

URBAN AND ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN STUDIO 1.2 POLITECNICO DI MILANO SEDE DI PIACENZA

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DESIGNING CITIES OF THE WORLD 2019 URBAN AND ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN STUDIO 1.2

POLITECNICO DI MILANO SEDE DI PIACENZA

THINKING THE CITY: Temporary versus definitive From the REFUGEE CAMP to the consolidated neighbourhood

Foreword

Barcelona since the Olympics in 1992 has gone through an important renewal of its cityscape, becoming a reference for the urban development of consolidated towns. The different proposals and the way they have been carried out, as well as the areas that still have to be arranged, mostly at the city borders and at the former industrial sites, provide a large range of opportunities to think upon urban space and civic life in the 21st century.

Barcelona has also changed its character; it has developed from provincial town to international city. People of all parts of the world share space and services, sorrows and joys.

The fact that the responsible of this master course (Prof. Karin Hofert) comes from Barcelona invites to use the town as case study and living laboratory. BCN offers us the opportunity to transform and improve some specific area by developing a plausible proposal from city until detail scale.

Aim: an approach to the complexity of the city

The workshop will introduce to the complexity of the city structure.

Working in successive approaches, from city scale to architectural scale, forth and back, will allow understanding the urban form and its determining aspects: the morphology of the territory, the incidence of climate, the pressure of infrastructure, the traces of history, etc.; and of course the socio-economic aspects, related to human activity and its translation to space.

Barcelona is rich and complex, structured by all kind of patterns different in geometry, size, shape and contents. The working area is chosen strategically to give the opportunity to saw these contrasted realities; we will check in what amount the intervention on the site is capable to respond to this challenge.

The pedagogical aim is to get the skills and knowledge to be able to propose a piece of town; of course a simplified piece of town, but capable to support the discussion about its borders and about its relationship with the neighbour pieces, and capable to allow the reflection on diverse building typologies and their (physical) relations.

To achieve this aim special emphasis will be given to the understanding of space in its three dimensions. Sections, perspective drawing and models shall be used from the very beginning, understood as tools more then as result representations. The learning process, participative and experimental, will be taken very much in consideration. At the same time skills concerning the best way to explain aims and results will be trained.

Topic: proposal for a 'Multiple sustainable non-static city'

The specific theme of the course consists in urbanizing a part of the former industrial sector of Barcelona's well-known grid (Poblenou 22@).

The design is called to re-qualify the area from a physical, social and cultural point of view (requalification of: the built, the void and the relationship with the existing urban landscape), according to an overall strategic decision.

The strategy has to be flexible and at the same time tight enough to take in account and be able to host the changes in settlement that will take place in the next 30 years.

In the immediate future the site will harbour a refugee "camp". The project will discuss the degree of "provisionality" of the "camp", and will study how it can be developed into, or substituted by, a "definitive" settlement. We will fix and define two moments within this process, exploring how the initial urbanisation can contain the clues for a later development.

The themes to sound along the design process will be tightly connected to a 'projective vision' of the qualities of the place (regarding use, social environment, pre-existences, sustainable development, etc). Careful reading and understanding of the place identity will lead the design process to an integrated proposal.

Focusing the site itself special attention will be paid to public and open space. Understanding that public space is what makes a town be a town, by providing the space for socialisation, is a crucial point. Public space will work both in city scale and in local scale, in leisure terms and in production terms.

As for the program, the first urgent necessity of housing from the very beginning will be attached to an offer of working spaces and public and private services. A mixed use is proposed: working, housing, facilities. Hybridisation is the key to make towns alive.

As a transversal requirement the concept of sustainability will inform any decision taken. Nonsustainable architecture/urbanism is useless; infrastructure and buildings should achieve solvency and comfort by passive means as much as possible.

By working both multiscale and multiuse we pursue the integration of diverse components of our discipline: landscape, history, sociology, technology, art.

Interdisciplinary contributions

In coherence with the previous arguments the integration will be completed deepening in specific themes, such as "Agronomy and Food Science". These topics will be developed in an integrated way by the assistant teacher. The work on these issues at the studio will be underlined by specific lectures and (collective) discussions.

Structure: A theoretical and practical itinerary

The course will be shaped as follows:

- Learning-oriented basic thematic lectures.
- Applicative experimental workshops supported by case studies.
- Mid-term evaluations, referring to the project's different stages of evolution.
- Related activities such as seminars and exhibitions.
- Study-tour to Barcelona (Spain) with onsite visits and lectures.

These joint activities count with the presence of external professionals of national and international reputation.

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POLITECNICO DI MILANO SEDE DI PIACENZA

THE SITE

Barcelona is a rectangular plane sloping gently down to the Mediterranean Sea at its southeast border. On the opposite border northwest the Collserola hill range protects it from the north winds. On both sides two rivers flank the area.

On the sea border a hill falling steeply down into the water completes an advantageous topography, especially in military terms. The Roman conquerors choose this place to found a "supply station" on their way to inner Iberia. A busy little town developed, attached to the sea and with a fertile agricultural hinterland.

By time it became commercial, as its central position within the West Mediterranean Sea converted it in a trade centre for agricultural and craft products. In the middle age it was prosperous, but the "discovery" of America shifted trade to the Atlantic. For strategic reasons Barcelona was not allowed to extend beyond its tight city walls. Only the little villages along the northwest border of the farmland grew slowly.

1850 an already pretty industrialized Barcelona trapped in its walls and nearly bursting, finally got permission to tear the walls down and urbanize the land between the city and the surrounding villages. This is the origin of the grid. Cerdà's " Plano del Ensanche de Barcelona" was going to cover a surface nine times the existing one, which can be seen as a proper town foundation.

From the beginning a square pretended to become the centre of town, plaça de les Glòries, splits the grid in two parts. The eastern part, around the village of Poblenou, will become the industrial area of Barcelona.

Since the Olympics in 92 this area is undergoing a huge change. "Dirty" industrial activity is no longer allowed, coincident with the general industrial delocalisation happening in Europe. The socalled 22@ area is being reconverted into an innovation district whose main activities are based on knowledge and new technologies. Universities and IT/Communication/Media -related enterprises/clusters/startups are colonizing the area. In parallel a mixture of public and private residential promotion is going on. And also the classical creative activities related to art &co are present and, like the others, take advantage of the remaining industrial heritage under protection. The site we are going to work on occupies an area of ca. 2 X 4 blocs. Traces of the layout previous to the grid appear between the unfinished grid infrastructures. More than half of the surface is occupied by operating warehouses that have to be kept and integrated in the design. Some historical fabrics remain or have been refurbished. Several residential buildings have been erected in the last years. And a small municipal orchard provides planting surface to whoever wants to grow his food.

Both the free spaces and the borders of the area are messy and irregular. Shall we trace clear lines and limits or shall we intermingle our interventions with the existing erasing the seams? Which traces will guide the project: the ancient ones or the ones belonging to the grid? Or some others? Is it possible to foresee and "contain" a future scenario in a nowadays proposal? (How) can provisionality and "definitivity" coexist? What role does vegetation play in town? How shall we deal with heritace?

This is only a little sample of a large amount of questions that will arise.









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FUNCTIONAL PROGRAM

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The main issue in this project is integration: physical integration of the area in its environment, and social integration of the migrants who will establish here temporarily or permanently. To vehicle the integration of this nowadays somehow isolated piece of town and of very diverse groups of people who have in common that they are strangers at the place, a mixed-use program is proposed.

The majority of migrants that come to Spain from outside Europe and in poverty conditions arrive from Africa, mostly crossing illegally to the Canary Islands, through the Straight of Gibraltar, or jumping the wall that surrounds the Spanish colonial towns in Morocco. Behind many of them is a long voyage through several African countries (often "sponsored" by their families or their origin villages). Human-smuggle organizations have taken all their money. Usually they arrive in bad health conditions, but as most of them are young they recover relatively quickly. As for many the goal is Europe without distinctions, they decide to stay in Spain. The majority are male singles, whose original aim is to stay for some years earning money and then go back to their home countries. In Spain we find much more economical than political immigrants. A specific collective are the (male) teenagers, that arrive without identification to stay as long as possible: until they are eighteen they can not be expelled and Spanish Social Services have to take care of them.

Economical immigrants who enter Spain legally compose the other big group. They come mostly from South America and Morocco. Within them you find much more couples or families. Or if coming alone, their goal is to bring their acquaintance later on. From South America come more women than men, while from Morocco, if not families, men alone. The first pursue social jobs, the second jobs in agriculture and industry. Immigrants coming from Asia (Pakistanis: men+families, Chinese: families, Philippines: women) are also within this collective.

The site is meant to provide a first shelter for immigrants; to host them while they get their residence permit, while they search for employment.

There they shall get help to know the basics of the local way of living, to adapt to other logics and routines, to learn the language(s). From the very beginning they shall get the chance (and the obligation) to have regular and steady contact with the locals.

To do so several vehicles are proposed. Working together will tie human relations and restore self-esteem. Children schooling is a first step to integration. And sharing celebrations and other (leisure) occupations for sure will also help.

The common activities will work in both directions: Immigrants will become familiar with the local customs, and locals will learn about other ways of doing, being trained in open mindedness and tolerance. Different spaces to host these activities have to be developed: "camp" administration and social centre, orchards and canteen, language school and kindergarten, nursery and primary school, retail shops and co-working centre, Art-Artisan production centre and fab-lab, international library and ecumenical church. The aim is that the specificity of the area works as a magnet within town. The canteen is not only to provide the migrants food, but also to permit them and the local neighbours to offer selfcooked dishes that use the orchard production, to the rest of town. The kindergarten does not only mix the children, but also the teachers: it is a way to integrate mostly female immigrants, who usually are more familiar with social tasks and by collaborating gain respect and visibility. Shops are thought both as places to buy and to sell; open spaces should encourage shared leisure, for example sport activities, etc. etc.

While these facilities will have a medium term life, housing will undergo stronger changes. The residential proposal should contain the possibility and potentiality of adaptation and development. The request is not a transit camp, but the project of an area where the new arrivals, under certain conditions, can stay. That means on one hand to foresee growing density (thirty years to be consolidated) by an adjustable masterplan and on the other changing migrants' social/family structure by adaptable housing units.

To encourage integration, housing is also offered to other collectives, independent of their nationality: to people with lower income, included students and elderly (sheltered housing). The final proportion of immigrants and locals living in the area should be more or less one third and two thirds.

Site surface:	lotal	110.000 m2
(Unbuilt surface		55.000 m)
Warehouses to be kept	≥	30.000 m2
Open and Public Space	≥	35.000 m2 (included existing)
Residential	up to	25.000 m2 (included existing)
Facilities	≥	5.000 m2 (included existing)

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Based on these indicative figures the proposal will count with a minimum of:

Α	OPEN SPACE	25.000 m2
		20.000 Park with recreational areas (ev. open air sport area)
		5.000 Urban orchards
в	HOUSING	60.000 m2 up to 120.000 m2
		25.000 Temporary residence for immigrants
		25.000 Social Housing
		10.000 Elderly and students residence
		10.000 Lidenty and students residence
-		
С	FACILITIES, SERVICES	14.000 m2 + 4.000m2
С	FACILITIES, SERVICES	14.000 m2 + 4.000m2 500 Administrative
С	FACILITIES, SERVICES	
С	FACILITIES, SERVICES	500 Administrative
С	FACILITIES, SERVICES	500 Administrative 4.500 Cultural
С	FACILITIES, SERVICES	500 Administrative 4.500 Cultural 2.000 Educational 6.000 Productive
C	FACILITIES, SERVICES	500 Administrative 4.500 Cultural 2.000 Educational
С	FACILITIES, SERVICES	500 Administrative 4.500 Cultural 2.000 Educational 6.000 Productive
C		500 Administrative 4.500 Cultural 2.000 Educational 6.000 Productive 4.000 Commercial (private)
C	PUBLIC SPACE	500 Administrative 4.500 Cultural 2.000 Educational 6.000 Productive 4.000 Commercial (private) 10.000 m2
C		500 Administrative 4.500 Cultural 2.000 Educational 6.000 Productive 4.000 Commercial (private)

The projects should reflect on the initial status and the situation within thirty years.

Park with recreational areas and eventually open air sport areas 20.000 m2

Urban orchards 5.000 m2

HOUSING

Temporary residence(s) for immigrants 25.000 m2

100 apartments for up to 8 inhabitants 2 bathrooms, living room with kitchenette, 3 separate rooms 1 bathroom for every 2 rooms, 1 kitchen for every 4 rooms 200 four bed rooms Shared rooms: dining, TV, reading, study spaces, home gym, etc. Laundry Bike storage General storage Technical installations

Social Housing 25.000 m2

100 apartments for 6 inhabitants 100 apartments for 4 inhabitants 100 apartments for 2 inhabitants Bike storage General storage Technical installations

2 bathrooms, kitchen, living room, 3 separable rooms 2 bathrooms, kitchen, living room, 2 separable rooms 1 bathroom, kitchen, living room, 1 separable room

Elderly and students residence(s) 10.000 m2 wheel chair adapted

50 apartments for 4 inhabitants 50 apartments for 2 inhabitants 50 single rooms 100 double rooms

2 bathrooms, kitchen, living room, at least 2 separable rooms 1 bathroom, living room with kitchenette and sleeping area 1 bathroom for every 2 rooms; 1 kitchen for every 8 rooms 1 bathroom, 1 kitchen for every 8 rooms

Reception/administration

Shared rooms: dining, TV, reading, study spaces, home gym, etc. Laundry Bike storage General storage Technical installations

PUBLIC SPACE directly related to buildings

Parking lots Spread along streets Internal streets, squares, gardens etc. 8.000 m2 Inside the plot

2.000 m2

FACILITIES. SERVICES

Administrative:

"Camp" administration 500 m2

Reception and attendance Relax and waiting area 4 office rooms 2 meeting rooms 1 public meeting room Restrooms Storage Technical installations

Cultural:

Civic (or Neighbourhood) Centre 2.500 m2

10 activity rooms 2 multipurpose rooms 6 classrooms (language etc) 2 kitchen classrooms 1 auditorium Dressing rooms Relax area Exhibition area Children area Restrooms Storage Technical installations

With contiguous but independent

Canteen and bar Outdoors Terrace Kitchen Storage Restrooms

International Library 1.500 m2

Attendance and administration Office rooms Meeting rooms Book reading area (open shelf) Magazine and Newspaper area Media, video, show and music area Children area Computer and Research area Storage Technical installations

Ecumenical Church 500 m2

Courtyard or square Entrance 2 offices Restrooms Storage Technical installations

Educational:

Kindergarten and Nurserv school 2.000 m2

Entrance Administration: 4 offices 10 classrooms, with bathrooms inside Multipurpose hall Interior playground(s) Exterior playground(s) Dining room Teachers' dining room Kitchen Teachers' restroom and dressing room Storage Technical installations

Productive:

Fab/Lab and Co-working 6.000 m2

Attendance and administration Showcase Exhibition area 1 multipurpose hall: experimental theatre, auditorium, conferences 10 Meeting and teaching rooms Open co-working areas Co-working office for 100 people 20 technology laboratories 20 workshops for artists 20 workshops for craftsmen 10 cooking labs Restaurant and bar area, with supply for elderly residence Take away service Local-food market Bike storage Storage Technical installations

Commercial:

Private shops and services 4.000 m2 (spread, retail, never shopping malls) Preferably spin-offs:

Commercial Gastronomic Services Etc.

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LECTURES

0	Course presentation: contents, objectives, process by Karin Hofert
1	Presentation LS Agronomy and Food Science by Emanuela Torrigiani
2	BCN 2000 years. The site. by Karin Hofert
3	Phytoclimatic bands and Phytocenosis by Emanuela Torrigiani
4	The urban tissue: forms of town growth by Karin Hofert
5	Critical Reading and Representation by Karin Hofert
6	Production factors. Soil and land use maps. Ecosystem, agroecosistem services by Stefano Amaducci
7	Provisional town: urban space? by Karin Hofert
8	Restoring the city with nature 1 by Emanuela Torrigiani
9	Camp life – camp space by Ellen Henriques
10	Restoring the city with nature 2 by Emanuela Torrigiani
11	Housing typologies: ephimeral and/or flexible by Karin Hofert
12	Green systems (in urban areas) by Emanuela Torrigiani
13	Housing: Students' residences by Karin Hofert
14	After the "camp"? by Monica Bernardi
15	Urban Orchards. Green house / shade house by Emanuela Torrigiani
16	Co-working, Fablab: case studies by The Tutors
17	Housing: Basic structural systems by Karin Hofert
18	Façade and roof: composition and climate control by Karin Hofert
	Farewell

DESIGNING CITIES OF THE WORLD 2018 URBAN AND ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN STUDIO 1.2

POLITECNICO DI MILANO SEDE DI PIACENZA

COURSE STRUCTURE

B - The urban block - "camp"

C - The buildings

A ENVIRONMENTAL ANALISIS

1:10000

- 1:5000 in relation to Barcelona
- 1:2000 in relation to the neighbourhood
- 1:1000 in relation to the close surrounding
- 1:2000 conceptual masterplan

B MASTERPLAN

1:2000

- 1:1000 volumetry
- 1:1000 relation between built up /open space facilities / housing
- 1:500 "camp": facilities/ social housing/ open space: preliminary design

1:200 refugees' residence concept

C BASIC DESIGN DEVELOPMENT

- 1:200 facilities, housing typologies
- 1:200 public space inside the block
- 1:200 gral. elevations/sections
- 1:100 one residential building / student two facilities / group whole developement, included: 3D perspectives ext + int,
- 1:100 partial model,
- 1:20 façade section, details

				MORNING	AFTERNOO
	1	THURSDAY	28.2.		COURSE PRESENTATION. LECTURE
MARCH	2	FRIDAY	1.3.	STUDIO. LECTURE 2.	STUD
	3	THURSDAY	7.3.		LECTURE 3. STUD
	4	FRIDAY	8.3.	LECTURE 4.	SITE VIS
	5	THURSDAY	14.3.		STUD
	6	FRIDAY	15.3.	LECTURE 5.	STUD
	7	THURSDAY	21.3.		CRITS
	8	FRIDAY	22.3.	CRITS 1	NEXT STEPS EXPLANATI
	9	THURSDAY	28.3.		LECTURE 6. STUD
	10	FRIDAY	29.3.	LECTURE 7. STUDIO.	STUD
APRIL	11	THURSDAY	4.4.		LECTURE
	12	FRIDAY	5.4.	LECTURE 9.	STUDY TRIP TO BARCELO
	13	THURSDAY	11.4.		LECTURE 10. STUD
	14	FRIDAY	12.4.	LECTURE 11. STUDIO.	STUD
	15	THURSDAY	18.4.		LECTURE 12. STUD
EASTERN			19.4.		
			25.4.		
MAY			26.4.		
IVIAY	16	THURSDAY	2.5.		CRITS
	17		3.5.	CRITS 2	NEXT STEPS EXPLANATI
		THURSDAY	9.5.		LECTURE 13. STUD
	19	FRIDAY	10.5.	LECTURE 14. STUDIO.	STUD
		THURSDAY	16.5.		LECTURE 15. STUD
	21	FRIDAY	17.5.	LECTURE 16. STUDIO.	STUD
	22	THURSDAY	23.5.		LECTURE 17. STUD
	23	FRIDAY	24.5.	LECTURE 18. STUDIO.	STUD
	24 25	THURSDAY	30.5.	STUDIO.	STUD
JUNE	25 26	FRIDAY THURSDAY	31.5. 6.6.		STUD
	20	FRIDAY	7.6	CRITS 3	FAREWEI

TASK for 28.2./1.3.:

Fit your home neighbourhood into the site. Fit your Piacenza neighbourhood into the site.

Fit the site in a place you know well in your town.



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Let's start to work!



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