Universidad Zaragoza

Academic Year/course: 2023/24

68043 - Theory and history of contemporary architecture

Syllabus Information

Academic year: 2023/24
Subject: 68043 - Theory and history of contemporary architecture
Faculty / School: 103 - Facultad de Filosofía y Letras
Degree: 550 - Master's in Advanced Studies in the History of Art
ECTS: 4.5
Year: 1
Semester: Annual
Subject type: Optional
Module:

1. General information

This subject aims to provide the student with the essential bases to know and understand the fundamentals of the History of Contemporary Architecture, to analyse and evaluate its different typologies and to contextualise them in terms of the incorporation of new technical, formal and conceptual proposals that adapt to today's society.

These approaches and objectives are aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations 2030 Agenda (https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/en/), in such a way that the acquisition of the learning results of the subject provide training and competence to contribute to some extent to their achievement and, specifically Goal 4 - Quality Education, 5 -Gender equality-, 10 -Reducing inequalities-, 11 -Sustainable cities and communities-, 16 -Peace, justice and strong institutions- and 17 -Partnerships to achieve the goals-.

2. Learning results

Upon completion of this subject the student will be able to:

1- systematically search for, organize and coherently interpret information related to the Theory and History of Contemporary Architecture, obtained by different means and from different sources (bibliographic, documentary, oral, etc.).

2- integrate knowledge and face the complexity entailed by the formulation of judgments based on incomplete or limited information that includes reflections on the social and ethical responsibilities linked to their specialized knowledge and judgments.

3- apply the acquired knowledge and solve problems in new or unfamiliar environments inside broader contexts, within the strict framework of professional ethics.

4- disseminate and communicate complex and original ideas, arguments and judgements on the Theory and History of Contemporary Architecture to specialist and non-specialist audiences in a clear and convincing, organised and coherent manner, either orally or in writing. Discuss within a group the contributions made in academic works of an advanced level and in research works.

5- make effective use of ICT, both in the search for information sources and in the organisation of the data found, as well as in the communication or dissemination (oral and written) of the results of the subject´s work.

6- acquire learning skills that allow the student to continue their own personal training in the field of contemporary architecture in an autonomous or self-directed way, according to their higher level of specialization, as well as to develop new skills at a high level.

7- systematically understand the most important sources related to contemporary architecture, their interpretative approaches and fundamental topics of debate.

8- plan and develop individually academic works of an advanced level, as well as research works that constitute an original and unpublished contribution to knowledge of Architecture in the Contemporary Age according to the scientific method, the critical canons and the ethical codes of the discipline.

9- directly analyse contemporary architectural works in the Contemporary Age, describing and interpreting them at an advanced level, taking into account their characteristics and the language of their forms, as well as cataloguing them in accordance with the methods and rules of the discipline.

10- systematically construct, with accuracy and critical sense, theories, theses or conclusions about Theory and History of Contemporary Architecture that contribute to the knowledge of this field of Art History. Such theories, theses and conclusions must be based on the knowledge acquired, the information gathered and the analysis of works of art.

3. Syllabus

Topic 1. -Graphic representation and planimetry.

Topic 2.- Cataloguing.

Topic 3.-Experimenting with the ephemeral.

Topic 4.- The vertical challenge.

Topic 5.-New uses, new constructions.

Topic 6.- Building on what is built.

4. Academic activities

1.- Theoretical classes:

Oral presentation by the teacher of the theoretical contents of the subject.

2.- Practical classes:

-Analysis, commentary and interpretation of architectural projects with the use of specialised tools.

-Commentary and analysis of sources and texts.

-Field work and cataloguing exercises performed individually and in groups.

3.- Personal study. Assimilation of the contents exposed in the theoretical and practical classes, reading and study of bibliography and previous personal preparation of the practical activities.

4.- Tutorials. Time dedicated to guide the student's learning and to explain and review homework assignments.

5. Assessment system

I. First call

Global assessment.

a) Introductory research work (55%): the student, supervised by the teacher, will carry out the study, assessment and cataloguing of a contemporary construction based on the analysis of archival and bibliographic sources.

Criteria: works will be evaluated according to the scientific method and the critical canons of the discipline, their quality, the use of procedural instruments, their ability to define the nature of a research, the personal contribution/research and a correct presentation.

b) Practical (20%): Presentation of the previous study to the rest of the students.

Criteria: this test is intended to train, exercise and broaden the student's vision of the subject through the use of instruments for content presentation. The ability to adopt an appropriate methodology and defend a historical-critical interpretation of a work of contemporary architecture will be assessed.

c) Follow-up of the subject (25%): Participation in the debate that will take place after the presentation of the previous study.

Criteria: The same as for the previous section.

II. Second Call

Global assessment.

The second call follows the same system, tests, computations and assessment criteria as the first one.