

Academic Year/course: 2024/25

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

Syllabus Information

Academic year: 2024/25

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. Hence, the main objective of the course 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. This academic year the course is taught entirely in English and is related to the research project ***Women Architects in Film, 1940-2000***.

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.
- Recognize gender, race and social class biases in the media linked to architecture.

3. Syllabus

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

- Sex-gender dualism. Equality and Difference.
- Gender, Race and Intersectionality.
- Femininity, Patriarchal definition of the-woman and Heterosexual Matrix.
- Queer gazes, 2LGTBQIA+ and Transfeminism.

Section 02: Women, Gender, Feminism and Architecture.

- Women Architects, Women and the Built Environment, and Women as Commentators of Architecture.
- Narrating Women Architects' Histories. Paradigms, Dilemmas, and Challenges.
- Feminist Critiques of the Built Environment (Feminist Urbanism & Gender Planning).

Section 03: Women Architects and their Representation in the Media.

- Architecture, Visual Pleasure and Ambivalent Sexism in the Media.
- Women Architects in Film, 1940-2000. Hollywood, France, Italy, Spain and Greece.

4. Academic activities

Theoretical Classes (Lecture T1)

Two hours of lectures will be given weekly according to the class schedule. In them, the professors will present the specific contents of each subject of the program.

Seminars (Practical T3A)

Two hours of seminars will be given weekly. Following the plan of the course, some sessions will be devoted to the reading and discussion of texts on feminist theory and architecture, others to the viewing of films and documentaries on the representation of women architects and to the review of the development of the final paper.

5. Assessment system

Option A: The learning of the subject by **continuous assessment** consists of the following parts: Oral Presentations (40%), Final Paper (60%).

- Oral presentations: Each student must make a minimum of four oral presentations throughout the course, corresponding to the presentations of a minimum of two theoretical texts and two films.
- Final Paper: Each student must complete a final paper (3,500 and 4,000 words) according to the guide provided at the beginning of the course.

Option B: The subject may also be passed in a **unique evaluation** will consist of a final written exam according to the schedule provided by the center (100%).

6. Sustainable Development Goals

5 - Gender Equality
10 - Reduction of Inequalities
11 - Sustainable Cities and Communities