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**AH/UH330 ARCHITECTURE AND LANDSCAPE**  
**IES Barcelona Syllabus – Last updated: April 16th, 2008**

**DESCRIPTION:** The focus of this course is the “Barcelona Model”, the ambitious urban, architectural, landscape, and public space projects steered by the public sector, that have transformed the city since the democratic transition, bringing international acclaim. Why are other cities looking to Barcelona as a “model”? The class is structured in three thematic blocks: the first offers a historical background that explores the traditional relationship between city, landscape and architecture; the changes brought by industrialization and the invention of urbanism. The second uses the term landscape in the broadest sense to examine the Barcelona case and the concept of post industrial cities in general. The strategies that cities are using to restructure their urban and economic base, to resituate themselves in a newly emerging international context will be discussed. The third part is more speculative and explores globalizing forces affecting contemporary cities, causing the creation of common landscapes as well as greater awareness of local identity, the environment and sustainability. (3 credits)

**INSTRUCTOR:** Suzanne Strum

**METHOD OF PRESENTATION:**

- **FIELD STUDIES:** On site visits to works of architecture, urbanism, landscape and public space projects are an essential component of the class content. Students will tour works that form part of the international projection of the city as well as visiting some of the everyday landscapes in neighbourhoods far outside of normal tourist itineraries.
- **LECTURES:** The lectures provide a general overview of the course thematic, the general background and groundwork, as well as underlining theoretical frameworks that are the major focus of the class.
- **CASE STUDIES:** Following from the theoretical frameworks established in each session, specific cases will be studied in detail.
- **READER:** The texts offer a multi-disciplinary approach to issues in the contemporary city. Written by architects, geographers, urban sociologists, urbanists, art historians, and environmentalists, they range from historical background to contemporary analysis and critique.
- **Film Excerpts:** The class will make use of recent film documentaries that deal with the transformation of Barcelona as well as other cities including Bilbao and London.
- **STUDENT PRESENTATIONS:** Students will have the opportunity to analyze a specific work in Barcelona making use of a comparative approach and offer it to the group for discussion.

**LANGUAGE OF PRESENTATION:** English

**REQUIRED WORK AND FORM OF ASSESSMENT:** Class participation and attendance (20%); Midterm exam (25%); Final exam (25%); Research paper (20%); Oral presentation (10%)

Student participation in class is essential and will be assessed. Students are expected to have an active role in the class, participating in class discussions and fulfilling the required reading for each session. There are two exams: a midterm and a final, on the contents of the course. Students will also develop a written research paper on a topic in guidance with the instructor. The findings of this investigation will form the basis of an oral presentation given to the group by each student.

**IES ATTENDANCE POLICY:** Attendance is mandatory for all IES classes, including field studies. Students are permitted 3 absences in IES area studies courses and 5 absences in IES Spanish language courses with no impact on the final grade. These include absences due to illness, delayed flights, interviews, family celebrations, or any other personal commitments. Beyond these absences, one half of a letter grade will be deducted from the final grade for each additional absence. If a student is absent more than 7 times for area studies courses or 10 times for language courses, the student will receive an F for the course.

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**LEARNING OUTCOMES:** By the end of the course, students are able to:

- Recognise and Distinguish: the formal and aesthetic aspects of contemporary Spanish architecture, landscape design and urbanism;
- Construct: a vocabulary for analysing architecture and urbanism in the modern city;
- Evaluate: the cultural, political and economic implications of urbanism and architecture within the context of the country's modern history;
- Compare and Contrast: the Spanish context of architecture, landscape and urbanism with European and American examples to establish a broader set of issues;
- Debate: a series of wider themes that arise from studying the Barcelona model including: national identity; the importance of public space, new definitions of landscape; and the transformation of post industrial cities.

**CONTENT:**

Session 1: Introduction: The Barcelona Model.

How the creation of a network of public landscapes and urban voids was used to regenerate the contemporary post-industrial city and its relation with historical, traditional, and expanding notions of landscape, architecture and urban form

Session 2: The Industrial City: Theoretical Frameworks for Urbanism, Architecture and landscape. Barcelona's Expansion.

*Required readings:*

Busquets, Joan. "The Cerdà Plan, A Pioneering Work in Modern Urban Planning". *The Urban Evolution of a Compact City*, pp: 122-142.

Session 3: The Industrial City: The Creation of Public Parks. The Ciutadella and the 1888 Exposición. The Legacy of Modernisme

*Required readings:*

Busquets, Joan. "Barcelona, City of Innovation" in *The Urban Evolution of a Compact City*, pp: 151- 176.

Session 4: Alternatives to the Industrial City: the Factory Town and Garden City Model. Gaudi's Colonia Güell and Park Güell.

*Required readings:*

Solà-Morales, Ignasi de (1991) "The Park Güell" in *The Architecture of Western Gardens*. Pp: 438-440.

Session 5: Field Study: Park Güell

Session 6: Before the Spanish Civil War. From Modernisme to Noucentisme. Overview of the architectural and landscape transformations in the city.

*Required readings:*

Busquets, Joan. (2005) "The Turn of the Century and Greater Barcelona" in *The Urban Evolution of a Compact City*. Pp: 189-196 and 204-228.

Session 7: The Influence of the Modern Movement. The work of the GATCPAC and Le Corbusier.

*Required readings:*

Busquets, Joan. (2005) "The Barcelona of a Million Inhabitants. The Gatcpac and the Functional City" in *The Urban Evolution of a Compact City*. Pp: 248-263

Session 8: Field Study: Joan Miró Park, Mies van der Rohe Pavillion, and Caixa Forum.

*Required readings:*

Benach, Nuria. (2003) "Public Spaces in Barcelona 1980-2000" in Marshall, Tim (ed.) *Transforming Barcelona*. Pp. 151- 159.

Session 9: Urban Social Landscapes and the Barcelona Model. The first plazas and gardens of the democratic transition: Grassroots movements and the Recuperation of Obsolete Industrial Spaces  
*Required readings:*

Nico Calavita and Amador Ferrer. (2003) "Behind Barcelona's Success Story-Citizen Movements and Planner's Power" in Marshall, Tim (ed.) *Transforming Barcelona*. Pp: 47-63.

Session 10: Between Internationalism and Regionalism: A survey of Spanish Architecture and its discourses.

*Required readings:*

Fernández-Galiano, Luis. "1939-1975 Seeds of Change. The Franco Decades", pp: 20-31.

Frampton, Kenneth. "1981-1986 Years of Hope. The Flag Was in the Breeze": 71-81. in *Spain Builds...*

Tzonis, Alexander & Liane Lefaivre. "1975-1981 Years of Conflict. Time of Transition", pp: 47-55.

### Session 11: **Midterm Exam**

Session 12: Olympic Landscapes: From the construction of collective memory to gentrification. Excerpts from the film "In Construction"

*Required readings:*

Juli Esteban. "The Planning Project: Bringing Value to the Periphery, Recovering the Center". pages 111-128 in Marshall, Tim ed. *Transforming Barcelona*.

Session 13: Cultural Landscapes: A comparison between Barcelona's transformations and other Spanish and European cities, including Bilbao: Excerpts from the film "Sketches of Frank Gehry".

*Required readings:*

Juli Esteban. "The Planning Project: Bringing Value to the Periphery, Recovering the Center". Pp 128-149 in Marshall, Tim ed. *Transforming Barcelona*.

Session 14: Field Study: Santa Caterina Market and MACBA.

Session 15: Cultural Landscapes continued: Berlin, Paris, London, etc. Excerpts from various films.

*Required readings:*

Balibrea, Mari Paz (2003) "Urbanism, culture and the post-industrial city: Challenging the Barcelona Model" in Marshall, Tim (ed.) *Transforming Barcelona*. Pp: . 205-224.

Session 16: Artscapes: the uses of public art and new topographic approaches to architecture, and public space. The influence of land art and earthworks on landscape and infrastructure design

*Required readings:*

Krauss, Rosalind. (1985) "Sculpture in the Extended Field" in *The Originality of the Avantgarde and other Modernist Myths*. Pp: 276-290

Session 17: Field Visit: Forum 2004

Session 18: Thematic Landscapes: The Forum 2004 and other Terrain Vagues.

*Required readings:*

Solà-Morales, Ignasi de. (1995) "Terrain Vague" in Davidson, Cynthia (ed.) *Any Place*. NY.

Session 19: Field Visit: Diagonal Mar Park and Central Park Poble Nou

Session 20: Spanish Architecture II

*Required readings:*

Buchanan, Peter. 1986-1992 Years of Plenty. A Cultural Flowering. Pp. 97- 107.

Magnago Lampugnani, Vittorio 1992 -1996 Years of Transit. From Seville to Barcelona. Pp. 123-133 .

Cohn, David 1996 -2001 Years of Shine. The Changing of the Guard. Pp. 149-157.

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Chaslin François. 2001 -2005 Years of Uncertainty. In the Global Scene. Pp. 172-183. In Fernandez-Galiano, Luis (ed.). *Spain Builds. AV Monografias 113*. Madrid 2005.

Session 21: Globalization and Common Landscapes

*Required readings:*

Koolhaas, Rem. (1995) Generic City in *SMLXL*. Pp: 1248 -1264.

Soja, Edward W. (1995) Postmodern Urbanization: The Six Restructurings of Los Angeles. in Watson, Sophie and Gibson, Katherine (eds.) *Postmodern Cities and Spaces*. Pp: 125-137.

Session 22: Ideologies of Nature. Landscape Ecology and its impact on planning

*Required readings:*

Tello, Enric. (2003) "Changing Course? Principles and tools for local Sustainability" in Marshall, Tim (ed) *Transforming Barcelona*. Pp: 225-249.

Session 23: **Presentations. Papers are Due**

Session 24: **Presentations and Closure**

**Final Exam**

**REQUIRED READING:**

Balibrea, Mari Paz. (2003) "Urbanism, Culture and the Post Industrial City: Challenging the Barcelona Model" in *Transforming Barcelona*. Marshall, Tim. (ed.) Routledge London. Pp:205-224.

Benach, Nuria. (2003) "Public Spaces in Barcelona 1980-2000" in Marshall, Tim, (ed.) *Transforming Barcelona*. Routledge London 2003. Pp: 151-159.

Buchanan, Peter. (2005) 1986-1992 Years of Plenty. A Cultural Flowering. in Fernandez-Galiano (ed) Luis. *AV Monografias 113*. Madrid Pp: 47-55. Pp. 97-107.

Busquets, Joan. (2005) *The Urban Evolution of a Compact City*. Harvard College. Pp: 189-196; 204-228; 248-263.

Calavito, Nico and Amador Ferrer. (2003) "Behind Barcelona's Success Story-Citizens Movements and Planner's Power" in Marshall, Tim. (ed.) *Transforming Barcelona*. Routledge London. Pp: 47-63.

Chaslin François. (2005) "2001 -2005 Years of Uncertainty. In the Global Scene". in Fernandez-Galiano, Luis (ed.). *Spain Builds. AV Monografias 113*. Madrid. Pp. 172-183.

Cohn, David (2005) "1996 -2001 Years of Shine. The Changing of the Guard". in Fernandez-Galiano, Luis (ed.). *Spain Builds. AV Monografias 113*. Madrid. Pp. 149-157 .

Esteban, Juli. "The Planning Project: Bringing Value to the Periphery, Recovering the Center" in Marshall, Tim ed. *Transforming Barcelona*. Pp 111-149.

Fernández-Galiano, Luis. ed. *Spain Builds. AV Monografias 113*. Madrid 2005

----- "1939-1975 Seeds of Change. The Franco Decades". Pp:. 20-31.

Frampton, Kenneth (2005) "1981-1986 Years of Hope. The Flag Was in the Breeze" in. Fernandez-Galiano, Luis. (ed.) *Spain Builds. AV Monografias 113*. Madrid. Pp: 71-82

Koolhaas, Rem. (1995) "Generic City" in *SMLXL*. Rotterdam: 010 Publishers. Pp:.1248-1264.

Krauss, Rosalind. (1985) "Sculpture in the Extended Field" in *The Originality of the Avantgarde and other Modernist Myths*. MIT Press. Pp: 276-290.

Magnago Lampugnani , Vittorio (2005) « 1992 -1996 Years of Transit. From Seville to Barcelona » in Fernandez-Galiano, Luis (ed.). *Spain Builds. AV Monografias 113*. Madrid. Pp. 123-133.

Marshall, Tim. Ed. (2003) *Transforming Barcelona*. Routledge, London.

Soja, Edward W. (1995) "Postmodern Urbanization: The Six Restructurings of Los Angeles in *Postmodern Cities and Spaces*. Watson, Eds. Sophie and Gibson, Katherine. Blackwell. " Pp: 125-137

Sola Morales, Ignasi de (1995) "Terrain Vague" in Davidson, Cynthia, ( ed) *Any Place*. NY.

----- "The Park Güell". Barcelona 1900-1914" in *The Architecture of Western Gardens*. Mosser, Monique and George Teyssot (eds.) .MIT Press 1991. Pp: 438-440  
Tello, Enric (2003) "Changing Course? Principles and tools for local Sustainability" in Marshall, Tim (ed.) *Transforming Barcelona*. . Routledge, London. Pp: 225-249..  
Tzonis, Alexander & Lefaivre, Liane. (2005) "1975-1981 Years of Conflict. Time of Transition". in Fernandez-Galiano, Luis. (ed.) *Spain Builds AV Monografias 113*. Madrid. Pp: 47-55.

**RECOMMENDED READING:**

Choay, Françoise. (1969) *The Modern City: Planning in the 19th Century*. Braziller, NY  
Cosgrove, Dennis. (1985) *The Idea of Landscape Social Formation and Symbolic Landscape*. NJ 1985  
Forman, Richard T. T. (1995) *Land Mosaics: The Ecology of landscapes and regions*. Cambridge University Press.  
Galofaro, Luca. (2003) *Artscapes: Art as an approach to contemporary landscape GG*. Barcelona.  
Gausa, Manuel, Cervello, Marta and Pla, Maurici. (2002) *BCN. Barcelona: Guide to Modern Architecture 1860-2002*. ACTAR Barcelona.  
Mateo, Josep Lluís Ed. (1996) *Contemporary Barcelona, 1856-1999*. Barcelona. CCCB.  
McCulley, Marilyn Ed. (1985) *Homage to Barcelona.. Arts Council Great Britain*.  
Rowe, Peter. (2005) *Building Barcelona*. ACTAR.  
Schroder, Thies. (2001) *Changes in Scenery: Contemporary Landscape Architecture in Europe*. Birkhauser.  
Zukin, Sharon. "Politics and Aesthetics of Public Space the American Model" in *Real City, Ideal City: Signification and function in Modern Space*. Urbanitats 7, CCCB, 1998. Pp: 1-5