**Course Name: Studio - Neighbourhood Planning and Design**

**Number of credits: 12 ECTS**

**Period: Fall semester**

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| Coordinating institution | Nirma University |
| Lecturer | Jaydeep Bhagat, Vatsal Shah and P V K Rameshwar |
| Level | Masters (M. Arch) |
| Course duration | 15 Weeks |

**Overall introduction (main concept and understanding)**

This is a 12 credit studio for March students that explores the different and unique solutions to address various urban design and planning problems in different contexts like environmental, technical, social, economic, cultural and many more.

**Keywords (5-8 words)**

Urban design and theory, built environment, landscape urbanism, life between buildings, sustainability

**Target audience**

Post-graduate programme: Students of Master of Architecture (Urban Design)

**Prerequisite**

Bachelors of Architecture degree, recognised by the Council of Architecture.

**Objective**

* To recognize urban design as a subject that is intertwined with a variety of other areas and located to influence a greater order in the city.
* Learn the fundamental components and tools of urban design.
* Through a combination of theory and design, understand the repercussions on the urban environment in quantifiable ways.
* Design urban solutions for environmental, technical, social, economic, and cultural situations through a demonstration.

**General learning outcome**

By the end of the course, successful students will:

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| Knowledge | * Learn the basic urban design elements and tools. * Understand implications on the urban environment in measurable ways through a synthesis of theory and design |
| Comprehensive | * Comprehend urban design as a discipline inter-connected to various other fields and situated so as to affect a larger order in the context of the city |
| Application | * Apply urban design elements to solve the built environment’s problems |
| Analysis | * Illustrate the urban elements through sketches. |
| Synthesis | * Design urban solutions through a demonstration for environmental, technological, social, economic and cultural contexts |

**Course materials**

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| **Learning methods** | * Audio and video presentations * Interviews, surveys, field trip, group work, writing articles and essays * Live project-based learning and problem solving * Literature review and theoretical underpinnings * Interaction meeting with all stakeholders * 3-D physical and virtual models, walkthroughs, animations |
| **Course outline** | **Week 1, 2, 3 and 4**  A preliminary study, data collection, analysis and representation –   * Introduction to a city/town. Collect preliminary data, evolution and history (collaborative and individual work). * Analysis: City structure, Land use plan, Road network and hierarchy, Major Open Spaces, Neighborhoods, Types of Streets, Typologies, Urban space, human activity patterns, Water supply and drainage systems, elements of   landscape, Urban aesthetics, Landmarks, Activity generators/nodes. (collaborative and individual work).   * Identify different inter-connected issues that affect the urban form and space of the given study. (collaborative and individual work). * Representation through Drawings, Video and Powerpoint presentations and Models. (collaborative and individual work).   **Week 5, 6, and 7**  Site introduction, site analysis, data collection, research, etc. –   * Studies of climate, context, topography, landscape, etc. Case studies related to the project * Cultural, historical, social, political analyses and studies * Arrive at basic Urban Design tools   **Week 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13**  Design problem and process –   * Design problem will be introduced and the first concepts will be discussed. Methodologies to resolve the design issues * Evolution of ideas, concepts, processes, etc. * Development of strategies, vocabulary, language   **Week 14 and 15**  Assimilate of related fields and jury preparation –   * Develop urban design solutions while assimilating environmental, technological, social, economic and cultural contexts and incorporating services, etc. * Work on presentation methods and preparation of final presentation in terms of drawings, physical and computer-generated models, etc. |

**Literature**

1. Daniel Williams, “Sustainable Design: Ecology, Architecture & Planning”, John Wiley &Sons, 2007.
2. Lynch, Kevin, "The Image of the City", MIT Press, Cambridge, Mass., 1960.
3. Krier, Rob, "Urban Space", Academy Editions, London,1967
4. Evans, Martin, "Housing, Climate and Comfort". The Architectural Press, London, 1980.
5. Charles Correa, “A Place in the Shade: The New Landscape & Other Essays”, 2010.
6. Charles Correa, “Housing and Urbanization”, Thames and Hudson, 2000.
7. Raj Rewal, “Humane Habitat at Low Cost: CIDCO, Belapur”, New Mumbai, 2000.
8. Bacon, E. N. Design of cities. Thames and Hudson. 1995.
9. Giedion, S. Space, Time and Architecture: The Growth of a New Tradition. Harvard University Press, 1952.
10. Mumford, L. The city in history: Its origins, its transformations, and its prospects, 1961.
11. Rowe, C., & Koetter, F. Collage City. Birkhäuser, 2009.
12. Jane Jacobs, ‘The Death and Life of Great American Cities’, Random House, New York, 1962

**Course workload**

The table below summarizes course workload distribution:

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Activities** | **Learning outcomes** | **Assessment** | **Estimated workload (hours)** |
| **In-class activities (140 hours)** | | | |
| Lectures | Understanding theories, concepts, methodology and tools | Class participation | 42 |
| Moderated in-class discussions | Understanding various contexts and common problems in communication in urban fabric | Class participation and preparedness for discussions | 28 |
| In-class assignments, field assignment | Understanding various context-dependent aspects and common problems in urban fabric | Class participation and preparedness for assignments | 28 |
| Reading and discussion of assigned papers for seminars and preparation for lectures | Familiarity with and ability to critically and creatively discuss key concepts, tools and methods as presented in the literature. | Class participation, creative and active contribution to discussion | 28 |
| Group presentation | Ability to interpret data, to analyze audience, and to use the concepts, tools, and methods for communicating the urban problem. | Quality of group assignments and individual presentations | 14 |
| **Independent work (180 hours)** | | | |
| Group work:   * Contribution to the group case-study projects * Contribution to the preparation and delivery of individual presentation * Contribution to the web-application | Ability to interpret data, to analyze the audience, and use the concepts, tools, and methods for communicating information to all participants  Plan and develop a energy development plan (EDP), be aware of information visualization tools and methods | Quality of group assignments and individual presentations | 72 |
| Course group assignment | Ability to conceptualize and frame the urban problem, find related literature and data, interpret data, use the concepts, tools and methods covered in the course, and draw policy/management relevant conclusions | Quality of their presentation | 54 |
| Group presentation | Ability to interpret data, to analyze the audience, and use the concepts, tools, and methods for communicating their ideas | Quality of group assignments and individual presentations | 54 |
| ***Total*** |  |  | ***320 Hours*** |

**Grading**

The student’s performance will be based on the following:

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| **Assessment** | * Progress assessment (50%):   - Presentation – 50% of progress assessment  - Model – 30% of progress assessment  - Design Discussion – 10% of progress assessment  - Pre-final jury with model – 30% of progress assessment     * Final assessment (50%): * Midterm jury – 40% of the final assessment * Final jury – 60% of the final assessment |
| **Evaluation** | A+ (10)  A (9)  B+ (8)  B (7)  C+ (6)  C (5)  Interim Fail (0)  Final Fail (0) |