

COURSE OUTLINE

1. GENERAL

SCHOOL	UNIVERSITY OF PATRAS		
DEPARTMENT	ARCHITECTURE		
LEVEL OF COURSE	UNDERGRADUATE		
COURSE CODE	ARC_010	SEMESTER OF STUDIES	FIRST
COURSE TITLE	ARCHITECTURE DESIGN 1		
INDEPENDENT TEACHING ACTIVITIES	TEACHING HOURS PER WEEK	ECTS CREDITS	
Lectures, seminars	1		
Studio Work & Assignments	7		
		12	
COURSE TYPE	Foundation class (Architectural Design) and Skills Development		
PREREQUISITE COURSES:	NONE		
TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT LANGUAGE:	Greek. Classes may be in English in case foreign students attend the course.		
THE COURSE IS OFFERED TO ERASMUS STUDENTS	Yes		
COURSE WEBPAGE (URL)	https://eclass.upatras.gr/courses/ARCH545/		

2. LEARNING OUTCOMES

From the beginning of the semester, in parallel to the introduction of students to the basic elements of architecture, particular emphasis is paid to the development of basic skills. The skills are the following:

critical thinking

Critical thinking refers to the development of the ability to formulate concrete questions, to employ abstract conceptions in order to interpret data, differing views and to guide students to reasoned conclusions.

setting a 'personal' programme

Refers to the conceptual skill of delivering an [architectural] project, based on a well-articulated programme.

research

As a collection, evaluation, recording and application of information.

'reading' behaviours and differences

Refers to the skill of comprehending and employing theories and methods of research that explore and clarify the relationship between human behaviour and the natural or man-made environment.

oral and writing presentation skills

Refers to the development of the skill for effective investigation, essential writing and integrated presentation.

General Abilities

reading the 'topos'

The skill of responding adequately to the natural and built features of a specific context.

means of representation

Refers to the skill of selecting and employing the appropriate means of representation in order to explore, record and communicate the essential aspects of a concept during all design stages.

materials and structures

Understanding the basic principles and appropriate application of building materials, environmental impacts and the importance of reuse or recycling.

collaboration

Development of the skill to contribute to a team.

pursuing distinction

From the beginning of their studies students develop a kind of rivalry with each other aiming at the continuous improvement of their individual and team skills.

3. COURSE CONTENT

Every new beginning unsettles the fact of reality.

A first year course in architecture is, on the one hand, a general introduction to society, culture, the environment and, on the other, to the nature, role and context of architecture. In the Department of Architecture at the University of Patras, a first year's experience is both focused research and intuitive discovery.

During the first semester students reconsider facts and search for their connections through a series of sequential projects: recording the thresholds of their homes as both common ground and potentially unpredictable spaces; discovering and mapping the city as a route between two randomly paired thresholds; and finally intervening at a critical point of the route, in the urban territory.

Students discover conceptual coherence and the impact of a design proposal; their architecture becomes a log for their first months at university, and drawing -in section, axonometric, and time- a key tool for discovering and understanding their passage into an entirely new state of mind.

4. TEACHING AND LEARNING METHODS – ASSESSMENT

The teaching and learning methods combine theoretical training and personal research. Through lectures and presentations of tutors and invited speakers, the studios function as a personal and collective means of training and practical exploration.

<p>TEACHING METHODS</p>	<p>1: 1 critique From the beginning of the semester, studios of approximately 20 students under the supervision of a tutor are formulated. Every student on a weekly basis individually and collectively meets his tutor. During each meeting a 1: 1 critique and discussion is developed between the student and the teacher. The teacher in turn gives directions for the further development of the student's work. Weekly attendance and participation in the studio is essential.</p> <p>reviews: interim and final Reviews are a means of assessing design projects and an opportunity to develop a wider debate on the semester's projects' brief. In addition, they constitute a unique opportunity through which a wealth of knowledge and experiences are transmitted and exchanged. The public character of the reviews and the public exposure of the individual projects ensure the development of communication skills of the future architect. The culmination of the semester is the 'final' review, during which tutors and external critics on the basis of the student's portfolio and presentation assess the overall project and effort.</p> <p>portfolio During the semester each student assembles his personal portfolio. The portfolio is a visual essay, an archive and means of communication medium as well as a summary of the creative evolution of a project. The portfolio portrays the author's compositional and representational skills and a narrative of the overall design process.</p>									
<p>USE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES</p>	<p>Use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) (e.g. powerpoint). Presentations are uploaded on the eclass platform, and are open and downloadable for the students.</p>									
<p>TEACHING ORGANIZATION</p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="675 1751 1188 1772"><i>Activity</i></th> <th data-bbox="1201 1751 1546 1772"><i>Work Load per Semester</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="675 1780 1188 1801">Lectures (1 per week x 13 weeks)</td> <td data-bbox="1201 1780 1546 1801">10</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="675 1810 1188 1831">Studio Work (7 hours per week x 13 weeks)</td> <td data-bbox="1201 1810 1546 1831">90</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="675 1839 1188 1896">Hours for private study of the student and preparation of project work</td> <td data-bbox="1201 1839 1546 1896">200</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Work Load per Semester</i>	Lectures (1 per week x 13 weeks)	10	Studio Work (7 hours per week x 13 weeks)	90	Hours for private study of the student and preparation of project work	200	
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	Total number of hours for the Course (25 hours of work-load per ECTS credit)	300 hours (total student work-load)
STUDENT ASSESSMENT	<p>The evaluation of the students is based on the degree of development of their analytical thinking, understanding and consolidation of concepts, creativity, design skills, as well as their participation in the educational process. The assessment is based on the following criteria with the respective percentages:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> participation in the studio 40% development and improvement of design skills 20% participation in interim reviews 20% completeness and quality of portfolio and participation in the final review 20% 	

5. RECOMMENDED LITERATURE (incl. Books in Greek)

Alpers, S., *'The Art of Describing: Dutch Art in the Seventeenth Century'*, University of Chicago Press, 1983
Eames, C., R., *'Powers of Ten'*, the Office of Charles and Ray Eames, 1977, 1982
Hertzberger, H., *'Lessons for Students in Architecture'*, 010, 2001
Klee, P., *'Pedagogical Sketchbook'*, Faber, 1973
Neufert, E., *'Architects' Data'*, Blackwell Publishing, 2012
Zumthor, P., *'Thinking Architecture'*, Birkhauser, 1999