

Space Place and Society

The course will focus on studying the various aspects of space, place and society, in order to comprehend the interdisciplinary facets of architecture and urbanism. Conceptualization of place, Language of space, Public space, Pattern language and classification, Site matters, From place to site, Traditions and Dimensions of urban design, Urban transformations, Identity theories, Complexity theory of cities, Man and Society, Ways of social change, Production of space, Political Systems, Landscapes of power, Urban semiotics, Spaces of difference, Globalization and Gentrification. Conceptualization of Place – the notion of space in the fields of knowledge, the perception of place in architecture-urbanism, the investigation and design of place, variations in perception of place, places of cloning and controversies, Building the naturally unplanned

Language of Space: space and human dimension, space and distance, proxemics, territory Public space – why have public space and for whom, psychology of public space, aesthetics and sensing the character of an area, types of public space and influences on the use of public space. The pattern language: psychological patterns, landscape ecological patterns, behavior patterns, story patterns, geomorphological patterns, growth patterns, visual patterns, design patterns, Classification of patterns: primary, secondary, tertiary and quaternary, Semiotics of Landscape and non-representational theories. Site matters: Defining urban sites, mobile reach, site reach, site construction, unbound sites, urban constellation, Claiming the sites: evolving socio-legal conceptions of ownership and property, from place to site: negotiating narrative complexity.

The traditions and dimensions of urban design: the organic, formalist and modernist traditions, morphological, perceptual, social, visual, functional and temporal dimensions. Urban transformations: problems of production, spatial transformations, cultural support. Identity theories: Place-identity, Social identity, Identity process theory, Complexity theory of cities – Aspects of city as a complex system, implications to urban planning, achievements, criticism and potentials. Man and Society: Individuality and Society, Cooperation and conflict, City and Country, Contrasts of urban and rural life, Interaction and Dominance, The family and the state, The ways of social change: Biological factors, Technological factors and Cultural factors. Production of space, Political Systems, Landscapes of power, Urban Semiotics, Spaces of difference, Globalization and Gentrification.

References:

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