



## Course Syllabus

# Decolonizing Architecture: Internal colonization and the countryside (60 ECTS)

Course code: DEKL22

Main field of study: Fine Art

Disciplinary domain: Fine Art

Grading: Pass – Fail

Level of progression: AXX

Education: Freestanding course

Established by: Department Board for Research and Further Education in Architecture and Fine Art

Date of establishment: 2022-01-25

Date of revision: --

Valid: Academic year 2022/2023

## Education cycle

Second-cycle course.

## Entry requirements

General entry requirements: General requirements for studies at a second cycle level.

Specific entry requirements: Degree of Master of Architecture or Fine Arts, or a Master's degree in another relevant field of study, or equivalent relevant professional experience and English 5 and 6, or equivalent knowledge in English.

## Selection

The selection is based on the applicant's CV and experiences, portfolio and a letter of intent. In the letter, the candidate should motivate in which ways the conceptual frame of the course is relevant for their upcoming study.

## Language of instruction

English.

## Scope of the course and the rate of study

60 ECTS- credits, full-time.

## Course objectives

The course aims to critically reflect upon the effects of spatial transformations in society by combining theory and practice with individual and collective research. The course also aims to reflect and intervene in the debate regarding the theme of “internal colonization and the countryside”.

## Learning outcomes

After module 1, *Decolonizing Architecture A (30 ECTS)*, the students are expected to:

- Show an ability to take part in advanced theoretical debates around critical spatial practices
- Show an ability to define a driving concept towards the individual research in architecture

After module 2, *Decolonizing Architecture B (30 ECTS)*, the students are expected to:

- Show an ability to work collectively while preserving a rigorous intellectual trajectory
- Show an ability to create the foundations for developing an independent research project

## Course content

*In a text written in 1923, Antonio Gramsci analyzed the so-called “Italian southern question” as a form of internal colonization, establishing a fundamental link between imperial ambitions and internal forms of colonization. Legitimized by the rhetoric of modernization, “marginal territories” within Europe have been equally object of extraction and expropriation from the metropolitan center (among them Sápmi and Ireland), forcing the local population to emigrate. The abandonment of the countryside was the natural consequence of decades of exploitation, subjugation, and migration. How do those stories of internal colonization force us to rethink contemporary migration and the countryside today?*

*The students will have the opportunity to travel to Sicily, Borgo Rizza, one of the new towns built by the Entity of Colonization of Sicily in 1940. Since the last year, the course has helped the local municipality to transform the abandoned town into a new civic space for local organizations and international universities. Based on an already established partnership with the local municipality of Carlentini, the students will collectively contribute to a series of interventions and discursive exhibitions with the aim to reinhabit Borgo and to connect the site with other “case studies” around the world.*

## Forms of teaching

The teaching is conducted as:

- Site visits and study trips
- Collective readings
- Seminars
- Workshops
- Individual and group supervision
- Lectures

The course is divided into four mandatory intensive blocks per semester including individual and collective tutorials, readings, and seminars. Between the blocks, the participants independently develop their work and research by writing, reading, drawing, interviewing, etc., and conduct site 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

## Assessment

The first module, *Decolonizing Architecture A*, 30 ECTS, is examined by submitting an assignment and by active participation in the mandatory seminars and lectures.

The second module - *Decolonizing Architecture B*, 30 ECTS, is examined by the course leader, with the input of an external jury, and is based on a public presentation where the individual artistic and architectural research developed over the year is used as a support structure for a discursive-exhibition/presentation.

## Examiner

The Examiner is established by Department Board for Research and Further Education in Architecture and Fine Art.

## Course requirements

To pass the course, active participation in the mandatory scheduled teaching is required (with a minimum of 75% attendance), a submission of an assignment and a participation in the public presentation at the end of the year. To pass the course, all the above parts must be performed in a way that meet the expected learning outcomes. Supplementation in the event of absence is made in consultation with the course teacher. Students who are unable to take part in the study trip are given a replacement assignment.

## **Grading Criteria**

Pass – The student has met the expected learning outcomes.

Fail – The student has not met the expected learning outcomes.

## **Study resources**

There is no obligatory course literature, but a list of reference literature will be distributed during the academic year.

## **Other terms and conditions**

Study trip – own costs may apply

## **The validity of the course syllabus**

The course syllabus is valid 2022-2023. After discontinuation, the student is entitled to be examined once a term for the following 18 months.