

30757 - Architectural Narratives: Architecture as a Socio-Cultural Debate in Contemporary Times

Syllabus Information

Academic year: 2023/24

Subject: 30757 - Architectural Narratives: Architecture as a Socio-Cultural Debate in Contemporary Times

Faculty / School: 110 - Escuela de Ingeniería y Arquitectura

Degree: 470 - Bachelor's Degree in Architecture Studies

ECTS: 6.0

Year: 5

Semester: Second semester

Subject type: Optional

Module:

1. General information

The objective of the subject "Architectural narratives: architecture and urbanism as a socio-cultural debate in contemporary times" is to deepen the understanding of architecture as a discipline that is part of a complex socio-cultural environment that needs to be analyzed by incorporating knowledge and working methodologies from disciplines linked to the social sciences and humanities. Thus, the main objective of this subject is to foster the critical spirit of the students by generating forums for debate and discussion based on and specialized in gender studies and feminist theory.

These approaches and objectives are aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the 2030 Agenda of United Nations (<https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/es/>) and certain specific targets: SDG-5: Equality of Gender, with special attention to the Target. 5. C Adopt and strengthen sound policies and enforceable laws to promote gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls at all levels; SDG-11: Sustainable cities and communities, especially in relation to targets Target 11.1 ensure access for all people to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services and improve slums and target 11.3 increase inclusive and sustainable urbanization and capacity for participatory, integrated and sustainable planning and management of human settlements in all countries.

2. Learning results

- To understand how architecture and urban planning can contribute to improving the inequalities present in the Societies incorporating the gender perspective in their historical analysis and contemporary proposals.
- To know how architecture and urbanism can contribute to design architectural and urban spaces that are more sustainable for the planet and inclusive for all people.
- Coordinate verbal and written discourse in the development of creative processes and at the time of their subsequent explanation and communication. This result is understood within the fields of urban planning and architecture, and applied to the context of the presentation in English.
- Learn to establish a critical discourse when reading specialized texts on the subject matter of the course.

3. Syllabus

Block 01: Basic concepts on gender, (in)equality, inclusion and diversity.

UNIT 1. Sex-gender dualism and the search for equality in difference.

UNIT 2. The construction of race.

UNIT 3. Patriarchal definition of the-woman and the concept of the heterosexual matrix.

UNIT 4. The concept of intersectionality. Gender, race, age and sex inequalities.

Block 02. History of women in architecture.

UNIT 1. Canon and invisibility of women in global narratives of architecture.

UNIT 2. Telling stories of women architects. Historical dilemmas.

UNIT 3. Telling stories of women architects. Historiographic methodologies.

UNIT 4. Telling stories of women architects. Outstanding examples.

Block 03. The feminist de-construction of the modern view of urbanism.

UNIT 1. Feminist critiques of the modern functionalist city.

What is gender-sensitive urbanism and what does it contribute to the contemporary debate?

UNIT 3. Intersectionality and inequalities of class, race, age and geography.

UNIT 4. The design of inclusive and equitable cities and spaces.

4. Academic activities

Theoretical Classes (Lecture T1): 12 h

Two hours of theoretical master classes will be given weekly, according to the class schedule. In them, the teacher will present the specific contents of each topic of the program and, together with the students, some related texts will be discussed. The recommended bibliography and the selection of texts will be available to everyone at MOODLE platform of the University of Zaragoza

Seminars (Practical T3A): 36 h

Period of instruction based on discussion derived from reading texts provided by the faculty.

Visits (T4):12 h

The subject includes a series of visits related to the contents covered during it.

5. Assessment system

For the continuous assessment there will be four exercises: three questionnaires (one per block) and a written essay. Each quiz will be worth 20% of the final grade of the subject. The written essay will be worth 40% of the final grade of the subject.

Students who do not pass by continuous assessment will have the right to a global assessment by means of a face-to-face exam on the day and time established by the center.