AD2863 Sustainable Urban Planning and Design Studio 2.1- Urban Ecologies 22.5 credits

Hållbar stadsplanering och stadsbyggnad studio 2.1- Urbana Ekologier

This is a translation of the Swedish, legally binding, course syllabus.

Establishment

Course syllabus for AD2863 valid from Autumn 2013

Grading scale

A, B, C, D, E, FX, F

Education cycle

Second cycle

Main field of study

Architecture

Specific prerequisites

* Bachelor degree in architecture, landscape architecture, or urban planning and design.

* the previous study should include at least 30 ECTS in an art or design field.

* or equivalent

In this interdisciplinary project, a number of places will be given to students from adjacent disciplines.

Language of instruction

The language of instruction is specified in the course offering information in the course catalogue.

Intended learning outcomes

The aim of this studio-based course is to give an introduction to urban planning and design strategies, and establish a broad understanding of the complex economic, political, social, environmental and physical forces that influence urban growth and development. The course will give participants an insight into the social, cultural and political implications of urban transformation, as well as provide training in analysing, describing and responding architecturally to urban spaces as a physical entity.

Course contents

The studio-based course will give participants an insight into design strategies and processes for urban transformation. Participants will gain an understanding of discourses in urban planning and design in relationship to urban theory. The seminars will address representations of urban spaces, urban and architectural methods, strategies, and specific case studies. Developing knowledge through research and fieldwork, students will gain a broad understanding of the complex economic, political, social, environmental and physical forces that influence urban growth and development.

The project work will be directed towards tackling a complex social issue, such as social segregation, the relation between virtual and physical space, or the role of urban space in contemporary society. Students will be trained to develop concrete, functional and architecturally expressive solutions in response to that issue.

The learning methods will be field studies and research into various urban areas, within different environments, of a chosen city. Analysis will be performed through extended site observations, official aims documents, and archival research concerning technical/architectural drawings and historical documents. Emphasis will be placed on the ability to understand and describe the material and social conditions of existing urban spaces; such an ability is seen as a pre-requisite for proposing transformed or new spatial organisation and design processes. The work will be carried out in studios and individually. An orientation workshop and a group research exercise will be undertaken in small groups. The final project must be presented in a way that allows it to be judged by external reviewers. Lectures, seminars and literature studies will run parallel to the practical assignment, providing a theoretical or conceptual framework.

Course literature

To be announced at course start.

Examination

- SEM1 - Seminars, 1.5 credits, grading scale: P, F
- PRO2 - Project, 8.5 credits, grading scale: A, B, C, D, E, FX, F
- PRO1 - Project, 8.5 credits, grading scale: A, B, C, D, E, FX, F
- ÖVN1 - Orientation Project, 3.0 credits, grading scale: P, F
- ÖVN2 - Group Exercise, 1.0 credits, grading scale: P, F

Based on recommendation from KTH's coordinator for disabilities, the examiner will decide how to adapt an examination for students with documented disability.

The examiner may apply another examination format when re-examining individual students.

If the course is discontinued, students may request to be examined during the following two academic years.

Other requirements for final grade

Students need to fulfil the following requirements in order to receive a pass (E):

• participation in the orientation project (3 cr.)

• participation in group exercise (1 cr.)

• design project examination PRO1: individual and / or group design resolutions (8,5 cr.)

• design project examination PRO2: individual and / or group design resolutions (8,5 cr.)

• participation in seminars (1,5 cr.)

Assessment and grading (A–F) take into account both designed resolutions, written, and oral achievements throughout the course on a holistic basis. The academic quality of the individual projects influences grading to 70%, but the student's efforts and ambitions to tackle a perhaps difficult subject matter is taken into full consideration. Grading is consistent with the criteria set by Biggs, J (2003) Teaching for Quality Learning at University. Second Edition (The Open Society for Research into Higher Education & Open University Press, p 193).

Ethical approach

- All members of a group are responsible for the group's work.
- In any assessment, every student shall honestly disclose any help received and sources used.
- In an oral assessment, every student shall be able to present and answer questions about the entire assignment and solution.