CIEE Prague, Czech Republic

Course title: Future Cities Seminar
Course code: ARCH 3002 CGAD
Programs offering course: Global Architecture and Design
Language of instruction: English
U.S. semester credits: 3.00
Contact hours: 45.00
Term: Fall 2020

Course Description

This course explores the global challenges for the 21st century city. Architects are professionals with a limited possibility to have their own agenda. Typically they are trained to react to movements of bigger forces in the society - economical, political and environmental. The future city is introduced through an ambition to provoke future architects to foresee these changes and design for them. This course provides an overview of the dominant urban strategies in the 20th and 21st centuries, and speculates about the future city: an integrated system of technical, natural, and social exchanges through research and critical thinking about the fundamental architectural elements. In addition, the course outlines "chronotecture," that is, architecture that evolves around axes of time. A structure capturing a momentum in space, an inhabitable system defeating stillness by movement. Besides more conventional kinetic transformations driven by environmental conditions or necessities to produce energy, the research explores higher degrees of mobility on more complex levels, looking into the swarm behavior, self-aware self-organizing systems as well as a human machine interaction.

Learning Objectives

By completing this course, students will:

- Critically communicate ideas about cities and environment;
- Conduct urban investigations, present their findings coherently in verbal and written formats and defend them;
- Analyze, evaluate and learn from relevant precedents;
- Analyze an existing architectural and urban challenge, propose a solution and defend it;
- Critically discuss the relationship of architecture to allied disciplines in order to be able to work in interdisciplinary teams.

Course Prerequisites

None

Methods of Instruction

Course will be taught in a seminar block. It will consist of in-class slide lectures and discussions, in combination with student research and team work.

Assessment and Final Grade

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project 01</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project 02</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Project Submission</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Project Presentation</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation in Class</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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Course Requirements

Project 01
E-Book summarizing the Seminar research work on the first task.

The Project 01 is evaluated throughout the course, the final evaluation is based on the submission during final week of the seminar. The submitted works are evaluated separately (see "Final")

**Project 02**

E-Book summarizing the Seminar research work on the first task.

The Project 02 is evaluated throughout the course, the final evaluation is based on the submission during final week of the seminar. The submitted works are evaluated separately (see "Final")

**Final Project Submission**

The final project, including partial projects 01 and 02, will be evaluated during Week 12 (30%).

**Final Project Presentation**

Students will present their project to the class during Week 13 (10%).

**Participation in Class**

Students should participate actively in the seminar tasks. Assessment of students’ participation in class is an inherent component of the course grade. Participation is valued as meaningful contribution in the digital and tangible classroom, utilizing the resources and materials presented to students as part of the course. Students are required to actively, meaningfully and thoughtfully contribute to class discussions and all types of in-class activities throughout the duration of the class. Meaningful contribution requires students to be prepared, as directed, in advance of each class session. This includes valued or informed engagement in, for example, small group discussions, online discussion boards, peer-to-peer feedback (after presentations), interaction with guest speakers, and attentiveness on co-curricular and outside-of-classroom activities.

Students are responsible for following the course content and are expected to ask clarification questions if they cannot follow the instructor’s or other students’ line of thought or argumentation.

The use of electronic devices is only allowed for computer-based in-class tests, assignments and other tasks specifically assigned by the course instructor. Students are expected to take notes by hand unless the student is entitled to the use of computer due to his/her academic accommodations. In such cases the student is required to submit an official letter issued by his/her home institution specifying the extent of academic accommodations.

Class participation also includes students’ active participation in Canvas discussions and other additional tasks related to the course content as specified by the instructor.

Students will receive a partial participation grade every three weeks.

**Attendance**

Regular class attendance is required throughout the program.

If you will miss a class for any reason, notify the Program Coordinator and your instructor beforehand via Canvas. You are responsible for any materials covered in class during your absence, and except in the specific cases listed below, credit will not be granted for missed assessments.

Excessive absences will result in a notification letter, and finally a warning letter, sent to you and your home school, based on the following:
The notification letters are intended to ensure that you are well advised in advance of any potential for failure or dismissal, so that you can take steps to avoid this.

As the table shows, **missing more than 20% of any class (e.g., due to undocumented illness, travel delays, flight cancellations, over-sleeping, etc.) results in automatic failure of the course.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% of course hours missed</th>
<th>Number of CIEE classes</th>
<th>Minimum penalty</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Up to 10%</td>
<td>One to Three 90-min. classes; or One 180-min. class</td>
<td>No penalty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10% - 20%</td>
<td>Four 90-min. classes</td>
<td>Written notification* to the student, followed by a warning letter to the student and home school; 3% reduction in the final grade</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Five 90-min. classes</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Two 180-min classes</td>
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<tr>
<td>More than 20%</td>
<td>Six 90-min. classes; or Three 180-min. classes</td>
<td>Automatic course failure, and possible expulsion with notification to the home school</td>
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* The notification letters are intended to ensure that you are well advised in advance of any potential for failure or dismissal, so that you can take steps to avoid this.

If you miss an assessment in class due to an absence, you will be able to make it up in the following instances:

- You provide a relevant doctor's note from a local medical professional to your Program Coordinator within 24 hours of your absence (a scan or photograph sent via e-mail are acceptable)
- A CIEE staff member verifies that you were too ill to attend class.
- You provide evidence of a family emergency to your Program Coordinator.
- You have an approved absence related to the observance of a religious holiday from the Academic Director based on a request submitted before you arrived onsite.

Please note: Absences incurred due to documented illness, documented family emergency or the observance of a religious holiday approved before arrival onsite do not count towards the total of absences. Students may self-certify one absence due to illness without providing a doctor’s note as long as they notify the Program Coordinator within 24 hours of their absence by e-mail or a text message.

Other attendance-related policies

If you transfer from one CIEE class to another during the Add/Drop period, you will not be considered absent from the first session(s) of the new class provided you were marked present for the first session(s) of the original class.

If you are over 15 minutes late for a class, the instructor is required to mark you absent.

In case of class conflicts (irregularities in the class schedule, including field trips and make-up classes), always contact the Academic Department to decide the appropriate course of action.

Please remember to track your attendance on the Canvas Course Sites and report any errors in the record to the Academic Department within one week of the discrepancy date, as later claims may not be considered.

These attendance rules also apply to any required co-curricular excursion, activity, or event, and to for-credit internships.

CIEE staff does not manage absences at partner institutions providing direct enrollment classes (FAMU, ECES and FSV), but they have similar attendance policies and attendance is monitored there. Grade penalties may result from excessive absences.

* N.B. Course schedule is subject to change due to study tours, excursions, or local holidays. Final schedules will be included in the final syllabus provided to students on site.

**Weekly Schedule**

**Week 1**

Class: 1.1

Students will be working on one speculative text with illustrations.

What if one of the architectural elements as defined by Rem Koolhaas at Venice biennale 2014 would get an intentional parameter of change in time and would get replaced at once in a city for 1 million inhabitants [Prague].

The text and visuals should describe the influence of such a change on life of individuals, families or groups of friends on the footprint of 24 hours.
Program

Lecture: Program in Architecture
- grid
- envelope
- program
- icon
- iconic urbanism

Student research: Program
- Start thinking about alternative programs
- What is an informal program?

Required Readings:
Koolhaas 1978

Week 2
Class: 2.1 Event Architecture

Lecture: Event Architecture
- festivals and events – types, locations
- Expo evolution
- Serpentine Pavilion evolution
- temporary structures – examples

Student research:
- Find a festival structure which changes in time
- present in a written and visual form

Required Readings:
Koolhaas 2004: “Junk Space”

Week 3
Class: 3.1 Elements

Elements

Lecture: Elements of Architecture
- Door
- Window
- Floor
- Ceiling
- Staircase
- Escalator
- Balcony
- Toilets
- Elevator
- Wall
- Ramp
- Corridor
- Fireplace
- Roof
- Facade

Student research:
• Select one of the elements and research

Required Readings:
Koolhaas 2014: Elements of Architecture

**Week 4**
Class: 4.1 Cronotecture

Lecture: Cronotecture
• architecture for momentum
• movement following energy
• frenetic architecture skin
• kinetic engineering
• architectural swarm
• junk space

Student work:
• work on the Seminar project

**Week 5**
Class: 5.1 Light and Intimity

Lecture: Light and architecture
• natural and artificial aspects of light in architecture

Student research:
• Light works for architecture

**Week 6**
Class: 6.1 Structure

Lecture: Structure
• engineers behind the architects

**Week 7**
Class: 7.1 work on Seminar project

Required Readings
• Martin Hejl et al. 2x100 mil.m2 – Atomize modernity (Prague: Kolmo.eu, 2014)

**Week 8**
Class: 8.1 work on Seminar project, consultations

Final Project due

**Week 9**
Class: 9.1 Final work and E-Book presentation and review

Final Project Presentation

**Course Materials**

**Readings**
Hejl, Martin et al. 2x100 mil.m2 – Atomize modernity. Prague: Kolmo.eu, 2014.