

AR-809

**Capitalizing on Uncertainty**

Parascho Stefana

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

Language of teaching	English
Credits	2
Session	
Exam	Project report
Workload	60h
<b>Hours</b>	<b>48</b>
Courses	10
Exercises	10
TP	28
<b>Number of positions</b>	

**Frequency**

Only this year

**Remark**

August 31-September 5, 2026 from 9.15 to 18.00. Room: GC B3 30. Registration via <https://cap-uncertainty.epfl.ch/registration-2/>

**Summary**

SUMMER SCHOOL - Capitalizing on Uncertainty is a 6-day Summer school exploring uncertainty as a productive resource in design and fabrication through lectures, hands-on experiments, and the collaborative design and construction of a full-scale structure in a human-robot fabrication setting.

**Content**

Uncertainty is a defining condition across disciplines - from psychology and robotics to architecture and structural engineering. While often treated as a risk to be minimized, this Summer school argues that uncertainty can instead be a productive force: one that fuels creativity, resilience, and innovation. Bringing together perspectives from **architecture, robotics, and work psychology**, the program explores how uncertainty influences design thinking, fabrication processes, and collaborative work.

Over six days, teams will design and build a **1:1 timber pavilion from irregular material stock**, engaging directly with material variability, adaptive decision-making, and collaborative processes. By combining human-robot interaction, interdisciplinary insights, and experimental making, the summer school offers a unique setting to engage with uncertainty across cognitive, material, and social domains.

Schedule:

**DAY 1: CONCEPTUAL FRAMING**

**DAY 2: MODEL UNCERTAINTY**

**DAY 3: MATERIAL UNCERTAINTY**

**DAY 4: DESIGN (WITH) UNCERTAINTY**

**DAY 5: SOCIAL UNCERTAINTY**

**DAY 6: EVALUATION & REFLECTION**

Details:

**Fees:** 250 CHF (PhD), 100 CHF (Master)

**Accommodation:** Provided for participants living outside Lausanne.

**Registration:** <https://cap-uncertainty.epfl.ch/registration-2/>

**Keywords**

timber, human-robot collaboration, projection interface, material variability, adaptive fabrication, digital fabrication

**Resources**

**Websites**

- <https://cap-uncertainty.epfl.ch/contact/>

**Moodle Link**

- <https://go.epfl.ch/AR-693>