**Urban Legends - Città Ticino**

The Gay Menzel Studio addresses the complexity of the context as a source of development of a narrative linked to the site itself. This highlighting tool reveals the inherent qualities of the place and integrates projections or personal aspirations into it, with the broad ambition of reconnection to the environment. Students will imagine housing projects in peripheral zones of the Città Ticino.

The making of sense

In this time of crisis, and in the post-confinement, a reassessment of our way of life is essential. The quality of our relationship with nature, with the territory, with our way of living is questioned. Maybe a solution would be "resonance", of which the German sociologist Hartmut Rosa speaks, proposing us to redefine our relationship with the world, to create what he calls the axes of resonance?

Unveiling narratives

The development of a project strategy is addressed through the narrative, as a crystallization of a specific site vision (understanding) and personal imagination. How does the architect, as a person, as a user, influences and generates anchor points to make places legible, porous and appropriable in order to give them meaning?

At the passage

The town of Bellinzona in the Ticino Valley extends from one side of the valley to the other, controlling an important transalpine crossing. It is situated in-between mountains and traffic routes, between the opening of the Ticino plain towards the lake Maggiore, the strategic rock of the castle of Bellinzona and the valleys which leads to San Gottardo and San Bernardino pass.

Its position arises from this landscape with a strong topography, where historic passages, infrastructures and cultural community have always coexisted. The semester focuses on housing in the its peripheral zones, in relation to the southern great Alpine landscape.

Keywords

Urban Legends, narrative, contextual imaginaryism, narrative, Alps, territorial scale, detail, Alps, crossroad, housing,

detail, evocation, double exposure, making of sense, reconnection, collective, social, periphery, agriculture, industry, productive landscape, infrastructure, ecology, sustainability, film, models, words.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course, the student must be able to:

- Develop and verbalise own needs
- Develop a narrative from contextual elements and personal imagination
- Use a narrative as main guideline through all scales of the project
- Analyze a site with a survey and documentation
- Define a desire through the project and make transmittable to others
- Present the project adequately
- Elaborate a coherent discourse
- Demonstrate consistency throughout the project

Transversal skills

- Continue to work through difficulties or initial failure to find optimal solutions.
- Manage priorities.
- Take feedback (critique) and respond in an appropriate manner.
- Access and evaluate appropriate sources of information.
- Use a work methodology appropriate to the task.

Teaching methods

The semester will start with the site visit. Groups of two or three students will receive one of three sites. A double exposure image will be required at the beginning, be reconsidered and adapted through the whole design process. Films will be produced in order to illustrate evocative thought crystallized to project ideas. Series of selected filmography will be projected during the semester. Illustrations of different descending scales will be produced until a very detail during the semester.

Assessment methods

During intermediate and final reviews, a guest jury will be appointed.

Table critics will take place at the Studio GayMenzel.

Continuous control, 100%

Supervision

Office hours	Yes
Assistants	Yes
Forum	No

Resources

Notes/Handbook

Each student will receive a course booklet.