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Office: Barcelona studio  
Office Hours: Monday mornings 10:00 – 14:00

**Guest Instructor:** **Josep Ferrando**  
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**Course Schedule:** Mondays and Thursdays 15:00 – 19:00 unless indicated otherwise.

### **Introduction**

This is a research design studio in which students collaborate with design faculty in exploring projects that engage contemporary issues defining the built and natural environments. Students choose topics outlined by faculty research expertise, including sustainable design, digital design and fabrication, architecture and the contemporary city, and innovative practice. Studio to be taken with two EVDS half courses complimentary to the studio topic.

### **Objectives**

1. To become familiar with the culture and spatial practices of another part of the world, especially as these relate to architecture and urbanism.
2. To gain an understanding of the ways that architecture and urban design are shaped by—and in turn shape—urban life.
3. To apply empirical observation and analysis of an unfamiliar built environment toward a design problem in that very environment.
4. To develop and refine architectural design skills for dense, multiple-use, and highly complex urban situations.
5. To experience and understand the dynamics of working in a group situation to develop a common architectural response.
6. To resolve an architectural and urban design problem beyond the scale of a singular architectural object so as to include those of building typology, the city block, landscape, public open space, and infrastructure.

### **Teaching Approach**

Students work on their projects individually, except in some stages in which work is carried out in groups. The course is conducted as a design studio, with studio instructors meeting with students on a regular basis to review progress, discuss matters related to the project, provide feedback, and give direction. Project content and progress is also discussed and reviewed through informal pin-up sessions, and formal project presentations (i.e. interim and final reviews). Formal reviews normally include invited reviewers from within the Faculty, the University and/or elsewhere.

The Barcelona offering of EVDS 782 is conducted as a design investigation of relevant current urban issues through hypothetical projects for real sites in that city. All classes, meetings and reviews will take place in the studio situated at Makers of Barcelona (MOB) at C/ Bailén 11.

## Content: Topic Areas

### **STUDIO THEME: *Recycling the Palimpsest***

The adaptive reuse of existing buildings is the future of many European cities, and hence of European architecture. Thanks to decades of overbuilding, countries such as Spain are now stuck with a glut of nearly a million empty properties. These include not only mid-2000s boom time developments in urban peripheries that never sold, but also older buildings in historical cores that were abandoned during the boom. This glut makes the adaptation of existing buildings for new uses (often in conjunction with urban infill) increasingly attractive, and is where architectural attention is increasingly shifting even among *neo-avant-gardistes* such as Rem Koolhaas. In fact, the architecture of 'newness' is coming to be perceived as increasingly tiresome by a growing number of architects, artists and designers who are finding fertile ground for 'new' architecture *precisely* through the adaptive reuse of *existing* buildings, eschewing both the *tabula rasa* approach as well as neo-traditionalism. More than a green movement, the architecture, art and design of recycling and *ad hocism* has in fact become new cultural code for 'creativity'; the ironic implication being that 'radical newness' has become staid, square.

Old buildings are in fact remarkably versatile and resilient, precisely due to their stationary, static and 'dumb' qualities. Indeed, in millennial cities such as Barcelona, it seems that the older a building, and hence the *less* technologically advanced or 'smart' it is, the more versatile it often turns out to be. Thus, Medieval palaces make for great art museums (e.g. the Picasso Museum), Modernista apartments makes for excellent 'prestige office space', and worn-down 19<sup>th</sup> century industrial buildings make for highly sought lofts and live-work spaces (the more beaten and weathered the building the better, seemingly).

The project assignment for this term is to 're-urbanize' a city block comprised mostly of abandoned industrial buildings, maintaining and transforming existing structures that are worthy and infilling anew where appropriate. The idea is not to create a 'heritage district', but rather to intervene in and around existing buildings in a way that not only makes rational use of these structures, but that also establishes greater urban and social continuity. The project will be completed in five stages, each comprising both investigation and design, and each culminating in a formal review. A sixth stage, Documentation, is to be delivered upon returning to Calgary in December.

### **PROJECT PHASES**

Phase 1: Public Space.	Review 1: Thursday 1 October 15:00
Phase 2: Communal Space.	Review 2: Thursday 15 October 15:00
Phase 3: Domestic Space.	Review 3: Thursday 5 November 15:00
Phase 4: Materiality	Review 4: Thursday 19 November 15:00
Phase 5: Inhabitation	Review 5: Monday 30 November 15:00
Phase 6: Documentation	Hand in: Friday 4 December 12:00 MST

More detailed items such as site information, programmatic requirements, and methodology will be supplied at the outset of each stage.

### **Means of Evaluation**

The course evaluation will be based on the projects to be completed during the term. Each project will be graded for both content and presentation. Phases 1-3 of the studio are entirely comprised of group project work and the grades will be assigned to each group as a whole and each student working in the group will receive the same grade. Phase 4 is an individual project to document the work of the semester in an 8.5x11 PDF publication. The document will contain graphic and written descriptions of the minor and major design projects as well as a written critical reflection on the research work. Graphic standard for the publication and further details on the critical reflection will be provided during the term. Students will be expected to complete each of the course assignments. There will be no final exam. Students must obtain an overall passing grade to pass this course, however, if a student fails any phase of the course worth 30% or more they will fail the course.

Stage 1:	10%
Stage 2:	10%
Stage 3:	15%
Stage 4:	20%
Stage 5:	30%
Stage 6:	10%
Attendance	5%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>100%</b>

### Grading Scale

Faculty shall use the following methods for reporting grades and for determining final grades. Final grades shall be reported as letter grades, with the grade point value as per column 2. Final grades shall be calculated according to the 4-point range in column 3. Should faculty members evaluate any individual exams or assignments by percentage grades, the equivalents shown in column 4 shall be used.

Students must be informed of the method of calculation, and should be able to, from the grades provided by the instructor, determine their standing.

Final grades will be reported as letter grades, with the final grade calculated according to the 4-point range. Assignment(s) evaluated by percentage grades will be converted into letter grade equivalents as shown.

Grade	Grade Point Value	4-Point Range	Percent	Description
A+	4.00	4.00	92.5-100	Outstanding - evaluated by instructor
A	4.00	3.85-4.00	85-92.49	Excellent - superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of the subject matter
A-	3.70	3.50-3.84	80-84.99	Very good performance
B+	3.30	3.15-3.49	76-79.99	Good performance
B	3.00	2.85-3.14	73-75.99	Satisfactory performance
B-	2.70	2.50-2.84	70-72.99	Minimum pass for students in the Faculty of Graduate Studies
C+	2.30	2.15-2.49	66-69.99	All final grades below B- are indicative of failure at the graduate level and cannot be counted toward Faculty of Graduate Studies course requirements.
C	2.00	1.85-2.14	63-65.99	
C-	1.70	1.50-1.84	60-62.99	
D+	1.30	1.15-1.49	56-59.99	
D	1.00	0.50-1.14	50-55.99	
F	0.00	0-0.49	0-49.99	

Notes:

- A student who receives a "C+" or lower in any one course will be required to withdraw regardless of their grade point average (GPA) unless the program recommends otherwise. If the program permits the student to retake a failed course, the second grade will replace the initial grade in the calculation of the GPA, and both grades will appear on the transcript.

### Bibliography

Busquets, Joan. *Barcelona: The Urban Construction of a Compact City* (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University, 2002)

Manuel de Solà-Morales: *10 Lessons on Barcelona* (Barcelona: ACTAR, 2008)

Soria i Puig, Arturo, ed. *Cerdà: The Five Bases of the General Theory of Urbanization* (Madrid: Electa España, 1999)

Estanislau Roca, Inés Aquilué & Renata Gomes: *Walking the City: Barcelona as an Urban Experience* (Barcelona: Universitat de Barcelona, 2015)  
 Marshall, Tim, ed. *Transforming Barcelona* (London: Routledge, 2004)  
 Pla, Maurici. *Catalonia: A Guide to Modern Architecture 1880-2007* (Barcelona: COAC, 2008)  
 Manuel Gausa, Marta Cervelló, Maurici Pla, Ricardo Devesa: *Barcelona Modern Architecture Guide 1860 – 2013* (Barcelona: ACTAR, 2015)  
 Hughes, Robert. *Barcelona* (New York: Vintage Books, 1993)  
 Rowe, Peter G. *Building Barcelona: A Second Renaixença* (Barcelona: ACTAR, 2006)  
 "Agenda 21, the Possible Future", *Barcelona Mediterranean Metropolis* #59  
 "Sustainability and New Energies", *Barcelona Mediterranean Metropolis* #67

### **CACB Student Performance Criteria:**

The following CACB Student Performance Criteria will be covered in this course at a secondary level: A3: Graphic Skills; B1: Design Skills.

### **Notes:**

1. Written work, term assignments and other course related work may only be submitted by e-mail if prior permission to do so has been obtained from the course instructor. Submissions must come from an official University of Calgary (ucalgary) email account.
2. Academic Accommodations. Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfil requirements for a graduate degree, based on a protected ground other than disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to their Instructor or the designated contact person in EVDS, Jennifer Taillefer (jtaillef@ucalgary.ca). Students who require an accommodation unrelated to their coursework or the requirements for a graduate degree, based on a protected ground other than disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the Vice-Provost (Student Experience). For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit [www.ucalgary.ca/access/](http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/)
3. Plagiarism - Plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done expressly for that particular course when, in fact, it is not. Most commonly plagiarism exists when:(a) the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test),(b) parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author,(c) the whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source, and/or,(d) a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course(although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved. While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted. Plagiarism is an extremely serious academic offence. It is recognized that clause (d) does not prevent a graduate student incorporating work previously done by him or her in a thesis. Any suspicion of plagiarism will be reported to the Dean, and dealt with as per the regulations in the University of Calgary Graduate Calendar.
4. Information regarding the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy>) and how this impacts the receipt and delivery of course material
5. Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>)
6. Safewalk information (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>)
7. Contact Info for: Student Union (<http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/page/affordability-accessibility/contact>); Graduate Student representative( <http://www.ucalgary.ca/gsa/>) and Student Ombudsman's Office (<http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/page/quality-education/academic-services/student-rights>).