

Methods & Analysis

MSc3/4 Positions in Practice / Belgrade, Serbia



Photo by Jorge Mejia

Tutors

Klaske Havik
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Code	AR3MET105
Credits	55 ECTS
Location	Belgrade, Serbia
Excursion	Yes
Costs	+/- €600

The graduation studio Positions in Practice addresses the challenging social, political, and spatial questions that dominate the contemporary city beyond the western European context. The particular circumstances of these cities require the attuned use of precise architectural methods of research, analysis, decision-making and design.

A first part of the studio develops an in-depth analysis of Belgrade at three levels: a contextual analysis concerned with the specificities of the city; a conceptual analysis that develops those specificities into theoretical concepts; and a disciplinary analysis studying local architectural precedents.

Based on these three levels of analysis, students are challenged to define their strategy for intervening in the context, by adopting a distinct role as a response to the particular cultural, social, environmental, political and economic conditions offered by the site.

A second part of the studio continues to work on the analysis by developing a full-fledged architectural intervention. Similar to the analytical phase, there are three main layers of concern: meaningfulness as the citizens' ability to understand and add meaning to their urban surroundings; appropriation as the citizens' ability to project their hopes and feelings onto it; and integration as citizens' ability to establish cohesion and cooperation through the practice of their urban contexts.

The studio challenges students to find appropriate methods of analysis and design to confront these intentions and to develop them into complete architectural projects that elaborate thoroughly on the formal, technical, functional and communicative fields of architecture.