

AR-666

Contemporary modernity

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Cursus	Sem.	Type
Architecture and Sciences of the City		Opt.

Language of teaching	English
Credits	1
Session	
Exam	Oral presentation
Workload	30h
Hours	20
Courses	16
Exercises	4
Number of positions	

Summary

The seminar will revisit notions, works, architects, and authors of XXIth century Modernism. It will question the issue of "being contemporary" - matching the characteristics of the era you live. Learning outcomes: history of ideas, evolution of concepts, synthetic approach to research.

Content**Invited lecturers: Emmanuel Alloa, Beatriz Colomina, Hilde Heynen, Can Onaner**

The seminar «Contemporary Modernity» will take place in the frame of the 2022 Spring cycle of SCHOLARS in Transition, the EDAR yearly series of lectures.

SCHOLARS in Transition aims at giving a voice to contemporary scholars who, within their ongoing research activity, are experiencing a «transition» condition: their contribution to new and emerging research topics, and to tentative interpretations and unconventional approaches, marks the intersection of their personal research agendas, the evolution of their discipline, the public debate, and the availability of sources and data. SCHOLARS in Transition aims at raising a collective debate on the potential of scientific initiative and the responsibility of scholars in the wide fields of Architecture, Urbanism, Regional and Urban Studies.

The seminar «Contemporary Modernity» will focus on the words 'modern' and 'modernity', that have always been difficult to define. On the one hand, modernity can be associated with different periods such as the Renaissance, the Industrial Revolution or the first decades of the 20th century -## namely with forms of discontinuities in architectural concepts, forms and process. On the other hand, there is a more timeless aspect to 'being modern', as it simply means being contemporary - matching the characteristics of the era you live in.

The seminar will give us the opportunity to revisit notions, works, architects or authors of XXth century Modernism. Four scholars will present and discuss their studies in the field of modern architecture and aesthetics. How is Modernism enlightened by some seminal, recent interpretations? Is what once used to be modern completely out-dated today? Is today « modern » an historical category to be referred to a past era? Or, on the contrary, does modern still means to be contemporary? In which way do these interpretations echo our contemporary concerns about architecture and, more widely, our built environment?

By means of three public lectures (Project Room, Foyer SG), we will deal with history and criticism of architecture (Adolf Loos), concepts (Transparency), narrative (History of modern architecture).

During one working session, in continuity with the three lectures content and discussions, each phd student will make a 15## presentation on a concept, a protagonist, a text, an architectural or urban theme, through the lens of its/her/his modern/contemporary value.

Schedule: 23.02 (6pm); 14.04 (6pm); 5.05 (6pm); 18.05 (2pm).

Lectures are curated by Elena Cogato Lanza, Sila Karatas, Stéphanie Savio, Christophe Van Gerrewey.

Learning Outcomes

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

- Understand the historicity of ideas
- Compare different historical periods
- Know the evolution of concepts
- Synthesize the approach to research