Course Syllabus

Decolonizing Architecture - Al Masha Rural commons - Continuation course (60 ECTS-credits)

Arkitekturens avkolonisering, -Al Masha rural commons - fortsättningskurs (60 hp)

Course Code: DEKF24
Established by: The Department Board for Research and Further Education within Architecture and Fine Art
Date Established: 2024-02-13
Valid: Academic year 2024/2025
Main Field of Study: Fine Art
Area of Specialization: Fine Art
Education: Freestanding Course
Level of Specialization: AXX
Grading Scale: Pass–Fail

Education Cycle
Second-cycle course

Entry Requirements
General entry requirements:
General requirements for advanced level courses.

Specific entry requirements:
Degree of Master of Fine Art, or a Master's degree in another relevant field of study, or prior learning (equivalent professional experience) and 60 ECTS from the course in Decolonizing Architecture at the Royal Institute of Art.

Selection
The selection for this continuation course is based on a letter of intent in which the candidate lays out a clear plan for an individual and collective investigation on Al Masha – Rural Commons.

Language of Instruction
English.

Scope of the Course and Rate of Study
60 credits, full time.

Aim
The aim of the course is to solidify, with a focus on writing and practical interventions, individual and collective practice-based research projects. The course aspires to develop a sustainable, equalitarian, and diverse research practice and environment.

Course Content

The Arabic term Al Masha refers to communal land equally distributed among farmers.

Al Masha can only exist if people have decided to cultivate the land together. The moment they stop cultivating this land, they lose possession of it. Thus, in order for Al Masha land to come into being, it must be activated, and its possession continuously enacted by common use. Today we may ask: is it possible to reactivate the cultivation of the rural commons, expanding the meaning of cultivation to other human activities that imply a common taking care of life?

The focus of the course is the collective and individual practice-based research projects initiated during the first year. It offers the students the opportunity to deepen ~~the~~ collaboration with relevant institutions and actors.-The course provides guidance through tutorials, seminars, lectures, and readings. The results of the research are shared in public with presentations, including proposals of spatial interventions on site.

Forms of Teaching and Structure of the Course

The teaching is conducted as:

- Individual and collective tutorials
- Hosted Sessions
- Seminars
- Workshops
- Lectures
- Study trips/visits

The course is divided into two modules during one academic year:
Module 1 - *Decolonizing Architecture A,* (30 ECTS-credits)
Module 2 - *Decolonizing Architecture B,* (30 ECTS-credits)

Learning Outcomes
After the first course module, *Decolonizing Architecture A, (30 ECTS-credits),* the students are expected to:

- Show an ability to develop a draft for a practice-based research project.
- Show an ability to contextualize the individual practice-based research project.

After the second course module, *Decolonizing Architecture B, 30 ECTS,* the students are expected to:

- Show an ability to write a complete research-based project emerging from the individual or collective research.
- Show an ability to present and critically reflect on the outcomes of the research in a public presentation.

Assessment

Module 1 - *Decolonizing Architecture A, (30 ECTS),* is examined through the student's submission of a first draft for a research-based project and the student's active participation in the mandatory teaching such as individual and collective tutorials, with a minimum of 80% attendance.

Module 2 - *Decolonizing Architecture B, (30 ECTS),* is examined at the end of the academic year, with the input from external critics, and is an overall assessment of the students individual or collective research which is to be presented in a written essay and in a final public presentation. The examination also includes the student's active participation in the mandatory teaching such as individual and collective tutorials, with a minimum of 80% attendance.

If there are special reasons, the examiner may make exceptions to the examination form and allow a student to be examined in another way. Special reasons may be documented disability.

Course Requirements

In order to pass the course, a passing grade on the examination assignment is required as well as completed attendance of at least 80% of all teaching.

In the event of absence from compulsory teaching, the examiner may decide to give the student supplementary assignments instead.

More extensive absence from compulsory teaching may mean that the student cannot make up for the missed teaching until the next time the course is given.

Grading Criteria

Pass: The student has met the expected learning outcomes and course requirements.
Fail: The student has not met the expected learning outcomes and course requirements.

Course literature and other study resources

The course does not have a common literature list. Any course literature and other teaching materials are reported and discussed within the framework of the individual supervision.

Other Terms and Conditions

Costs may be incurred for study trips. Students who are unable to participate in the study trip will be given an alternative assignment.

The Validity of the Course Syllabus

The syllabus is valid for the academic year 2024/2025. After discontinuation, the student is entitled to be examined once a semester for the following 3 semesters.