

## Syllabus

### Course description

<b>Course title</b>	Studio 2
<b>Course code</b>	47201
<b>Scientific sector</b>	Module 1: CEAR-09/C (ex ICAR/16) Module 2: CEAR-11/A (ex ICAR/18)
<b>Degree</b>	Master in Critical Creative Practices (LM-65)
<b>Semester</b>	Summer Semester 2025/26
<b>Year</b>	1
<b>Credits</b>	12 (Module 1: 6 CP, Module 2: 6 CP)
<b>Modular</b>	Yes

<b>Total lecturing hours</b>	90 (Module 1: 60, Module 2: 30)
<b>Total hours of self-study and/ or other individual educational activities</b>	210 (Module 1: 90, Module 2: 120)
<b>Attendance</b>	not compulsory but recommended
<b>Prerequisites</b>	/

<b>Specific educational objectives</b>	<p>The course refers to a “caratterizzante” educational activity and is a mandatory course in the first study year.</p> <p><b><i>Module 1 – Critical Environments</i></b></p> <p><b>Course description</b></p> <p>Module 1 will be structured as a design studio, aimed at providing students with practical tools capable of generating a critical understanding of spatial dynamics in artistic and design practices, as well as of their implications in political-relational terms.</p> <p>Through hands-on workshops, research and experimentation, students will be given the opportunity to apply the theories studied in module 2 in order to design environments that reflect a critical understanding of space and those who inhabit it. Within this frame, students will be encouraged to develop new forms of design expression that respond to contemporary challenges, such as urbanisation, migratory processes and the digitalisation of spaces.</p> <p>Frequent interaction between students and teachers will allow for a constant monitoring of learning processes, guaranteeing continuous support in the development of critical and practical skills.</p> <p><b>Educational objectives</b></p>
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*Develop Critical Spatial Awareness*

Equip students with tools to analyze and interpret spatial dynamics and their socio-political implications in artistic and design practices.

*Bridge Theory and Practice*

Integrate critical theories with hands-on design experimentation to address complex spatial and environmental challenges.

*Investigate Political-Relational Dimensions*

Explore how design shapes and responds to social, cultural, and political forces, fostering ethical and responsible approaches.

*Cultivate Interdisciplinary and Contextual Thinking*

Encourage contextual analysis and interdisciplinary methods to understand historical, ecological, and relational aspects of space.

*Stimulate Creative and Reflexive Design*

Empower students to generate innovative spatial interventions while fostering self-reflection and clear communication

***Module 2 – Histories and Theories of Spatial Practices***

**Course description**

In the course, students will explore theories and methodologies that analyse the meaning of spatial practices in visual arts, architecture, exhibit design and urban design, examining how environments influence spatial and environmental policies, artistic practices and how these can transform and reinterpret spaces themselves. Through historical and theoretical analysis, students will examine how artists and designers have responded to changes in conceptions of space over time.

The course will be based on in-depth analysis of general theories, specific case studies and bibliographies, according to criteria of scientific and disciplinary authority, to provide students with a solid base of knowledge in the field of spatial design.

Seminars and assessments will be organized in a dialogic form at an individual, group or collective level, in order to stimulate critical autonomy and judgment in the students.

	<p><b>Educational objectives</b></p> <p><i>Develop Critical Understanding of Spatial Politics</i> Analyse the power dynamics of space, including contested territories, public/private boundaries, and the socio-political implications of spatial design.</p> <p><i>Explore Relational and Site-Specific Practices</i> Investigate how site-specific and relational design approaches engage with communities, environments, and cultural contexts to foster spatial justice and inclusion.</p> <p><i>Engage with Environmental and Ethical Responsibilities</i> Examine sustainability strategies, material responsibility, and ecological systems to address environmental ethics and promote transformative design practices.</p> <p><i>Investigate Alternative Spatial Narratives and Representations</i> Study critical mapping, alternative cartographies, and speculative design as tools for reimagining spatial dynamics and challenging dominant spatial narratives.</p> <p><i>Integrate Emerging Technologies and Experimental Approaches</i> Explore the role of digital environments, immersive media, and critical technologies in shaping contemporary and future spatial experiences.</p>
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<b>Module 1</b>	Critical Environments
<b>Lecturer</b>	Roberto Gigliotti office C1.03.a, e-mail <a href="mailto:roberto.gigliotti@unibz.it">roberto.gigliotti@unibz.it</a> Webpage <a href="https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/design-art/academic-staff/person/7630-roberto-gigliotti">https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/design-art/academic-staff/person/7630-roberto-gigliotti</a>
<b>Scientific sector of the lecturer</b>	CEAR-09/C
<b>Teaching language</b>	English
<b>Office hours</b>	TBA
<b>List of topics covered</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Critical Approaches to Spatial Design</li> <li>- Designing for Contemporary Challenges</li> <li>- Transdisciplinary Spatial Practices</li> <li>- Digital Spaces and Hybrid Environments</li> <li>- Innovative Mapping and Communication Tools</li> </ul>
<b>Teaching format</b>	Frontal lectures, exercises, projects
<b>Module 2</b>	Histories and Theories of Spatial Practices
<b>Lecturer</b>	TBA
<b>Scientific sector of the lecturer</b>	TBA

<b>Teaching language</b>	English
<b>Office hours</b>	TBA
<b>List of topics covered</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Historical Evolution of Spatial Practices</li> <li>- Theoretical Frameworks for Spatial Analysis</li> <li>- Space, Culture and Identity</li> <li>- Power Dynamics and Political Implications of Space</li> <li>- Contemporary Transformations of Space</li> </ul>
<b>Teaching format</b>	TBA

<b>Learning outcomes</b>	<p><i>The learning outcomes need to refer to the Dublin Descriptors:</i></p> <p><b><i>Knowledge and understanding</i></b></p> <p><i>Module 1-2</i></p> <p><i>Students of the course will:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>know the history of spatial practices in art and design, and their main techniques and methodologies;</i></li> <li>- <i>possess specific knowledge on the interactions between space and culture and on the sociopolitical implications of spatial practices;</i></li> <li>- <i>understand the processes of transformation of space in the contemporary context, analyzing them considering the connections with other fields of knowledge, such as sociology, anthropology and urban sciences.</i></li> </ul> <p><b><i>Applying knowledge and understanding</i></b></p> <p><i>Module 1-2</i></p> <p><i>Students of the course will:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>design and implement spatial interventions, exhibitions, artistic installations and design projects that explore and reinterpret public and private spaces;</i></li> <li>- <i>use reading, analysis, mapping and visualization tools to analyze and communicate complex ideas relating to space;</i></li> <li>- <i>create spatial interventions that respond to the needs of communities, promoting inclusiveness and social participation.</i></li> </ul> <p><b><i>Making judgments</i></b></p>
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## *Module 1-2*

*Students of the course will:*

- *apply the knowledge acquired in the professional context;*
- *devise original projects that take into account the transformations induced by globalization and internationalization processes.*

## *Module 2*

*Students of the course will:*

- *collect and interpret cultural and material data from the fields of art, design, technology and spatial and curatorial practices, demonstrating the ability to place events, works and production operations in the historical context and current trends;*
- *grasp the authority and evaluate the reliability of the various available sources;*
- *reflect and express an independent judgement, including on social, ethical and political-cultural issues;*
- *interpret specific facts and events, within subject of their field of study.*

## **Communication skills**

### *Module 1*

*Students of the course will use visual and multimedia tools to create engaging and informative presentations.*

### *Module 2*

*Students of the course will:*

- *write scientific and technical articles and reports with clarity and effectiveness;*
- *present projects and ideas verbally in a professional and convincing manner.*

## **Learning skills**

*The course is aimed at:*

	<p>- <i>strengthening the critical and operational autonomy of students;</i></p> <p>- <i>developing their ability to choose, compare and adapt to new knowledge and technologies.</i></p>
<b>Assessment</b>	<p><i>Indicate the types of assessment (according to the table) and check the coherence with the Dublin descriptors</i></p> <p>Attending students <i>Module 1:</i></p> <p>During the exam the students will discuss the final project, and the exercises carried out during the course. Detailed information about the project, the single exercises and the final presentation are handed out during the course and are documented in the TEAMS of the course.</p> <p>The exam consists of the realisation of a spatial installation, the presentation and a brief discussion of the required documents. For this purpose, additionally to the installation, each student prepares a max. 15-minute screen presentation containing a brief report about the work carried out during the semester. A complete documentation of the required exercises (printed and in digital form) will be handed in during the exam.</p> <p><i>Module 2:</i></p> <p>During the exam the students will discuss the intersections between the final outcome and the contents addressed in the module during the semester, making evident how these influenced the development of the final project.</p> <p>Non-attending students For both modules the assessment is the same for attending and non-attending students.</p>
<b>Assessment language</b>	English
<b>Evaluation criteria and criteria for awarding marks</b>	<p><i>Attending students</i></p> <p><i>Module 1:</i></p>

	<p>The final assessment is based on the content of the final project and all the exercises according to the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Analysis and observation ability of the student</li> <li>- Completeness and coherence in the design concept</li> <li>- Clarity in the presentation of the process that leads to the design choices</li> <li>- Technical-formal quality of the exercises</li> </ul> <p><i>Module 2:</i></p> <p>The final assessment is based on the discussion around the final project and all the exercises according to the following criteria in connection with the topics addressed during the semester:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Analysis and observation ability of the student;</li> <li>- Consistence in the presentation of the process that leads to the design choices in connection with the topics addressed during the semester.</li> </ul> <p><i>Non-attending students</i></p> <p>For both modules the evaluation criteria are the same for attending and non-attending students.</p>
<b>Required readings</b>	<p><i>Module 1: TBA</i></p> <p><i>Module 2: TBA</i></p>
<b>Supplementary readings</b>	<p><i>Module 1: TBA</i></p> <p><i>Module 2: TBA</i></p>