

Course PM, ARK641, Master's thesis preparation course 3p Autumn semester, 2020 Housing

"...in an infinite universe, anything that could be imagined might somewhere exist."

Dean Koontz

*"Hello, Rabbit,' he said, 'is that you?'
'Let's pretend it isn't,' said Rabbit, 'and see what happens.'"*

Winnie the Pooh

"all you need is a garden and a room"

Louis Kahn



Description and aim

The purpose of the course is for the students to develop and finalize their project plan. The course prepares the students for their master's thesis under the guidance of assigned examiner(s) and supervisor(s). It explores specific theories and/or design methods associated with a particular niche of architecture and urban design. It trains the students' ability to use design studies, precedent studies, context studies, material studies and/or theoretical texts as a basis for formulating a design problem and/or research query.



Within the direction of Housing, we investigate the built environment from a dwelling perspective. This includes an understanding of the historical development, familiarity with the current field of practice and research, combined with the ambition to address the social, functional and technical challenges we are facing in a changing society.

Content and structure

The course is organized as a combination of individual work, teaching sessions and shared presentations

	9-12	13-17
Oct 9	Project Pitch	Individual work
Oct 16	Info/ On Academic Writing	Individual work
Oct 23	Work-in-progress presentation	Individual work
Nov 13	Q&A	Individual work
Nov 20	Q&A	Individual work
Nov 20	Project plan delivery	
Nov 27	Presentation and feedback	
Jan 11	Final delivery	
Jan 21	Exhibition	

	mandatory
	deadline
	lecture/teacher
	individual work

Project Pitch:	5 minute/5 slides PP presentation to faculty and peers, direct feedback. Mandatory
On Academic Writing:	lecture about formats, formalities, expectations, tricks and tips
Work-in-progress:	10 min/10 slides PP presentation to faculty and peers, direct feedback from faculty.
Q&A	Faculty available for questions and answers
Presentation and feedback	20 min/15 slides PP presentation to faculty and peers. Feedback from faculty



We want the project plan delivered by November 20, to be able to give informed feedback at the presentation November 27. Students then have time until final delivery to make adjustments.

- 27 January, deadline 18.00, deliverance to registration to the master's thesis term, up-load project plan to ping-pong and deliver a paper version of project plan and a registration form. Leave the project plan and the form in a paper-folder in the reception on the 3rd floor.
- 13 January, deadline 10.00, leave a paper version of the project plan in the reception on the 3rd floor.

Submission requirements

We use Canvas for all our deliverances. As all directions share the same activity, please make sure you are uploading to the right direction.

All canvas deliveries should be named with student 's last name followed by the title of the project: i.e **Granath_Digital analysis**

Final delivery in format A4, 1500-1800 words, max 8 pages (including illustrations).

The project plan should contain: An abstract, a title, purpose and aim, main questions (at least one, maximum three), theoretical, practice base and inspirational references, method/s and process, realistic time plan, delimitations, and statement regarding competence and relevance to studio.

All authors are expected to include at least three updated and relevant scientific references, and at least one relevant project.

Updated = published within the last 5 years

Scientific reference: peer reviewed papers, conference proceedings or similar

All relevant references should be listed at the end of the project plan.

All listed references should be used in the text.

The terms "relevant" and "project" are open to definition by the authors.

Site-based design projects should have decided on a site before project is approved.

Evaluation criteria's

Grading: Approved/not approved



Successful projects should address a relevant topic and combine professional architectural and engineering skills with updated knowledge of relevant scientific work within the field of interest, and the current development within the field of practice. A student must have relevant competence within the chosen topic.

Approved projects should meet at least “acceptable” standard in all aspects.

	n/a	Weak	Acceptable	Good
Purpose and aim				
Relevance				
Research question/s				
Scientific references				
Practice based/inspirational references				
Method and process including time plan				
Student competence				

Example of previous theses

Gustav Jönsson: c/o Masthuggskajen – modern cohousing with focus on sharing and social interaction Chalmers ACE MT 2019

Johanna Glán Brinkenberg & Sonja Miettinen: Home free home – a polyvalent approach to housing Chalmers ACE MT 2019

Hao Lihui: The intermediate layers – research on typology of balcony, Chalmers ACE MT 2019

Sofia Nordin: Durable temporality – design and temporality in modular architecture Chalmers ACE MT 2019

Faculty

Ola Nylander, professor, examiner

Kaj Granath, architect, PhD, visiting researcher, supervisor

Jan Larsson, architect, guest professor

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