DEPARTMENT OF URBAN PLANNING AND DESIGN

Participation, simulation, activism: new methods in urban design
2018 SPRING

The elective course aims to teach students the practice of self-empowered activism and participatory design in urban public spaces. Students – after analyzing best practices from around the world – will get experience in bottom-up design processes.

Students will get an extensive knowledge on the international practice of participatory design and architectural activism, analyzing completed European public spaces designed with this method. Students will first search from a best practice from their own countries, and will prepare a presentation in the format of a short fundraising MOVIE. In fact students have to create a short film convincing enough to be effective as an advertisement and as a fundraising tool for the project they selected. This way the course will get to know a wide variety of projects from around the world in an appealing format, while they learn this contemporary form of architectural communication: the short film.

In the meantime students will participate on site visits to places in Budapest run by a strong activist group, involved in participatory design processes, or showing other interesting new sides of urban activism.

During the practical second part of the semester students will make a design proposal for a selected public space in Budapest, either in a dense urban context or on the spaces of a housing estate, or in a suburban situation. A group work is expected to study the capabilities of the place, the different social groups present and the possibilities to involve these locals. Students will make this practical intervention in Budapest for real, working in groups with minimal resources. At the end we will visit the 5-10 sites where real interventions have been made. The documentation and the communication of the process is also crucial to make a successful project.

Students will get the maximum grade if they succeed to work in a team, to make an enjoyable short movie, and to create a local intervention in a public space. The course will be held in English.

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Leslie Forsyth, Paul Jenkins ed: Architecture, Participation and Society, Taylor & Francis, London, 2009

Henry Sanoff: Community Participation Methods in Design and Planning, John Wiley and Sons, New York, 1999.

William H. Whyte: The Social Life Of Small Urban Spaces, Project for Public Spaces, 1980

Oscar Newman: Defensible Space - Crime Prevention Through Urban Design, Macmillan Pub. Co, 1973

Jones Blundell, Peter Blundell Jones: Architecture and Participation, Taylor & Francis, 2005

Nigel Taylor: Urban Planning Theory Since 1945, Sage, 1998

Stephen Carr, Mark Francis, Leanne G. Rivlin, Andrew M. Stone: Public Space, Cambridge Univ Press, 1993

Szabó Julianna, Kissfazekas Kornélia, Kádár Bálint, Deigner Ágnes, Riedel Miklós: European practice of participatory design, studies at the department

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2016 SPRING

1ST WEEK - theory
Introduction to the history of participatory design

2ND WEEK - theory
Analysis of European examples of partcipiatory design. Task out: fundraising movie.

3RD WEEK - theory
Analysis of projects and movies presenting them.

4TH WEEK - practice
Selection of a public space in Budapest, analysis of the sight and users

5TH WEEK - practice
Site visit to the selected public space

6TH WEEK - practice
Planning of a participatory design strategy, consultation

7TH WEEK - practice
Mapping of the user communities, collecting their needs, consultation

8TH WEEK - practice
Student presentations: fundraising movies for a past project from ones own country.

9TH WEEK - theory
Usage of e-technologies in the participatory design process

10TH WEEK - practice
Participatory design practice, consultation

11TH WEEK - practice
Participatory design practice, consultation

12TH WEEK - practice
Student presentations: Public spaces renewed with a participatory design process

13TH WEEK - practice
Discussion of the results, collection and archive of the digital material. Party.