History of Contemporary Construction: Capita Selecta (E080070)

Due to Covid 19, the education and evaluation methods may vary from the information displayed in the schedules and course details. Any changes will be communicated on Ufora.

Lecturers in academic year 2020-2021
- De Meyer, Ronald
- De Kooning, Emiel

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2020-2021

A (semester 2) Dutch Gent self-reliant study activities
- 33.75 h
- lecture 12.5 h

Offered in the following programmes in 2020-2021
- Master of Science in Engineering: Architecture (main subject Architectural Design and Construction Techniques) 4 A
- Master of Science in Engineering: Architecture (main subject Urban Design and Architecture) 4 A

Keyword
- Construction, architectural design

Position of the course
This course develops a reflection on contemporary construction from the perspective of the architectural design practice. It sheds a light on several aspects of the theory and history of constructional design in the 20th and 21st century.
The course draws attention to the cultural, historical, ideological, social and political meanings of constructional design and discusses the relationships with broader themes and fields of research.
Within the ‘Master of Engineering: Architecture - Architectural Design and Construction Techniques’ the course supplies knowledge and insights which stimulate conscious decision making in the design process.

Contents
The course approaches the history and theory of constructional design of the 20th and 21st century in a thematic way. The focus is on the reflections on and the critical analysis of design strategies underlying contemporary constructional design in Europe, the United States and East Asia.
The themes discussed in the course lectures offer a historical and theoretical framework and refer to the contemporary developments in international research.

The themes may include:
- standardization, prefab construction
- constructional typologies
- dissemination of knowledge
- the impact of world wars on construction
- Computer Aided Design and Artificial Intelligence
- ...

In each case theoretical concepts are discussed in direct relation with examples of constructional design practice.
With this thematic approach the course supplies knowledge and strategies to develop a well-founded personal view on the field of constructional design.
Initial competences


Final competences

1. being able to show insight in the course material
2. being able to develop a personal and critical reflection on the discussed themes and to trace and collect the necessary sources to underpin this reflection
3. being able to present the developed insights, using established academic presentation formats

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is determined after successful competences assessment

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

- Lecture, self-reliant study activities

Extra information on the teaching methods

Individual work: presentation and (architectural) model construction and analysis

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Learning materials and price

- personal notes
- reader

References

Next to the reader, chapters of the following works of reference may be used:

- A+T Density Series
- Reinforced concrete: Ideologies and Forms from Hennebique to Hilberseimer, Rassegna, nr. 49/1, Bologna, 1992
- Proceedings of the first international congress on construction history, Madrid, 2003
- Proceedings of the second international congress on construction history, Cambridge, 2006
- Proceedings of the third international congress on construction history, Cottbus, 2009
- Bill, Addis, Building: 3000 years of design engineering and construction, New York, 2007
- Ingrid Böck, Six canonical projects by Rem Koolhaas. Essays on the History of Ideas, Berlijn, 2015
- Koos Bosma, Housing for the Millions: John Habraken and the SAR (1960-2000), Rotterdam, 2000
- Peter Collins, Kenneth Frampton, Réjean Legault, Concrete: The Vision of a New Architecture, Québec, 2004
- Adrian Forty, Concrete and Culture. A Material History, Londen, 2012
- Yona Friedman, The Dilution of Architecture, Lausanne, 2015
- Lucien Kroll, Composants: faut-il industrialiser l’architecture, Brussel, 1979
- Cyrille Simonnet, Le Béton, histoire d’un matériau, Marseille, 2005
- Paul Virilio, Bunker Archéologie, Etude sur l’espace militaire européen de la Seconde Guerre mondiale, Parijs, 1975

Course content-related study coaching

The electronic learning environment and organised feedback sessions in preparation of the paper.

Evaluation methods

end-of-term evaluation and continuous assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the first examination period

(Approved)
Oral examination

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the second examination period

Oral examination

Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation

Report

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation

examination during the second examination period is possible in modified form

Extra information on the examination methods

oral examination

Calculation of the examination mark

• End-of-term evaluation, presentation: 30% of final score
• model construction and analysis: 70% of final score
• “Due to Covid19, the evaluation methods and the calculation of the examination mark may differ from the information displayed in the schedules and course details. Any changes will be communicated on Ufora, especially if one or more evaluations cannot be organised on campus or cannot be organised at all.”