ARCH 4721
Land and City
2016-17 Term I

Instructor: Liao Kuei-Hsien (liao.kuei.hsien@cuhk.edu.hk / Room 201, AIT)

Student Assistant: TBD

DESCRIPTION

Land and City is a required course for Year 4 undergraduate architectural students. This course introduces the students to important theories and practices associated with the urban built environment that affects and is affected by various socioeconomic and environmental processes. It provides an appreciation of the physical aspects of the city around and beyond architecture to allow the students to think critically about the spatial phenomena of contemporary urbanism. By reading and analyzing various components of the urban built environment, students learn to develop systematic approaches to understanding the relationship between spatial design and the city holistically across multiple spatial scales. The course is organized into three interrelated modules: (1) ‘Urban Morphology’ reviews classic and contemporary discourses pertaining to how urban built environment is to be designed; (2) ‘Urban Landscape’ introduces the increasingly important field of landscape architecture in urban development; (3) ‘Urban Sustainability’ explores theories and practices associated with the ideology of sustainable or eco cities. This course is coordinated with the U5 Studio such that the assignments are designed to facilitate the studio project. Throughout the course, students should reflect on conditions of the study area and the site of the studio.

OBJECTIVES

1. To understand influential theories and practices associated with urban design and planning
2. To develop critical thinking into urban design discourses
3. To gain a comprehensive overview of various socioeconomic and geophysical processes associated with urban development
4. To develop the ability to read and analyze urban physical patterns in systematic and innovative manners

LEARNING OUTCOME

Upon the completion of the course, students will be able to articulate the issues associated with urban physical development; develop further interest in the main subjects addressed in the course—urban morphology, urban systems, and urban sustainability; and apply the knowledge to architectural practice.

ASSESSMENT SCHEME

Assessment is based the evaluation of exercises following the specific criteria outlined in each assignment.

- Seminar participation: 30%
- Assignment#1 (group project): 30%
- Assignment#2 (individual project): 40%
COURSE FORMAT
Lectures and seminars

REQUIRED READINGS


RECOMMENDED READINGS


IMPORTANT NOTE TO STUDENTS:

ATTENDANCE:
Class attendance is required in all courses. For an excused absence, the instructor must be notified and presented with documentation of illness or personal matter. Please note: Three (3) or more unexcused absences may result in a failing grade for the course.

ACADEMIC HONESTY:
Attention is drawn to University policy and regulations on honesty in academic work, and to the disciplinary guidelines and procedures applicable to breaches of such policy and regulations. Details may be found at: http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/. With each assignment, students may be required to submit a statement that they are aware of these policies, regulations, guidelines and procedures.
**Module 1: Urban Morphology**

**Class 01**
- Lecture: *Introduction + Reading and representing the built environment*

**Class 02**
- Lecture: *Urban growth and a typology of urban form*
- Tutorial: *Presentation of Mapping Exercise #1*

**Class 03**
- Lecture: *The evolution of urban design discourses*
- Tutorial: *Presentation of Mapping Exercise #2*

**Class 04**
- Lecture: *Guest talk | The urban land policies of Hong Kong* (Edward Yiu 姚松炎, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Department of Geography & Resource Management, CUHK)
- Tutorial: *[Seminar #1] Development and regulation*

**Module 2: Urban Landscape**

**Class 05**
- Lecture: *Landscape urbanism*
- Tutorial: *[Seminar #2] Open space in the city*
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<tr>
<th>Class 06</th>
<th>Lecture</th>
<th>An introduction to landscape architecture</th>
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<tr>
<td>October 12</td>
<td>Tutorial</td>
<td>[Seminar #3] Landscape and architecture</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>Balmori D. 2010. Prelude (pages 1-3) and Coda (pages 221-225) in A Landscape Manifesto. New Heaven: Yale University Press.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Class 07</th>
<th>Lecture</th>
<th>From open space to green infrastructure</th>
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<tr>
<td>October 19</td>
<td>Tutorial</td>
<td>[Seminar #4] City and nature</td>
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**Module 3: Urban Sustainability**

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<th>Class 08</th>
<th>Lecture</th>
<th>Urban metabolism and infrastructure</th>
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<tr>
<td>October 26</td>
<td>Tutorial</td>
<td>[Seminar #5] Pedestrians vs. cars</td>
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<tr>
<th>Class 09</th>
<th>Lecture</th>
<th>Urban resilience</th>
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<tr>
<td>November 02</td>
<td>Tutorial</td>
<td>[Seminar #6] Natural hazards &amp; urban design</td>
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<td>Reading</td>
<td>Stockholm Resilience Centre. 2014. What is Resilience? [Link]</td>
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<th>Class 10</th>
<th>Lecture</th>
<th>Planning approaches to urban Sustainability</th>
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<tr>
<td>November 09</td>
<td>Tutorial</td>
<td>[Seminar #7] Density &amp; sustainability</td>
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<th>Class 11</th>
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<th>Design approaches to urban sustainability</th>
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<td>November 16</td>
<td>Tutorial</td>
<td>Concluding remarks + Q &amp; A</td>
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