

*General Information:*

**Name of Course:**

# Lectures on Public Buildings

**Course Code:**

EPM226ANEM

**Semester:**

2nd

**Number of Credits:**

3

**Allotment of Hours per Week:**

2 Lectures / Week

**Evaluation:**

Exam

**Prerequisites:**

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**Responsible Lecturer:**

**Dr. habil. Vilmos Katona, Adjunct Professor**

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**Instructors:**

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## General Subject Description

The aim of the Experimental Design course is to acquaint students with the basic characteristics of different types of public buildings, their main functional systems, method of construction, mass formation, structural systems, and their effects on the urban fabric. The course provides an insight into the architectural-historical aspects of the evolution of public buildings, the theoretical interpretation of the development of each spatial type. In addition to the functional typology and chronological order, the subject discusses different public buildings in different thematic approaches, with special emphasis on the most topical issues and challenges of contemporary architecture. By jointly analyzing and learning case studies, the course brings the understanding of the complex process of public building design closer to the students.

## Learning Outcomes

The aim of the semester is to make students be familiar with the most important theories, influential designers and buildings of contemporary architecture. Students will be supported so that they could understand the relationships and interactions between people, the built and the natural environment, and, as a result, they could know the principles and steps of public building design. They will also be familiar with the functional and social requirements of certain building types, and the theoretical approaches and methods necessary to prepare and clarify different design tasks. It is also important for students to comprehend the role of the architect within the society through contextual analysis of historic and contemporary buildings.

## Subject Content

During the lectures, students will learn about the outstanding public buildings, designers, and design methodologies of the following eras and theoretical topics: The Bauhaus method and the avant-garde spirit. The 'other modernity', nature and identity. The eras of CIAM. From International Style to Team 10. Plasticism and the modernist canon. Parallel critiques, postmodern trends and critical modernism. The autotelic sign. Deconstruction, folding, topography. The role of place in contemporary architecture. Genius loci, tectonics, (critical) regionalism. Today's international star architects (starchitects). (Off) path finding, post-criticality, BLOb, and regenerative architecture.

Information and aids related to the subject are available on the Neptun Meet Street interface.  
Distance learning will take place in Teams within Microsoft Office 365.

## Examination and Evaluation System

*In all cases. Annex 5 of the Statutes of the University of Pécs, the **Code of Studies and Examinations (CSE) of the University of Pécs** shall prevail. <https://english.mik.pte.hu/codes-and-regulations>*

The semester evaluation consists of three parts. Students participate in the lectures in a discursive manner. The instructor classifies the students' activity based on the quality of individual additions and question-raising (25%). By the end of the term-time, students will present a freely selected episode of contemporary architecture by making a hand-drawn A/2 poster, for which they will receive a separate grade (25%). This is followed by an oral exam that measures the level of theoretical knowledge gained from the material presented by the lecturer (50%). The exam is in person or online at the Microsoft Office 365 Teams meeting interface. There are no prepared items for the exam, the examiner asks for the lessons according to the indicated themes, the preparation to which is up to the students' creativity. The semester grade is derived from the weighted average of the three grades (class activity, drawing task and exam) due to their percentage. All three parts are required for recognition of the semester. It is possible to replace the exam and obtain a pre-exam mark if the student's class and semester assignment are fulfilled excellently, and s/he gives an individual 15-minute, 15-slide presentation on a chosen research topic related to the subject during the last session of the term-time. This also has to gain excellent evaluation by both the instructor and the audience.

## Requirements during Term-Time

Certified attendance at 70%, at least, of theoretical sessions is a condition for signing the semester. By the end of the term-time, students will present a freely selected episode of contemporary architecture by making a hand-drawn A/2 poster (420 × 594 mm). The boards must be uploaded electronically in 1200 dpi resolution JPEG format to the Files folder in the Microsoft Office 365 Teams subject group. Students' names, Neptun codes, and the title of the subject must be indicated on the posters subsequently in this order. The deadline for submitting posters is the last meeting of the term-time, on week 15. Reprieve of submission after deadline is not possible. The instructor will provide an opportunity for consultation on the semester task during the penultimate session. Drawing made in previous semesters will not be accepted.

## Participation in Classes

Attendance at lectures is mandatory. **Automatic registration for online sign-ups for lectures and exercises is generated in Microsoft Office 365 Teams.**

## Readings and Reference Materials

Biermann, V., et al. Architectural Theory: From the Renaissance to the Present, Taschen, 2003.  
Crysler, C.G., Cairns, S., and Heynen, H. (eds.) The SAGE Handbook of Architectural Theory, SAGE, 2012.  
Frampton, K. Modern Architecture: a Critical History, Oxford University Press, 1980.  
Gössel, P. and Leuthäuser, G. Architecture in the 20th Century (Vols. 1 and 2), Taschen, 2005.  
Jencks, C. The Iconic Building, Rizzoli, 2005.  
Jencks, C. The Language of Post-Modern Architecture, Rizzoli, 1977.  
Norberg-Schulz, C. Genius Loci. Rizzoli, 1980.  
Pevsner, N. Pioneers of Modern Design: From William Morris to Walter Gropius (revised and expanded edition), Yale University Press, 2005.  
Scruton, R. Green Philosophy: How to Think Seriously About the Planet, Atlantic Books, 2012.  
Venturi, R. Complexity and Contradiction in Architecture, MOMA, 1977.

Journals and magazines: El Croquis, U+A, JA, Domus, Abita-re, AR, A40, Hauser, Detail.

Class materials and publications of the Lecturer: <https://medbiotech.academia.edu/VilmosKatonaPhD>

## Method of Education

The course is based on continuous communication between faculty and students during lectures.

## Methodology and Criteria

Active participation in theoretical lectures. Developing the ability to ask individual questions and think independently. Autonomous work during the elaboration of the semester task. The graphic quality of the lecturer's presentations is a model for the production of the posters created by the students. In addition to the relevance of information, the evaluation is equally based on the graphic quality of the drawings, the unity of visual communication and the presentation of the students' lexical knowledge.

## Schedule

Week 1	Friday 13:15–14:45
	Presentation
Method	lecture
Feb 05	The Design Methodology of the Bauhaus

Week 2	Friday 13:15–14:45
	Presentation
Method	lecture
Feb 12	Plasticism and Modernist Canon

Week 3	Friday 13:15–14:45
	Presentation
Method	lecture
Feb 19	Public Buildings in Accordance with the International Style

Week 4	Friday 13:15–14:45
	Presentation
Method	lecture
Feb 26	Post-modernism in the United States

Week 5	Friday 13:15–14:45
	Presentation
Method	lecture
Mar 05	Post-modern Trends in Europe, and the Critical Modernism

Week 6	Friday 13:15–14:45
	Presentation
Method	lecture
Mar 12	The Role of Place: Genius Loci, Tectonics, (Critical) Regionalism

<b>Week 7</b>	<b>Friday 13:15–14:45</b>
	Presentation
Method	lecture
Mar 19	The Autotelic Sign: The Deconstruction
<b>Week 8</b>	<b>Friday 13:15–14:45</b>
	Presentation
Method	lecture
Mar 26	Mazes of Folding and Topography
<b>Week 9</b>	<b>Friday 13:15–14:45</b>
	<b>Good Friday</b>
Method	
Apr 02	
<b>Week 10</b>	<b>Friday 13:15–14:45</b>
	<b>Spring Break</b>
Method	
Apr 09	
<b>Week 11</b>	<b>Friday 13:15–14:45</b>
	Presentation
Method	lecture
Apr 16	Starchitects and Design Methodologies Today
<b>Week 12</b>	<b>Friday 13:15–14:45</b>
	Presentation
Method	lecture
Apr 23	Starchitects and Design Methodologies Today
<b>Week 13</b>	<b>Friday 13:15–14:45</b>
	Presentation
Method	lecture
Apr 30	An 'Escape Tunnel': Post-criticality and BLOb
<b>Week 14</b>	<b>Friday 13:15–14:45</b>
	Presentation
Method	lecture
May 07	An 'Escape Tunnel': Regenerative Architecture and Competitions, consultation about the semester task
<b>Week 15</b>	<b>Friday 13:15–14:45</b>
	Presentation
Method	lecture
May 14	Conclusions, submission of semester task, individual presentations

We reserve the right to change the details of this course (date / location / clarifications), of which we will inform the students in all cases. With the questions and problems that arise during the semester, you can find the subject supervisor and the institute coordinator during the term-time.

Dr. habil. Vilmos Katona  
responsible lecturer

Pécs, February 1, 2021