

AR-402(ae)

Studio MA2 (Pantazis et Rentzou)

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

Contact language	English
Credits	13
Withdrawal Session	Unauthorized Summer
Semester Exam	Spring During the semester
Workload	390h
Weeks	14
Hours	6 weekly
Lecture	2 weekly
Project	4 weekly
Number of positions	

Remark

Inscription faite par la section

Summary

In the center of Athens, the presence of water has been completely eradicated. With record- high global temperatures and reduced rainfalls, it is now urgent to bring water back, creating new types of quality public spaces for citizens, promoting innovative natural resource management models.

Content

Athens has lost its relation to water. Part of a general absence of any conscious, let alone designed, integration of nature in the contemporary city, the presence of water has been completely eradicated from the city center and its urban experience; an ironic fact considering that in Ancient times Athens was covered by a network of rivers that were sacred. Athenians considered water to be a supreme good, an inextricable part of daily routine with cisterns at the center of the Academies. The rivers of Athens were built upon and turned into highways in the years of intense construction. There are extremely few public or open pools. There are not even any drinking fountains on streets or public spaces. Water has always been a significant part of the construction and identity of cities worldwide, whether with an emphasis on program (leisure), the creation of icons or functionality (aqueducts). Pools have always been invaluable social places for gathering, cooling, and having fun.

It is difficult to explain why and how the city erased water from its daily public life so dramatically, especially considering the climate change causing record-high global temperatures and life-threatening heat waves that are going to be longer and more frequent, a condition coupled with reduced rainfalls.

It is therefore urgent to bring back the presence and public use of water in the city, creating new types of quality public spaces for citizens closer to nature, in turn creating a more efficient and resilient city with more walking and biking and less motorized transport and a more enjoyable urban life and drought conditions.

The studio will study examples of water projects in the scale of the city, and types of public open pools in relation to context and program.

Keywords

Athens, Water, Ressources, Typology, Public space, infrastructure, urban nature

Learning Outcomes

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

- Study historical and contemporary architectures with water
- Invent and imagine new water-related architectures.
- Conduct Draw plans and construct models
- Investigate Adopt and transform given sites and architectures
- Draw Reflect on the political and social meaning of water
- Transcribe
- Interpret
- Explore

Teaching methods

1. Analyze a water project from the history of cities.
2. Invent a new public water project for Athens.
3. Create a new type of public space in relation to water, promoting innovative natural resource management models.

Assessment methods

Weekly Table critics

Intermediate and final reviews with guests juries

Supervision

Assistants	Yes
Others	Teaching Assistant : Grégory dos Santos

Resources

Virtual desktop infrastructure (VDI)

No

Websites

- <http://www.pointsupreme.com>