Programme: Urbanism and Societal Change

Title: Informational City Futures

Semester: Efterårssemester 2018 **Semester Theme (architecture):** Theory & Method + Concept & Medium	**Period**: 3. september 2018 – 25. januar 2019 **ECTS-points**: 30

Contents: This semester will involve a critical interrogation of the contemporary informational and smart city discourses. A starting point for the semester is the notion that current paradigms associated with these discourses tend to reinforce the centralization and concentration of resources, information, markets, control, innovation, etc. The semester will explore the implications of alternate platforms, including sharing platforms, and technologies that could support the decentralization and democratization of innovation and production – particularly in the role they might have in architecture and urban spatial development. The semester focus will extend to broader approaches for reconfiguring the switches and levers of city formation processes toward possible altered socio-spatial outcomes. On the one hand, the semester will involve an in depth interrogation of cities, and the city itself, as platform, strategy, image, concept, atmosphere, material system, life form, etc.; while on the other, emphasis will be placed on explorations into the form, organization, and agency of architectural and urban typologies, and their dynamic responses to changing conditions. The site of the semester will be Copenhagen, and the work will be conducted in dialogue with public and private sector actors in this area. The general pedagogical approach is centred upon a feedback loop between research and design supported by a combination of studios and courses. Assignments, resulting in organizational and spatial design proposals that are largely self-programmed, are carried out at registers and scales spanning from the architectural intervention, and urban design, to the strategic urban plan. Emphasis will be placed on practices of engaging societal challenges through precisely framed research polemics and articulated design proposals. In addition to the main research-design studio component of the semester, supporting course elements involve a range of lectures, readings, discussions, assignments etc. **USC Courses** **The Informational/Smart City and Architecture/Urbanism 1** Introduction to histories and theories of the Informational and Smart City, and their contemporary dynamics at the intersection of architecture and urbanism;	**Learning Outcomes (Knowledge, skills and competences)** • Knowledge related to history, theory and discourse, and their application, at the intersection of architecture/urbanism and issues of the city; • Insights into the complex landscape of actors and dynamics in the production of architecture and urbanism; • Knowledge and skills of research and analysis allowing comprehension, synthesis and visualization of complex conditions of societal change – and the ability to translate/reformulate these conditions in the form of architectural and urban programs within specific contexts; • Knowledge and skills in the creative development and production of the architectural and urban project ranging from designing building envelopes and urban design to strategic planning. This includes insights and skills in the development of spatial, organisational and strategic concepts, and their articulation in relevant formats of architectural and urban communication and visualisation.

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Poly-Optical Urbanism Local study tour introducing complexity of architectural/urban production in relation to informational and smart city discourses through narration by contrasting actors and agendas; **Communication and Visualization** Additional Workshops **IBBL courses (w. USC & ART)** **IBBL Shared geographical frame: The Municipality of Copenhagen** In the fall-semester, all the programs at IBBL works in relation to the Municipality of Copenhagen, as part of our strategic collaboration with the administration. This gives students access to knowledge of strategies and contemporary developments, and to embed their projects in relevant situations and to eventually work as a 'think-tank' in relation to the challenges of MoC. **Introduction to GIS** Introduction to research, analysis and visualization of urban conditions and dynamics through geographical information systems (GIS) **Spatial Planning I** *Planning History and the Danish Planning System* The course is a combination of lectures, field studies and group work laying the foundation for understanding how the Danish Planning System works today. The lectures are a comprehensive presentation of the history of spatial planning and discussions of the complex web of social, political, cultural, financial and technological prerequisites for planning and the planning process. The field studies serve to illustrate how this can be observed, understood and discussed in relation to contemporary urban and landscape planning and development examples. At the end of the course the students present the result of the group work – a draft for a district plan with an outset in their ongoing project work.	**IBBL courses (w. USC & ART)** **IBBL Shared geographical frame: The Municipality of Copenhagen** • Acquaintance with Copenhagen: Contemporary and historic development as well as the various conditions for and actors in the current spatial developments; legislation, democracy, economy and policy. • Knowledge of the strategic objects of the Municipality of Copenhagen with a focus on 'Strategy-plan 2018', and how the municipality works with UN17SDG. • Acquaintance with the larger current challenges and potentials in the city that has relevance to an architectural/spatial agency. These objectives must appear in the conclusive hand-ins at the programs after 1st and 3rd semester. **Introduction to GIS** • Acquaintance with GIS, knowledge of its network and structure • Skills in setting up maps and accessing data. • Ability to apply GIS in ongoing projects **Spatial Planning I** • Knowledge about and understanding of the history and discourses of urban and landscape planning from the ancient urban formations until today with a special focus on the socio-spatial perspectives on the post-war development of the welfare state. • Skills in analyzing a specific planning situation with an outset in an understanding of the planning system, the planning process and the actors involved. • Competencies in translating an architectural, urban and/or landscape vision into the formats and logic of the planning system.
Attendance requirements: Full attendance and participation in all activities is expected.	**Submission requirements:** Background and in depth research/ identification and analysis of key issues. Infographics and visual communication of the research. Programmatic development. Formulation of the design scenario and its argumentation. Presentation of the intervention with models, drawings and visualisations; and presentation of its transformation in relation to the planning system framework, presented with planning documents including drawings and other visual material.

Syllabus: Approx. 300 pages (titles given in the semester plan)	**Method of assessment:** Oral examination **Grading**: Danish 7-point grading scale **Censor**: Internal