



Course Syllabus

Decolonizing Architecture (VI): Modernism and Demodernization (60 ECTS)

Course code: DECMOD

Grading: Pass – Fail

Education: Freestanding course

Level: Postgraduate

Disciplinary domain: Fine Art

Main field of study: Fine Art

Level of progression: AXX

Established by: ERC

Date of establishment: 2020-02-11

Date of revision: –

Valid: Academic year 2020–21

Education cycle

Second-cycle course.

Entry requirements

General entry requirements: General requirements for advanced level courses.

Specific entry requirements: Degree of Master of Fine Arts, or a master degree in another relevant field of study, or equivalent professional experience. Language skills: English 5 and 6, or equivalent knowledge in English.

Selection

The selection is based on 3–5 work samples, a CV stating previous projects and experiences, and a short personal letter of intent. In the letter, the candidate should motivate in which ways the conceptual frame of the course is relevant for her/his study.

Language of instruction

English.

Scope of the course and the rate of study

60 ECTS-credits, full-time.

Course objectives

This one-year course aims to critically reflect on the effects of spatial transformations in society by combining theory and practice, individual and collective research. The course welcomes

people with studies and/or experiences in/from architecture, art, urbanism, artistic research, radical pedagogies, decolonial theory, or activism and who are interested in the ideological, social and political dimensions of architecture.

Learning outcomes

After the completion of the module *Decolonizing Architecture A* (30 ECTS), the student is expected to:

- show an understanding of the theoretical debate around critical spatial practices
- define a driving concept towards the individual research in architecture

After the completion of the module *Decolonizing Architecture B* (30 ECTS), the student is expected to:

- work collectively while preserving a rigorous intellectual trajectory
- create the foundations for developing an independent research project

Course content

The one-year course uses *decolonization* as a critical position and conceptual frame for an architectural practice engaged in social and political struggles. With an increasing presence in European cities of populations with a migratory background, the struggle of decolonization once primarily located outside of Europe, has today moved within its borders. This one-year course focuses on critically unveiling the connections between architectural modernism and colonialism and to explore strategies of architectural de-modernization.

The one-year course is divided into two full-time modules:

Course module 1 – *Decolonizing Architecture A*, 30 ECTS-credits.

Course module 2 – *Decolonizing Architecture B*, 30 ECTS-credits.

Forms of teaching

The teaching is conducted as:

- Collective readings
- Seminars and workshops
- Supervised individual and group sessions
- Lectures
- Study visits and field trips

The course is divided into three scheduled mandatory one-week study periods per term intertwined by individual and collective tutorials, readings and seminars. In between the study periods, the participants independently develop work, research, write, read, draw, interview, and conduct site visits.

Assessment

The first module (30 ECTS): the students are examined on the basis of a submitted assignment and active participation in the scheduled seminars and lectures.

The second module (30 ECTS): the students are examined on the basis of a public presentation, which includes response from an external panel, and involves individual artistic and architectural research developed over the year used as a support structure for a discursive exhibition.

Examiner

The examiner is appointed by the area head.

Course requirements

To pass the course, all the above parts must be performed in a way that meet the expected learning outcomes. Active participation in the course projects is required throughout the course, as well as a minimum of 75 per cent attendance of the scheduled teaching. If the attendance required is not fulfilled a supplementary task will be assigned. A further requirement is a submission of an assignment and active participation in a public presentation at the end of the academic year. The student must pass module A to be able to start module B.

Grading criteria

PASS – The student has met the stated learning outcomes.

FAIL – The student has not met the stated learning outcomes.

Study resources

There is no mandatory course literature, but a list of extended readings is presented.

The validity of the course curriculum

The course curriculum is valid until further notice. After discontinuation, the student is entitled to be examined once a term for the following 18 months.