

Course syllabus 2023-2024

1. Data on the study programme

1.1 Institution	Technical University of Cluj-Napoca
1.2 Faculty	of Architecture and Urban Planning
1.3 Department	Architecture
1.4 Domain	Architecture
1.5 University level	Master (integrated bachelor and master's degree)
1.6 Study programme/Qualification	Architecture
1.7 Form of studies	IF – on-site full-time studies
1.8 Course / studio code	75.00

2. Data on the course

2.1 Name of the course	RESEARCH IN ARCHITECTURE				
2.2 Course/ Studio Head	professor Dana VAIS				
2.3 Head of seminary/ laboratory/ studio	-				
2.4 Study year	5	2.5 Semester	2	2.6 Type of evaluation	Exam
2.7 Course /studio regime	Formative category: fundamental (DF)/ linked to the domain (DD)/ specific (DS)/ complementary (DC)				DU
	Compulsory (DI)/ Optional/ (DOp)/ Voluntary (DFac)				DI

3. Total estimated time

3.1 Number of hours/week	2	out of which:	3.2 Course	2	3.3 Seminary	0	3.3 Laboratory	0	3.3 Project	0
3.4 Number of hours/semester	28	out of which:	3.5 Course	28	3.6 Seminary	0	3.6 Laboratory	0	3.6 Project	0
3.7 Distribution of time (hours)/ semester for:										
(a) Individual study supported by course textbook, course text, bibliography, and notes										6
(b) Supplementary study in the library, online, and on site										6
(c) Preparation for seminars/ laboratories/ assignments, reports, portfolios, and essays										9
(d) Tutoring										0
(e) Examination										1
(f) Other activities										-
3.8 Total hours of individual study (sum (3.7(a)...3.7(f)))					22					
3.9 Total semestrial hours (3.4+3.8)					50					
3.10 Number of credits					2					

4. Preconditions (where applicable)

4.1 curriculum preconditions	-
4.2 competence preconditions	-

5. Conditions (where applicable)

5.1. for the course	Attendance on site, in the allocated classroom (according to the faculty schedule). Attendance of a minimum 50% is a condition for examination. For sharing documents, Teams platform is used.
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5.2. for the seminary	-
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6. Specific competencies (capabilities)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to engage imagination, think creatively, innovate and provide design leadership. • Ability to gather information, define problems, apply analyses and critical judgement, and formulate strategies for action. • Ability to reconcile divergent factors, integrate knowledge and apply skills in the creation of a design solution. • Ability to act with knowledge of historical and cultural precedents in local and world architecture. • Ability to act with knowledge of society, and to work with clients and users that represent society's needs • Awareness of the links between architecture and other creative disciplines. • Ability to develop a project brief through definition of the needs of society users and clients, and to research and define contextual and functional requirements for different types of built environments. • Understanding of the social context in which built environments are procured, of ergonomic and space requirements and issues of equity and access. • Awareness of the relevant codes, regulations and standards for planning, design, construction, health, safety and use of built environments. • Awareness of philosophy, politics, and ethics as these are related to architecture. • Ability to act with knowledge of natural systems and built environments.
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7. Objectives of the discipline

7.1 General objective of the discipline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding of research and pedagogical methodologies, including those of transdisciplinary knowledge transferability as inherent parts of architectural learning, for both students and teachers.
7.2 Specific objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding of the profession of architecture and the role of the architect in society, in particular in preparing briefs that take account of social factors. • Understanding of the methods of investigation and preparation of the brief for a design project. • Adequate knowledge of the history and theories of architecture and the related arts, technologies, and human sciences. • Understanding of professional and disciplinary responsibilities toward human, social, cultural, urban, architectural, and environmental values as well as architectural heritage --including the health, safety, and welfare of the public; and the physiological and psychological aspects of public health and well-being. These responsibilities also include a commitment to equity, diversity, and inclusivity in both the content and the context of architectural instruction • Understanding of research and pedagogical methodologies, including those of transdisciplinary knowledge action and knowledge transferability as inherent parts of architectural learning, for both students and teachers.

8. Content/Syllabi

8.1 Course	No. of hours	Teaching methods	Notes
C1 Introductory course.	2	Lectures supported by projections, Discussions on the reader of the course and presentations.	Discussions are applied on students' own topics for the Dissertation in preparation
C2 What is architectural research	2		
C3 How to choose a topic of research (applied discussion on the student's dissertation topic)	2		
C4 The research project: designing student's own research	2		
C5 Interdisciplinary approach	2		
C6 Specialised sub-fields in Architecture	2		
C7 Research strategies	2		
C8 Research methods	2		

C9 Research Techniques	2		
C10 Academic writing (the Dissertation work)	2		
C11 Ethics of research	2		
C12 Case studies	2		
C13 Case studies	2		
C14 Case studies	2		
NOTE: the permanent actualization of the course matter might lead to minor changes in its structure			
<p>Bibliography (from the Library of the UTCN): VAIS, Dana, <i>Cercetare în arhitectură</i>, UT Press, Cluj, 2015 (cota 546.201, 5 copies) VAIS, Dana, <i>Etica cercetării în arhitectură</i>, UT Press, Cluj, 2018 (cota 559.901, 5 copies) GROAT Linda, David WANG, <i>Architectural Research Methods</i>, John Wiley and Sons, New York, 2002 (cota 519.659, 1 copy) (2013 made available in digital format) LUCAS, Ray, <i>Research Methods for Architecture</i>, Laurence King Publisher, London, 2016 (cota 551.022, 1 copy) [DISSERTATIONS of TUCN graduates from previous years]</p> <p>Titles in digital format: ECO, Umberto, <i>Cum se face o teză de licență</i>, Ed. Polirom, Iași, 2006 (în format digital ediția engleză) BORDEN, Iain, Katerina RÜEDI RAY, <i>The Dissertation. An Architecture Student Handbook</i>, Architectural Press, Oxford, 2006 TILL Jeremy, "What is Architectural Research? Architectural Research: Three Myths and One Model", RIBA Research and Development Committee Memorandum, 20057) HEYNEN, Hilde, "Research in Architecture: a Contested Domain", în: <i>European Association for Architectural Education Bulletin</i>, Special Issue 2006, pp. 47-54 CROSS Nigel, <i>Designerly Ways of Knowing</i>, Springer Verlag, London, 2006 VAIS, Dana, <i>Cercetare în arhitectură (slideshow)</i>, pdf format.</p>			
8.2 Seminary / laboratory / project	No. of hours	Teaching methods	Notes
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Bibliography			


9. Harmonizing the content of the discipline with the expectations of the epistemic community, the professional associations, and representative employers

The competencies achieved across the course contribute to the consolidation of the professional culture necessary for the profession and to the integrated use of theory and practice.

10. Assessment

Type of activity	10.1 Evaluation criteria	10.2 Assessment method	10.3 Calculation of final grade
10.4 Course	-	Written assessment: The student writes a research project, which regards the diploma related research and the preparation of the master dissertation.	1 point by default
	The relevance and originality of the chosen topic for the discipline; the relevance of the research questions raised; problematisation		3 points
	The scope and precision of the documentation work; the quality of the sources; the clarity of the chosen methods		3 points
	The original articulation of an argument; the critical writing; relevant contextualisations of		3 points

	the topic		
	The final grade: the total sum of the points obtained through the evaluation methods described above.		
	According to the ECTS/UTCN Regulations, art. 6.4, the Faculty Council has decided that attending courses is compulsory in a percentage of at least 50%. The situation of attendance will be updated weekly on the Teams channel dedicated to the course. Students who have not attended at least 50% of the course are not considered qualified to take the final exam and will need to recontract the course.		
10.5 Seminary/Laboratory	-	-	-
10.6 Minimal standard for passing a grade of minimum 5			

Date :	Head of course	Title, Name, Surname	Signature
18.12.2023	Course	Prof. PhD. arch. Dana VAIS	
	Seminary/Lab	-	-

Date of validation by the Department Council:	Chief of Department Prof. PhD. arch. Virgil POP

Data of approval in the Faculty Council:	Dean Associate professor. PhD. arch. Dragoş Şerban Ion ȚIGĂNAȘ
