

ARC 463

Architecture for Social Change

MEF University

Faculty of Arts, Design and Architecture

Tuesday, 10:00 - 12:50 (online)

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ARC 463

Architecture for Social Change

This elective course will search for ways to **instrumentalize architecture** creating a **social awareness**, to discuss problems and to diversify their **solutions**. Existing practices will be examined in the titles of **organization**, **place**, **actor**, **tools**, **method**, **material** and **resource** and a discussion ground will be builded which is fed with readings/researches. The lectures will provide an opportunity to develop creative actions for problem identification and molding public opinion, and to explore possibilities for in-situ/collective production.

- + to learn the possibilities of alternative and collective processes in the practice of architecture.
- + to research the ways of participatory design and user based in situ production.
- + to discuss the processes of urban and rural transformation.
- + to discuss and work on the possibilities of creative action design that will raise awareness of community related issues.
- + to describe urban debates at different scales and develop temporary solution proposals.

Syllabus [Fall 2020-2021]

week	topics	dates
1	Introduction Lecture: Social Approaches in Architecture & Discussion	21-Sept
2	[ORGANIZATION] Alternative ways of doing architectural practices, collectives, social practices	28-Sept
3	[] Language and discourse _ Analyzing the organization structure through examples to-do: Network structure_ mapping	05-Oct
4	[no class] workshop week	12-Oct
5	[PLACE] Right to the city and rural conditions to-do: Problem definition with new media tools	19-Oct
6	[TOOLS] Design tools for social impact to-do: Creative action design_ Examination of the examples and discussion on identified problems	26-Oct
7	[workshop] Creative action proposals	02-Nov
8	[midterm] Discussion of productions	09-Nov

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9	[METHOD] In situ possibilities & Discussion on participation	16-Nov
10	[ACTOR] The Role of the Designer: Collective doing, collectivism, trans-disciplinary approaches	23-Nov
11	[MATERIAL] Material / detail / Re&Up-cycle experiments	30-Nov
12	[SOURCE] Source as a design input: equity, self-help, public resources, funds, crowd funding etc.	07-Dec
13	[contact] action in situ communication strategy development [doing] [observation] documenting, recording, feedback.	14-Dec
14	[submission & final discussion]	21-Dec

Recommended Readins:

Architecture for Humanity, (2006). Design Like You Give A Damn: Architectural Responses to Humanitarian Crises, Distributed Art Publishers, New York.

Dean, A. O. & Hursley, T., (2002). Rural Studio: Samuel Mockbee and an Architecture of Decency, Princeton Architectural Press, New York.

Özokcu, M.G., (2015) Mimarlık Alanında Alternatif Bir Süreç: Herkes için Mimarlık Ovakent Projesi. Thesis M. Arch, Istanbul Technical University. Dept. of Architecture.

Other sources correspondent to discussions will be published via communication channels of the class.

Attendance policy:

Students are expected to attend every class, seminar, trip, workshop related to the course. As the instructors are obliged to attend all the classes, we expect the students to do the same. No student has a 'right' to miss any of the classes.

FADA has a unique workshop week where all faculty courses are suspended in order to create a special informal learning environment which benefits the students. It is compulsory to participate in all workshop week activities. Attendance will be taken and it will be counted towards the attendance in all your courses. In all courses, failure to fully participate in the workshop week will result in losing 10% of the total grade.

Online Class policy:

Last semester we have converted our education to online unexpectedly. None of us -students as well as instructors- had a great prior experience of online teaching. Under those circumstances we have had a rather satisfactory learning experience although quite different from being at Hangar and in the school. Since this experience was full of unknowns, we have changed and eased some requirements in the studios as well as in other courses. This coming semester, however, is and needs to be regarded as a regular semester. It will still be different from being at Hangar and at the school but we are planning to introduce some changes this semester so that learning as well as teaching experience will exceed last semesters' performance.

- Our experience of Blackboard has been relatively positive. However, both in the studios and theoretical courses not being able to see the faces of students was extremely difficult for the instructors. We cannot require all students to open their cameras but it is extremely important that we all do so. Please be prepared to attend studios and courses with your cameras open. We believe that the quality of learning will be enhanced radically by this small adjustment.
- All your studio and courses instructors will be (as always) supportive and understanding of technical problems you may encounter.
- As would be expected from a normal semester, attendance requirements will be in place.

Once again, this is a 'normal' semester. All of us need to accept this not perfect situation and move on with what we do very well at FADA: learning, producing, sharing and supporting each other. Hopefully we will be able to return to Hangar as soon as possible. As for now, lets' enjoy our work and do better than last semester!