

AR-402(aq)

Studio MA2 (Bedir)

Bedir Merve

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

Language of teaching	English
Credits	12
Withdrawal	Unauthorized
Session	Summer
Semester	Spring
Exam	During the semester
Workload	360h
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

This studio aims for designing interventions, programs, spaces; and proposing modes of collectivity and instituting for the inhabitation of human and more than human agencies in sites across Switzerland, where water cycles entangle with post Anthropocene landscapes.

Content

This studio aims for designing interventions, programs, spaces; and proposing modes of collectivity and instituting for the inhabitation of human and more than human agencies in sites across Switzerland, where water cycles entangle with post Anthropocene landscapes, where sites have been broken. Spring 2025 semester focuses on the Rhine, designing spaces along the river taking aspects of repair, care, and learning with the entanglements.

The studio deals with sites and issues around special administrative zones and border regimes, resource management and climate crisis, extraction and toxicity, and social and ecological inequalities, all of which relate to and impact landscapes and livelihoods. Addressing design within social, technological, and planetary commons, and bringing together transdisciplinary (and non-disciplinary) approaches on infrastructure and agency, the studio includes themes of social and ecological repair, spatial justice, and further. The studio analyses and instrumentalizes methodologies such as media ecology, landscape theory, more than human anthropology, patchwork ethnography, social and geo design. The studio takes architecture as a critical and creative spatial practice, as a trans-scalar and relational process of imagination that works with the historical, social, natural, material, technological, and (geo)political agencies of a site. We will design with attitudes that go beyond solutions, imagining just modes of inhabiting, acknowledging plurality and interdependence of agencies across scales.

Fall 2024 semester focused on designing with posthuman landscapes along the Rhône, such as Sujet and Chancy Pougny Dams, gravel extraction sites along around Lake Geneva, and the Alpine Glaciers.

Keywords

agency, commons, collective intelligence, infrastructure, repair

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

Methodology:

Landscape theory, more than human anthropology, patchwork ethnography, media ecology, social and geo design.

Methods:

Field work / witnessing and reproduction: Multiscalar drawings, assemblages, model making, video making, conversation, poetry, performance

Where is here / where is there: How to deal with a site that we are not directly embedded in: Zooming in / out to the matter and cosmos

Black boxes of information: Dissecting, repeating, embracing

Intensive engagements: Learning with case studies, conversation and exchange sessions, discussions, lectures

Workshops: Collective work mode, creating installations and assembling the project

Methods of review

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

Peer reviews: Studio participants reviewing each other's work

Rehearsals: Preparing for final presentations

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-402_aq