

Architecture and Urban Design Summer School

Course Outline 2019

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Course Date	08.07.2019 – 26.07.2019
Class Hours	60 contact hours
Lecturer(s)	Prof. Dipl.-Ing. Carsten Rohde, Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences Prof. Dr. Klaus Klemp, University of Art and Design Offenbach
Course Description	<p>Frankfurt am Main and Offenbach am Main form a common metropolitan area; however, each city has a specific and very different character due to different migration cultures. Offenbach am Main is a classic working-class city with a high proportion of international people living there. Since the last Venice Architecture Biennale in 2016, Offenbach has been described as a city of migration; an “arrival city.” Frankfurt am Main, on the other hand, is characterized by the seat of many national and international banks. The mixture of down-to-earth and bourgeois population, immigration from different cultures, and international trading world shapes a cityscape in which high-rise buildings naturally have their place.</p> <p>The overarching theme of the summer school is the comparison between the cities of Frankfurt and Offenbach, where the interpretation of urban spaces by different groups can be examined and elaborated on in terms of design and planning.</p> <p>During the summer school, students will compare two city centers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frankfurt, Neue Mainzer Straße • Offenbach, S-Bahn Station Marktplatz <p>The locations are positioned in the middle of both cities and are heavily used as transit zones. Both city centers do not offer pedestrians possibility of appropriation. In addition to their importance as a traffic space, they have only a few identity-creating qualities and are not the focus of public perception.</p> <p>Summer school participants will study the historical origins of these two urban spaces and explore the needs that public spaces should satisfy. Approaches from architecture and design research will be considered; students will analyze spatial definitions, structures, design, and usability. Furthermore, students will compare these observations with corresponding situations from their home countries. Finally, participants will make suggestions for redesigns or additions to the city centers, referring to appropriation of space and public-oriented design elements.</p>
Course Content	<p>Introduction: Students will be given detailed information about the summer school course and the project goals.</p> <p>Analysis: A problem analysis will be created.</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What needs should public spaces satisfy? • How is “usability” defined in terms of the summer school project? • Which elements of architecture, product design, and design theory could be used to increase satisfaction with public spaces? • To what extent are architecture and structure part of good design and what role do structures play in design? <p>Professors will give interdisciplinary lectures, including topics such as design history and theory, sociology, urban planning, and design methodology. Students and professors will visit sites in Frankfurt and Offenbach.</p> <p>Design: Participants will work together in small groups consisting of architecture and design students. The working groups will develop proposals for a possible transformation of the two spatial situations in Frankfurt and Offenbach. Proposals can be in the form of text, graphics, or construction models.</p> <p>All project phases will be documented by the students. All resulting materials will be collected. If necessary, a corresponding documentation can be created.</p>
Course Method	Various teaching methods will be combined, including lectures, workshops, site visits, and group work.
Learning Outcomes	<p>By participating in the summer school course, students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify urban structures beyond the architectural individual object and compare free-space, functional, and social determinants. • Analyze design theory, design and usability in urban districts, as well as the roles these elements play in urban planning. • Apply their knowledge in creative ways to their own concepts, while at the same time working structurally, finding alternative solutions, and making judgements on their progress. • Effectively present and critically evaluate project results.
Credits	Students will earn a total of 5 ECTS points for the successful completion of the summer school.
Assessment	Learning will be assessed by presentations at the end of the summer school. Presentations can be in the form of text, graphics, or construction models.
Grading	TBD