

30752 - Cultural Landscapes

Información del Plan Docente

Academic Year	2016/17
Academic center	110 - Escuela de Ingeniería y Arquitectura
Degree	470 - Bachelor's Degree in Architecture Studies
ECTS	6.0
Course	5
Period	Second semester
Subject Type	Optional
Module	---

1. Basic info

1.1. Recommendations to take this course

The Cultural Landscapes course belongs to the elective courses section in the Fifth year of the Degree of Architecture (Grado en Estudios en Arquitectura). The student who completes it gets 6 credits. It belongs to the 'Urban design and Landscape' intensification area, and it has been designed as a bilingual class, taught in both English and Spanish, as it makes part of the Spring Semester offered by the Architecture Pre-Departmental Unit (Unidad Predepartamental de Arquitectura). This course has been specially designed for students completing the last years of the Degree in Architecture (Grado de Estudios en Arquitectura), touching upon different fields of knowledge that they have already come in contact with throughout their studies and using them as a way to a) develop an in-depth study of the complex reality wherein the architect works, and b) strengthen their sensibility when intervening in environments with a specific character. The course consists of two sections, where a series of selected urban interventions will be analyzed, changing every academic year. These case studies will be typically framed within the different established categories of Cultural Landscapes: Urban, infrastructural, housing, rural, archaeological, or industrial landscapes.

1.2. Activities and key dates for the course

THEORY: Lectures by the professors, presenting the thematic sections and their corresponding recommended bibliographies. These lectures will provide with the theoretical and historical context needed to develop the students' work.

PRACTICE: Submission and presentation of 2 assigned research works by each student or student team. Those works will be developed throughout the term and will deal with the thematic sections proposed by the faculty members. There will be a mid-term and a final submission.

ACADEMIC ADVISORY: the professors will provide a continuous supervision of the works that will be presented at the end of the term.

The **dates** of mid-term and final work submissions and presentations will be determined at the beginning of the term, taking into account the specifics of the academic calendar. They can be modified, under the supervision of the Course Coordinator, in order to coordinate with the different activities and/or exam dates of other courses.

2. Initiation

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2.1. Learning outcomes that define the subject

... construct a both critical and synthetic analysis of the different works, interventions and landscapes he is required to study, identifying them and locating them within the cultural moment to which they belong.

... trace links between those works, interventions and landscapes and their context, by relating them with the cultural, geographic, social, economic, and technological systems where they were generated

... understand the basic evolutionary threads of the concept of cultural landscape, as well as the main causes of this evolution, as related with the cultural context of each historical period.

... build oral and written discourses in order to transmit the results of his/her research. The students also have to show that they know the specific terminology of the matter at hand.

... synthesize, through examples, the typological, technical, constructive, and formal characteristics that became established in the different urban interventions developed in Europe throughout the XX century.

... identificar las intervenciones estudiadas, situándolas de forma argumentada en el periodo al que pertenecen, justificando su relación con la historia del lugar en el que se construyen.

... identify these interventions, framing them within the period they belong to, justifying their connections with the history of the place where they were built.

... posicionarse de forma comprometida ante el proyecto de arquitectura y paisaje, aportando una visión crítica y fundamentada de las obras o tendencias estudiadas en la materia.

... adopt a committed position towards architectural and landscape design and provide a critical, grounded vision, of the works or tendencies studied in the course.

... understand, analyze and comment on scientific texts, as well as elaborate his/her own content, appropriately structured and explained.

... apprehend the basic work methodology for the development of a research project.

... use the specific language and terminology of architecture and landscape in an appropriate and rigorous way.

... handle specific bibliography, both in Spanish and, mainly, in English.

2.2. Introduction

In this course, the concept of "cultural Landscape" is understood within the consciousness that architecture and urban planning and design take place in complex realities, made of natural and cultural, tangible and intangible components that become part of the design project itself. Modern architecture, music, painting, and science, develop in close relationship with a cultural reality that has been produce through a process of progressive sedimentation, giving birth to different traditions. The study of architecture and urban design from a historical perspective that allows us to identify certain cultural landscapes as a key to understand and intervene in our present world is the main goal of this course. Quoting Carl O. Sauer, one of the pioneers in considering culture as an active agent in the process of configuration of a certain territory, "[t]he cultural landscape is fashioned from a natural landscape by a cultural group. Culture is the agent, the natural area is the medium, the cultural landscape is the result." Following this definition, the goal of this course for the academic year 2014-2015 will be to research and deepen into a series of urban projects. Those projects, mainly located in Europe and focused on housing, will be analyzed in relation with culturally relevant experiences that have created a significant cultural identity within the context of a certain tradition. Thus, the program designed for the course traces an itinerary through the history of the XX Century city and urban planning in Europe since the 1900s to the 1980s, using housing design as a common thread: PC.01. Garden cities (1893-1920s) PC.02. City beautiful (1893-1920s) PC.03.

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Social democracy and housing strategies 01. Red Vienna (1919-33) PC.04. Social democracy and housing strategies 02. Siedlungen in the Republic of Weimar (1919-33) PC.05. The CIAMs' modern urbanism - The Athens Charter and the Team X (1930s-60s) PC.06. Planning as ideology (1): Franco's "poblados" in Spain PC.07. Planning as ideology (2): Neo-Realism in Italy (1940s-50s) PC.08. Welfare Planning in France, The Netherlands, the Scandinavian Countries, the United Kingdom... (1945-70s) PC.09. An Experiment in Freedom (1960s) PC.10. Utopian Regulations (1920s-1960s-1970s) This historical tour aims at offering a global view of the urban fact in XX Century Europe, linking the techniques, intervention, and the very concept of the city developed in continental Europe with those generated in the Anglo-Saxon world, in line with the transnational and transversal spirit of the course.

3.Context and competences

3.1.Goals

The main purpose of this course is to provide the student with the tools needed to acquire a reflective, deep knowledge of the most relevant interventions that have taken place in the context of the building of the European cities of the XX century, associated with a certain tradition or cultural landscape.

3.2.Context and meaning of the subject in the degree

This course also aims at fostering a deeper understanding of the architect profession and the threads that link -him with- the cultural, designed and built environment where architecture is produced. As a result of this, it aims at providing the student with the tools he needs to develop architectural, urban and landscape design projects based on a rigorous and deep knowledge of the fundamentals of the discipline.

3.3.Competences

C.E. 107.OP Ability to develop architectural projects that respond to both esthetic and technical needs, based on the knowledge of the mechanics of architectural composition that guide architectural design.

C.E. 108.OP Ability to critically interpret, justify or question the architectural artifact, and the landscape interventions.

3.4.Importance of learning outcomes

1. ... adopt a committed position towards the design of the territory/in a territorial scale and provide a critical vision, informed by the knowledge of the possibilities of the collaboration between architecture, urban design and landscape. 2. ... develop architectural, urban and landscape projects from a territorial point of view, based on an ample and rigorous knowledge of the basic concepts of each discipline. 3. ... face a research project with a rigorous knowledge of the architecture of the XX century.

4.Evaluation

English The assignments will be evaluated taking into consideration the depth of the acquired knowledge, the quality of the research, the synthetic skill, the clarity of the exposition, the quality of the writing and presentation, etc. The percentages with which the final grade will be calculated are: Work-in-progress presentations in the seminar classes 40%, work dossier 60 % The evaluation of each part will be done following the criteria listed below: 1 THEORY There will be no theory exams. 2 PRACTICE WORK + DOSSIER ... Practice work development Practice work will consist of two assignments which will be progressively developed throughout the course, via periodical presentation in the seminar

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sessions. Those works will trace comparative analyses between two case studies framed within the thematic sections presented in the theory lectures. Each couple will consist of a canonic case belonging to the timeframe where the corresponding model was settled, and a more recent case that allows testing the validity and efficiency of the aforementioned type. These analyses will be developed in consecutive stages that will deal with aspects such as: territorial organization, historical-cultural environment, overall layout and urban morphology, or the analysis of the dwelling unit. Each student or student team -depending on the number of students that register in the course- will be required to develop one of these exercises and present it to the group in weekly power point installments that will be ultimately used as the basis for a final submission consisting of a 2.500-3.500 word text, a commented bibliography, and a power point presentation. The final submission for both assignments developed throughout the course will have to be formatted according to the templates and guidelines provided by the professors. They will be presented both in Spanish and English. The grading system will take into consideration the quality of the graphic presentation and the layout of the submitted document, as well as -mainly- the analytical, research, organization and synthetic skills showed by the content of the work. Active participation of the students in the seminars -which will require the previous development of each week's assigned work-, will also be taken into consideration, as it allows the professors to get to know their students and make a continuous evaluation throughout/of the course. ... Work dossier At the end of the term, each student will submit the two assignments developed throughout the course, completing or improving the previously submitted documents and adding the corrections suggested by the professors in the presentations, as well as any other improvement the student wishes to make. As it is established in art. 9 of the current Reglamento de Normas de Evaluación de Aprendizaje, included in the December 22, 2010 agreement of the University Board (Gobierno de la Universidad), if there are students who do not wish to take part of the continuous evaluation corresponding to the seminars, they will have to submit all the assignments in the date set for the final exam (final submission). ... Final Grade (June). The final grade will be calculated considering the practice work grade -earned throughout the term- and the final dossier grade. Work-in-progress presentations in the seminar classes 40%, work dossier 60 % In order to pass the course, the final grade will have to be 5 out of 10 or higher. ... Extraordinary exam. There will be an additional dossier submission in September for those who have not passed. Here, the student will have to present a corrected and improved version of the assignments developed throughout the course, as well as an additional practice work whose content will be specified after the regular course has finished.

5.Activities and resources

5.1.General methodological presentation

English Theoretical sessions: Theory lectures presenting and describing the different cultural realities in which the case studies that the students will analyze throughout the course are framed. Practice classes: Weekly seminars, divided in small student groups. The aim of this methodology is to offer a twofold approach where the theory lectures are complemented with practice work that helps the students clarify, internalize, and deepen into the concepts presented by the former. Those practical exercises play a remarkable role in the course, both in terms of its contents and in the evaluation process, becoming a key tool to promote an active learning in the students. Individual academic counseling: Available via scheduling an appointment with the professor. Site visits related to the contents of the course. Teaching-learning methodology. Relation with the skills to develop M1, M1b, M3, M7, M10, M11 C.E. 107.OP C.E. 108.OP

5.2.Learning activities

The students may request individual tutoring sessions both to help them keep up with seminar work or to help them understand the lectures. They will be required to ask for an appointment with the corresponding teacher via e-mail. In these counseling sessions they will also have the chance to discuss the site or exhibition visits recommended in class.

5.3.Program

Thus, the program designed for the course traces an itinerary through the history of the XX Century city and urban planning in Europe since the 1900s to the 1980s, using housing design as a common thread: * PC.01. Garden cities (1893-1920s) * PC.02. City beautiful (1893-1920s) * PC.03. Social democracy and housing strategies 01. Red Vienna

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(1919-33) * PC.04. Social democracy and housing strategies 02. Siedlungen in the Republic of Weimar (1919-33) * PC.05. The CIAMs' modern urbanism - The Athens Charter and the Team X (1930s-60s) * PC.06. Planning as ideology (1): Franco's "poblados" in Spain * PC.07. Planning as ideology (2): Neo-Realism in Italy (1940s-50s) * PC.08. Welfare Planning in France, The Netherlands, the Scandinavian Countries, the United Kingdom... (1945-70s) * PC.09. An Experiment in Freedom (1960s) * PC.10. Utopian Regulations (1920s-1960s-1970s) This historical tour aims at offering a global view of the urban fact in XX Century Europe, linking the techniques, intervention, and the very concept of the city developed in continental Europe with those generated in the Anglo-Saxon world, in line with the transnational and transversal spirit of the course.

5.4.Planning and scheduling

Indicative schedule:

1 week:

Course and study topics presentation. Work assignment.

11 weeks:

Theory and practice classes (lectures, crits, and work-in-progress presentations)

2 weeks:

Two site visits, related to the contents of the course.

1 week:

Final presentation of students' works.

The students will receive a detailed syllabus, with the contents and dates of the course at the beginning of the term, once the 2014-15 academic calendar has been set.

5.5.Bibliography and recommended resources

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