

AR-301(aq)

Studio BA5 (Bedir)

Bedir Merve

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

Language of teaching	English
Credits	12
Withdrawal	Unauthorized
Session	Winter
Semester	Fall
Exam	During the semester
Workload	360h
Weeks	14
Hours	6 weekly
Lecture	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

This studio will work with designing interventions, programs, spaces, and modes of collectivity and instituting for the inhabitation of human and more than human agencies in sites across Switzerland, where water cycles intersect with borders, infrastructure, industry.

Content

This studio deals with sites and issues around social and ecological inequalities, border regimes and special administrative zones, sites of resource management and climate change, extraction and toxicity, all of which impact landscapes and livelihoods. We aim for designing interventions, programs, spaces, and modes of collectivity and instituting for the inhabitation of human and more than human agencies in sites across Switzerland, where water cycles intersect with borders, infrastructure, and industry, where sites have been broken.

This studio addresses designing with social and planetary commons, bringing together transdisciplinary (and non-disciplinary) perspectives on infrastructure and agency. These perspectives include technology, spatial justice, repair, cultural and environmental studies, and further. The studio instrumentalizes and analyses methodologies such as media ecology, landscape theory, more than human anthropology, patchwork ethnography, social and geo design. This studio takes architecture as a critical and creative spatial practice, as a trans-scalar and relational process that works with the different agencies of a site. These agencies include social, natural, material, technological, and (geo)political. We will build on the urgency and desire for a plurality of commons (social, technological, planetary) for the post-anthropocene. We will build on design attitudes that go beyond solutions, imagining emancipatory and just modes of inhabiting, acknowledging plurality and interdependence across scales.

Keywords

Infrastructure, agency, commons, repair, collective intelligence

Learning Outcomes

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

- Investigate Research a selected site collectively, with a self-developed attitude, across the different scales that

produce that site.

- Identify Identify issues and possible points of intervention.
- Synthesize Synthesise the group work into visions and ideas for a site.
- Design Design with commons towards repairing the social and ecological context.
- Interpret Expand the use of tools, methods and technologies from other fields into architecture.
- Propose Propose innovative ways of communicating design concepts.
- Assess / Evaluate Assess/evaluate the ways in which built environment respond to and shape cultural and environmental values. Examine the broad implications of architecture and the city on natural and built environments, both situated and planetary.
- Recognize Recognize architecture as an ongoing process, not as a product.

Teaching methods

Teaching methods

Field work / witnessing and engagement: Multiscalar drawings, collage and assemblage, patchwork, weaving, model making, video making (landscape theory), mixed media, poetry, performance

Where is here / where is there: How to deal with a site that we are not directly embedded in: Zooming in to molecular scale, zooming out to cosmos scale, patchwork ethnography

Dealing with black boxes of information: Dissecting, repeating, embracing, more than human anthropology

Intensive workshops: Learning with case studies, collective reading sessions, presentations of self-selected projects, discussions, lectures

Site visit / trips: First week's encounter will take the studio along sites around Lausanne. Fall semester will follow sites along the Rhône, and the Spring semester will follow the Rhine. Costs of these trips will be incurred by the students.

Methods of review:

Rehearsals: Preparing for midterm and final presentations

Peer reviews: Studio participants reviewing each other's work

Focused reviews: 1-1 reviews with participants, focused on specific questions

Expected student activities

Collaborations across teams.

Peer reviewing each other's work.

Self-organizing site visits.

Preparing collective exhibition with projects.

Assessment methods

Assessment is based on both individual and collaborative work and considers each participant's evolution and progress throughout the term. Evaluation is based on the following criteria.

Knowledge: Complexity, expand/depth and engagement of critical (design) research and analysis.

Vision: Development of vision based on the understanding of context, research synthesis informing design, development of attitude and position towards design project.

Proposition: Maturity of the project, experimenting and performative evaluation of possibilities in relation to parameters and priorities.

Process: Commitment to the studio throughout the semester, collaboration in teamwork.

Communication: Presentation and communication, articulation of criticality, communication of intention, context, arguments to the constituents.

Supervision

Office hours Yes

Assistants Yes

Resources

Moodle Link

- https://go.epfl.ch/AR-301_aq