

AR-402(ai)

Studio MA2 (Shahbazi)

Shahbazi Shirana

Cursus	Sem.	Type
Architecture	MA2, MA4	Obl.
Mob. AR	E	Opt.

Language of teaching	English
Credits	13
Withdrawal	Unauthorized
Session	Summer
Semester	Spring
Exam	During the semester
Workload	390h
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 of Shirana Shahbazi asks how we can imagine, reflect and depict the intangible qualities of the city and spaces. It is an attempt to shift the centre of attention and rethink value. We will create images of the in-between and its hidden qualities.

Content**I A WAY OF THINKING**

The studio's methodology requires an openness towards looking and seeing, dialogue and discussion, and where the value lies in the things we do. We challenge the students to be curious and to embrace freedom without knowing what the outcome might be, which asks for commitment and experimentation. The experience of learning together is as valuable as the outcome and results.

II RECORDING THE CITY

We are interested in exploring the city and observing the spaces around us. We want to document the fragmented, incomplete and in-between; leftover spaces that are unforeseen, unplanned, unpopular and vague; spaces that offer non-normative needs/ones we are not used to or pre-conditioned by. We wish to record these spaces and their conditions.

The output will be diverse and be undertaken through various mixed media (photography/ film/ audio/ poetry). We want you to develop techniques to convey your observations and tell stories. Beyond passively observing and recording, you might re-construct/ add or remove things/ record active use (people) or absence (emptiness). Walks at night or in bad weather may reveal untold stories. The recording of the city will be developed throughout the semester as a form of continual research and will be the basis of the final work.

III VISUAL OUTCOME

We are interested in building physical fragments and elements to imagine and reflect the intangible space. Maybe it's impossible to create something complete that can remain open and undefined. Working incompletely will allow us to understand how we can construct things with an open-mindedness that allows others to complete and appropriate. Methods of taking things away or protecting what is there might be just as valuable as additions to our built environment. This might also call for a questioning and redefinition of value and quality. The fragments are not meant to last; we are interested in the experience of building as a stage for making photographs and generating a collective discussion.

IV DISCUSSIONS

We will hold a series of activities, walks and discussions to open up a space for trust and dialogue and to build a sense of community. We aim to provide a platform for the unrepresented and marginalised voices. We want to listen to voices from the boundary and step away from the spotlight.

V THE CITY - OUR SUBJECT AND OUR LABORATORY

Our investigations, research, discussions and reviews will be held within and outside the studio. The city is our subject and our laboratory. We wish to use and appropriate the spaces around us as a form of practice through walking and observing as research, developing techniques and ideas on site and holding crits/discussions in appropriated environments.

VI TEAM

Professor:

- Shirana Shahbazi

Assistants:

- TBC

Workshops/lectures:

- Tirdad Zolghadr (Author/ Curator)
- Etienne Messikommer (Jack of all trades, master of none)
- Querformat (ETH, Zurich)
- Li Tavor (Architect/ Sound Artist)

Keywords

- Fragmentation
- Inbetween
- Vagueness
- Non-normative needs
- Marginalised
- Dynamics of power
- Resilience
- Vulnerability

Learning Outcomes

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

- 1 Question and manipulate common concepts of value
- 2 Demonstrate strategies to moderate a discussion and cultivate a dialogue
- 3 Develop from the perspective of the non-normative needs
- 4 Create visuals beyond architectural models and plans
- 5 Visualize in a hybrid form

Assessment methods

- 33% Engagement, cooperation & participation in the group and in discussions
- 33% Midterm & final critiques, presentation & oral discourse
- 33% Quality and complexity of the visual output

Resources

Bibliography

- Christopher Wool, East Broadway Breakdown, 2003
- Barbara Kasten, Constructs, 1985
- Barbara Kasten, Stages, 2015
- Barbara Kasten, 1986-1990, 1991
- Volker Heinze, Ahnung, 1987
- Richard Wentworth, Making Do and Getting by, 2016
- Tirdad Zolghadr, REALTY: Beyond the Traditional Blueprints of Art & Gentrification, 2022

Websites

- <http://shiranashahbazi.com>
- <http://peterkilchmann.com/artists/shirana-shahbazi>