



Program	Máster Universitario en Teoría y Diseño Arquitectónico Master's Degree in Theory and Architectural Design
Academic year	2024/2025
Department	Theory, Architecture and Urban Design
Module	(Mod. 2) Architectural Theory and Criticism
Subject	Architectural Theory
Nature	Compulsory
Credits (ECTS)	4
Language	English
Semester	
Calendar	
Classroom	
Professor	Fabrizio Gallanti
Assistant professor	Pablo Arza (parza@unav.es)

Presentation

Architecture is an urban action.

The course analyzes a series of experiments of description and analysis of the urban environment that can be considered significant and original in the development of the intellectual and theoretical debate around architecture. The theoretical presentations and exercises will consider specific cases that have generated a paradigm shift in the vision of contemporary urban space, both for their ability to integrate different disciplines into their discourse, and for the fact of establishing a perspective capable of stimulating diverse and new evaluations about specific urban conditions and the role of architecture for its transformation.

The course proposes a series of description exercises, applied to the urban reality of Pamplona, where students will experiment with themes and techniques derived from the theoretical classes, generating innovative representations of the contemporary urban condition.

COMPETENCES

BASIC

CB06: Obtain and understand knowledge that provides a basis or opportunity to be original in the development and/or application of ideas, often within a research context.

CB07: Students must know how to apply the knowledge acquired and the capacity to resolve problems in new or little known environments within broader (or multidisciplinary) contexts related to their area of study.

CB08: Students must be capable of integrating knowledge and tackling the complexity of forming judgments based on information that, being incomplete or limited, includes reflections on social and ethical responsibilities related to the application of their knowledge and judgment.



CB09: Students must be able to communicate their conclusions –and the knowledge and actual reasons that underpin them- to specialized and non-specialized audiences in a clear and unambiguous manner.

CB10: Students must have the learning skills that allow them to continue studying in a mostly self-managed or autonomous way.

GENERAL

CG1. Develop and present at an advanced level, ideas, arguments and reflections in the field of analysis and criticism of architecture.

CG2. To analyze and understand critically at an advanced level, architectural theory, associated trends of thought and the history of architecture in its social, cultural and disciplinary dimensions.

SPECIFIC

CE4. To have advanced knowledge of the implications of the theory and criticism of architecture in the development of design processes and strategies in architectural projects.



PROGRAM

Session 1

The city as accumulation of elements.

- a. Description as project.
- b. Learning from Las Vegas by Robert Venturi and Denise Scott Brown.

Session 2

The many ideas by Rem Koolhaas

- a Delirious New York
- b S, M, L, XL: Bigness, Generic city, Atlanta, Singapore Songlines.
- C Junkspace

Session 3

The urban experience in literature

- a. The flâneur: Benjamin, Kracauer, Baudelaire and De Quincey.
- b. Urban derive : the situationists.

Session 4

Narrations of the dispersed city in American cinema and television: among others David Byrne, "True Stories", Tim Burton, "Edward Scissorhands". "The Americans", "Sopranos", "Breaking bad".

Session 5

Los Angeles

- a. Mike Davis. "City of Quartz" and "Ecology of Fear"
- b. Edward Soja.

Session 6

Return to order

- a Aldo Rossi, "Architettura della città »
- b Urban studies : Colin Rowe, Carlo Aymonino, Françoise Choay, Gordon Cullen.

Session 7

Cataloguing

- a. Japan: Atelier Bow Wow, Mikan Gumi and the anthropological tradition in Japanese architecture.
- b. Compulsive archives: Richard Wentworth, Martha Rosler, Mark Dion, Bernd and Hilla Becher

Session 8

General conclusions. Seminar.



TIMELINE

Monday 10 February 2024

Morning

Session 1

The act of description

9 – 10

a Description as project.

10 – 10.30 Debate

10.45 – 11.45

b Learning from Las Vegas by Robert Venturi and Denise Scott Brown.

11.45 – 12.15 Debate

12.30 Introduction of the first exercise.

Afternoon

Individual work

Tuesday 11 February 2024

Morning

Session 2

The many ideas by Rem Koolhaas

9 – 10

a Delirious New York

10.15 – 11.00

b Generic city.

11.15 – 12.00

c Junkspace

12.00 – 12.45 Debate

12.45 Introduction of second exercise

Afternoon

15.00 - 17.00 Presentations of first exercise

17.00 Onward, individual work.

Wednesday 12 February 2024

Morning

Session 3

The urban experience in literature

9 - 10

a The flâneur: Benjamin, Kracauer, Baudelaire and De Quincey.

10 - 11

b Urban derive : the situationists.

11 Introduction of the third exercise. Beginning of urban derive (if it does not rain).



11 to dusk, Urban derive and compilation of third exercise

Thursday 13 February 2024

Morning

Session 4

9-10.30

Narrations of the dispersed city in American cinema and television: David Byrne, "True Stories" and Tim Burton, "Edward Scissorhands", Todd Solondz, "Breaking bad".

Afternoon

15.00 – 18.30 Presentations of second and third exercise

Monday 24 February 2024

Morning

Session 5

Los Angeles

9-10.30

a. Mike Davis. "City of Quartz"

10.45 -12

b. Edward Soja, DJ Waldie, Dana Cuff;

12 Introduction of fourth exercise

Afternoon

14.30 Projection of "Los Angeles plays itself"

Tuesday 25 February 2024

Morning

Session 6

Return to order

9-10.30

a Aldo Rossi, "Architettura della città »

10.45-12

b Urban studies : Colin Rowe, Carlo Aymonino, Françoise Choay, Gordon Cullen.

12 Introduction of fifth exercise

Afternoon

14.30 Presentation of fourth exercise

Wednesday 26 February 2024

Morning

Session 7

Cataloguing

9-10.30

a. Japan: Atelier Bow Wow, Mikan Gumi and the anthropological tradition in architecture.



10-45 – 12.00

b. Compulsive archives: Richard Wentworth, Martha Rosler, Mark Dion, Bernd y Hilla Becher

12.00 – 12.30 Debate

12.30 Introduction of sixth exercise

Afternoon

14.30 Presentation of fifth exercise

Thursday 27 February 2024

Morning

10 - 13

Session 8

Presntation of sixth exercise

General conclusions. Seminar.

EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

	Hours	Classroom percentage
AF1 Face to face theory classes	30	100%
AF2 Face to face practical classes	10	100%
AF4 Supervised projects	10	50%
AF7 Individual study and work	50	0%

ASSESSMENT

	Minimum weighting	Maximum weighting
SE2 Written presentation of projects	60	80
SE3 Class attendance and participation	20	40

BIBLOGRAFHY AND RESOURCES

1. Rem Koolhaas "Junkspace" (El Espacio Basura, La modernización y sus secuelas) en Revista Arquitectura Viva nº74.
2. Abalos & Herreros "7 Micromanifiestos" en Revista 2G nº 22.
3. Yorgos Simeoforidis "Paisaje y espacio público" en Revista 2G nº3.
4. Solà-Morales, Ignasi, "Terrain Vague" en Revista Quaderns nº 212.
5. Venturi, Robert y Scott Brown, Denise, "Aprendiendo de Las Vegas", p. 11-98, Gustavo Gili Reprints, Barcelona 1998.



6. Andreotti, Libero y Costa, Xavier eds., "Situacionistas, arte, política, urbanismo", ACTAR, Barcelona 1996.
7. Koolhaas, Rem, "Generic city" in Koolhaas, Rem y Mau, Bruce, "S, M, L, XL" Monacelli Press, New York 1995.
8. Atelier Bow Wow, "Pet Architecture", World Photo Press, Tokyo 2001.
9. Careri, Francesco, "Walkscapes, El andar como práctica estética", Gustavo Gili, Barcelona 2002.