

# The X - Athenas

**Narratives of Design & Change in Contemporary Athens**

A Collaborative Workshop. Athens & Patras. May 06 - 24, 2019

A Workshop and Seminar course will be held in Athens for third and fourth year University of Patras architecture students, in collaboration with University of Toronto's Masters of Architecture Programme. The course will investigate contemporary Athens as a living laboratory of urban transformation, testing contemporary theories of urbanism against different sites and itineraries, asking students to investigate, document and navigate through the city. They will do so via a series of routes and a set of composite drawings ultimately curated in a log. These will provide the base for a site-specific design intervention.

In constant transformation since its foundation as the capital of modern Greece in 1834, the urban fabric, landscape and publics of Athens have been an unpredictable, diverse and complex laboratory of change: entropic, catastrophic, informal, designed, partially planned, democratic and self-organized. The climate pressures, urban challenges, global crises and design opportunities at work in the contemporary Mediterranean Metropolis in the Anthropocene (a continuous coastal city occupying 40% of the littoral and contiguous hinterlands of the Mediterranean basin) may be described and projected on in medias res, against the ancient walkscapes, intense commons, local scale, deep palimpsest, urban density, post-urban enclaves, building typologies, waste landscapes, water networks, migration routes and public spaces of Athens, today.

The three week course will be held in English. It will be structured around seminar sessions, field trips, a number of talks and independent studio work in small groups.

## UNIVERSITY OF PATRAS

DEPARTMENT OF  
ARCHITECTURE

in collaboration with

## UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

JOHN H. DANIELS FACULTY  
OF ARCHITECTURE,  
LANDSCAPE, AND DESIGN

## Schedule

Week 00	29.04 - 03.05	(Optional) Toronto. Introduction, Seminars, Mapping.
Week 01	06.05 - 10.05	Athens. Seminars, Site Visits, Talks, Drawing.
Week 02a	12.05 - 15.05	Peloponnese. Field trip. University of Patras, Seminars, Presentations.
Week 02b	15.05 - 17.05	Athens. Site Visits. Talks. Design Charette.
Week 03	20.05 - 24.05	Athens. Design. Final Presentations.

## INSTRUCTORS

Demetra Katsota DoAUP  
Petros Babasikas UofT

## Partner Institution

The workshop will be run jointly with a course organized by the John H. Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape, and Design at the University of Toronto, Canada, and Professor Petros Babasikas, with sixteen advanced Masters' students. UPatras students will collaborate with UofT students in their projects.

## TEACHING ASSOCIATE

Constantinos Petrakos

## WORKSHOP & SEMINAR

2 ECTS

## Application by Monday, April 22 2019

## LANGUAGE

ENGLISH

In one pdf, please include a one-page CV, 3 work samples (student work), and a paragraph describing your interest in the X Athenas Workshop. Please be sure to include your full name and student number. Students must be in good academic standing, having completed Architectural Design 01 to 05.

## DURATION

May 06 - May 24 2019

Please apply via email to [katsota@upatras.gr](mailto:katsota@upatras.gr) and [petros.babasikas@daniels.utoronto.ca](mailto:petros.babasikas@daniels.utoronto.ca) with the heading *X - Athenas Application*

## CONTACT

[katsota@upatras.gr](mailto:katsota@upatras.gr)

Students will be informed via email of their acceptance to the course by April 25th.