

Participation, simulation, activism: new methods in urban design

2015 SPRING

The elective course aims to teach students the practice of participatory design, focusing on urban public space design involving local communities. Students – after analyzing the European best practices – will get experience in involving different social groups and interest-groups into the design process of a public space.

Students will get an extensive knowledge on the international practice of participatory design, reading much of its English literature, analyzing completed European public spaces designed with this method. Students will first analyze the European best practices, bringing also examples in forms of short presentations from their own countries. Students will participate on site visits to places in Budapest run by a strong activist group, involved in participatory design processes, or showing other interesting new sides of urban activism.

During the practical classes the students will make a design proposal or activity process simulation for a selected public space in Budapest, either in a dense urban context or on the spaces of a housing estate, or in a suburban situation. A group work is expected to study the capabilities of the place, the different social groups present and the possibilities to involve these locals.

During the semester students will make a practical intervention in that public space of Budapest. In the group work the possibilities of the site, the local needs and the social environment must be analysed, and an intervention must be planned and implemented involving local groups or responding to local needs. The aim is to use minimal resources to achieve maximum impact.

The course will be held in English.

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Leslie Forsyth, Paul Jenkins ed: *Architecture, Participation and Society*, Taylor & Francis, London, 2009

Henry Sanoff: *Community Participation Methods in Design and Planning*, John Wiley and Sons, New York, 1999.

William H. Whyte: *The Social Life Of Small Urban Spaces, Project for Public Spaces*, 1980

Oscar Newman: *Defensible Space - Crime Prevention Through Urban Design*, Macmillan Pub. Co, 1973

Jones Blundell, Peter Blundell Jones: *Architecture and Participation*, Taylor & Francis, 2005

Nigel Taylor: *Urban Planning Theory Since 1945*, Sage, 1998

Stephen Carr, Mark Francis, Leanne G. Rivlin, Andrew M. Stone: *Public Space*, Cambridge Univ Press, 1993

Szabó Julianna, Kissfazekas Kornélia, Kádár Bálint, Deigner Ágnes, Riedel Miklós: *European practice of participatory design, studies at the department*

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1ST WEEK - theory

Introduction to the history of participatory design

2ND WEEK - theory

Analysis of European examples of participatory design

3RD WEEK - theory

Analysis of the Hungarian practice, spatial problems of public space usage

4TH WEEK - practice

Selection of a public space in Budapest, analysis of the sight and users

5TH WEEK - practice

Site visit to the selected public space

6TH WEEK - practice

Planning of a participatory design strategy, consultation

7TH WEEK - practice

Mapping of the user communities, collecting their needs, consultation

8TH WEEK - practice

Student presentations: The communal needs of the selected area

9TH WEEK - theory

Usage of e-technologies in the participatory design process

10TH WEEK - practice

Participatory design practice, consultation

11TH WEEK - practice

Participatory design practice, consultation

12TH WEEK - practice

Student presentations: Public spaces renewed with a participatory design process

13TH WEEK - practice

Discussion of the results, collection and archive of the digital material