

*General Information:*

<b>Name of Course:</b>	<b>Thesis</b>
<b>Course Code:</b>	EPM494ANEM
<b>Semester:</b>	4 or 10
<b>Number of Credits:</b>	12
<b>Allotment of Hours per Week:</b>	4 Lectures + 2 Laboratory hours
<b>Evaluation:</b>	Signature
<b>Prerequisites:</b>	-
<b>Responsible Lecturer:</b>	<b>Dr. habil. Vilmos Katona, Associate Professor</b> Office: B-334, Boszorkány u. 2. Pécs 7624, Hungary E-mail: katona.vilmos@mik.pte.hu
<b>Instructors:</b>	<b>Dr. habil. Vilmos Katona, Associate Professor</b> Office: B-334, Boszorkány u. 2. Pécs 7624, Hungary E-mail: katona.vilmos@mik.pte.hu

## General Subject Description

The subject provides all the knowledge required for the completion of a diploma thesis as a written scholarly thesis for the students participating in the architectural master's degree program at the University of Pécs. The thesis reflects on the topic of the diploma project, gives accurate answers to unconventional architectural situations, building aesthetics and social problems from urban planning issues to structural solutions, especially in the field of innovation, sustainability, economy, solidarity and ecological thinking. The thesis is a theoretical work concerning architecture, which is to prove that the student is theoretically prepared for starting a career as an architect.

## Learning Outcomes

The aim of the course is to prepare the written documentation of the diploma project and the scientific work, i.e., the final form of the diploma thesis. Part of this aim is to allow students to compose professional content under the guidance of the lecturer, within their own individual framework. Together with the instructor, students take into account the main goals of the chosen broader topic, and later students define their research focus and prepare the chapters of their thesis. The practical knowledge required for writing the thesis is discussed in steps, and, in addition to the written tasks, students practice the method of verbal communication (lecture, oral report, diploma defense). They also learn to use the necessary techniques (sketch board, projector), and make preparations for similar tasks that they should find during their professional praxis. Students need to demonstrate that they are able to solve independent architectural tasks in the broad field of any architectural activities involving knowledge from natural sciences, engineering, art, and related economic skills. They also need to prove themselves in awareness, responsibility and commitment to the social and environmental impacts of architecture.

## Subject Content

The main focus of the course is that the student can apply the knowledge gained during the training in a complex way, especially in developing a conceptual approach to find their designs' contextual liaison with the built environment, to understand logically clean functions, and to find aesthetic structural forms by shaping representative spaces.

The diploma thesis prepared within the framework of architecture is grouped around the following topics: interior design, urban planning, and structural design. It is up to the student's choice which of these foci will be articulated.

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 mere submission of the thesis work is not an eligible condition for obtaining the credits assigned to the subject in the curriculum. These credits can be obtained by students based on their performance in the process of preparing the diploma thesis.

The course ends with a signature, and the semester closes with Week 15. Students are required to present the topic of their research and their ability of academic writing regarding their chosen field of interest. During the semester, students' attendance will be registered in the consultation frameworks, and reported to the design supervisors.

Students' evaluation will aim at deciding whether they are prepared to defend their diploma work. The condition for obtaining the required signature is a minimum of 4 certified consultations, a personal presentation of their research topic, and the final acceptance of their thesis by the supervisor. Presentations which were not accepted may be corrected once during the term time, or during the examination period at a certain time and place, which will be announced by the person in charge of the course according to the CSE.

## Requirements during Term-Time

Students whose absence reaches 50% (for any reason), cannot complete the semester, and are not entitled for reparation. The same applies to those who miss to complete a minimum of 4 certified consultations. Students with "no go" mark cannot complete the semester, and their diploma work 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. Online teaching will be officially announced in case of need for increased health protection.

### 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 Instructor: <https://medbiotech.academia.edu/VilmosKatonaPhD>

### Method of Education

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

Method: 1.) continuous consultation during the seminars according to the syllabus announced in the detailed subject program. 2.) Independent work during the seminars. 3.) Self-employed work from home. 4.) Independent research, data collection, analysis. 5.) Consultation with experts independent of the subject instructors.

### Methodology and Criteria

The credit values assigned to the preparation of the diploma thesis in the curriculum of Architecture MSc / OTM programs are 26, which can be obtained by completing the subject Complex Design (14 credits / semester grade) and the current Thesis subject (12 credits / signature). The credit value assigned to the preparation of the diploma thesis in the curriculum of the Interior and Spatial Design MA is 20, which can be obtained by completing the subject of Complex Design (14 credits / semester grade) and the subject of the diploma thesis consultation (6 credits / signature).

### Supervisors and consultants

One design, and one structural engineer advisor have to be previously selected for the supervision of the diploma work's professional topic. This topic is chosen by the student within the framework of the Complex Design subject to which external expert(s) with appropriate experience may also join. However, the supervision of the thesis manuscript is directed by the lecturer of the current subject. Therefore, the regular contact with the supervisors within the study framework is the personal task and responsibility of the student.

Participation in the consultations and regular contact with the consultant is formulated as a special requirement for the author of the manuscript, so the supervisor keeps record of the students' participation and advancement during the consultations. The instructor of the subject directs, assists and professionally supports students' work during the consultations. The instructor also gives advices on the various issues and problems that arise, but the substantive processing of the topic is the independent task of the students.

### Semester tasks and requirements

Only original manuscripts can be accepted as thesis works. This work must be unpublished, and its contents need to meet the basic formal and ethical criteria. Previously written dissertations, diploma theses are not accepted and strictly sanctioned. Diploma theses must contain well referenced data. Without references, the diploma thesis will be rejected and the student will not be admitted to the final exam. The author of the thesis should be aware that architecture is a field of serious work, attention, concentration and patience. Similarly to that, a thesis can only be created as a result of persistent work. The thesis must include a concise definition of the chosen topic, a precise selection of literature, the methods of the research, the systematization, analysis and examination of the collected materials, as well as the formulation of the acquired knowledge. Theses end with a conclusion which is applicable in architectural praxis.

## Phases of developing the thesis manuscript

The work related to the preparation of the thesis can be divided into the following major phases: 1.) Outlining of the chosen topic, general orientation. 2.) Defining the general research goal, its working methods, and the research plan. 3.) Collection and exploration of literature and other materials relevant for the research. 4.) Systematization and processing of available materials. 5.) Raising questions and elaboration of answers (research methods are encouraged to be applied). 6.) Preparation of the manuscript. 7.) Formatting and finalizing the thesis work; printing, bookbinding, and submission.

## Recommended structure of the thesis

1 Title: When choosing a title, keep it is short, understandable, well-articulated, which expresses the content well. It is practical to leave the title to the last phase of the work. Before that, we can give a temporary “work title” to the thesis. It may be a good idea to supplement a short, concise title with a subtitle that better defines the topic.

2 Table of Contents: Chapter titles and subtitles indicated must literally match the titles (chapters) in the text of the thesis. Chapters, subchapters, etc. should also follow the notation used in the text by indicating page numbers. All this helps the reader to orient himself towards the topic of the thesis. Do not include parts of the text that are too small in the table of contents. When creating the table of contents, use the application of your text editor that matches the pages with the titles.

3 Introduction: In this part, the author give his/hers reason for choosing the given topic, and formulates the objectives of the diploma thesis. The introduction’s purpose is to propose the topic and to explain its theoretical and practical significance. Once the first impression of the text is usually the strongest, it plays an important role in arousing interest.

4 Discussion: It is a central part of thesis. The text of the discussion should preferably consist of two or three main chapters, including subchapters in a logical order. It is important that there is a correlation between the chapters that are independent in terms of content, and that the material is not fragmented. As part of the discussion, a review of the literature related to the topic, and the reason for using a certain method should be explained here. In addition to the elaboration of new questions and research results, all the calculations and analyses required by the topic must also be performed here. The results and experiences of the research, the analysis and presentation of the data should also be expanded in these chapters. This part should cover 80-85% of the manuscript, in which at least 5-5% should be directed to concisely describe the methods (e.g., theoretical basis, conceptual elements, their connection to the chosen topic, the chosen location, professional background), and results of the research. The description should also provide an evaluation on the development history of the architectural plan from the first outlines to the finalized work. They should be based on independent and defensible ideas by presenting the studied literature.

5 Conclusion: Research results, findings, problems and their (suggested) solutions, and recommendations must be summarized. This summary usually explains the results that the author found in order to fulfill the thesis’ objectives. This section should make a brief account on the main findings by concisely describing both the theoretical and the practical results of their planning and research activities. The recommended length of the conclusions is 5-8% of the size of the diploma thesis, but if parts of the results have been formulated earlier in a certain chapter, a shorter conclusion can also be written.

6 References (Bibliography): The last pages (with Arabic numbers) should list all the sources and literature used in the thesis manuscript. All of these sources need to be collected in alphabetical order. In case the author used a lot of resources, it is helpful to group the bibliographical items by the first letters of their authors’ surnames. The table of references should not merely list the sources, which is not acceptable in itself, but, instead, the discussion must use each of the listed bibliographical items, and make objective references to them. Bibliographical data without actual referencing is not accepted, and automatically implies that the author did not read the cited source. Students should thus make sure before submission that all the references are used in their text’s citations.

7 Appendix: Visual presentation simplifies information and greatly facilitates the intensity of knowledge transfer. Illustrative materials may be placed between the texts where they were first mentioned, or they may be included as an appendix to the thesis, immediately after the bibliography. The page numbering should organically follow the references, however, should apply Roman numbers for differentiation. When editing the appendix, the author should ensure that all the sources, images, photographs, tables, or diagrams used are referenced in the text, and their sources are traceable. Images must be clearly visible, and aesthetically composed. Appendices may be edited

as separate illustrative materials in their own binding, but the same editing principles must be applied to both them and the manuscripts.

### Formal requirements and submission of the thesis

Formal requirements for the thesis must be taken into account when editing and finalizing the manuscript. Theses must be prepared by computer as electronic copies. The submission of a printed copy is optional, but recommended. After evaluation, all printed copies will be returned to the authors.

The length of the full thesis may vary between the minimum of 60,000 and 80,000 characters. Figures with captions, drawings and tables can be placed within the text flow.

The finalized thesis should be submitted together with the diploma work (architectural plan) in case the manuscript was previously accepted by Week 15.

Design and inscription of the covers:

#### 1 Outer cover

- dark color, hardcover,
- A/4 or landscape A/3 size,
- inscription in block letters:

#### THESIS

Name of the author

Year of submission

Name of the institution (UP FEIT)

Training program (Architecture MSc / OTM / Interior and Spatial Design MA)

#### 2 Internal cover

- normal paper size,
- text with dark, preferably black ink:

Name of the institution (UP FEIT)

Training program (Architecture MSc / OTM / Interior and Spatial Design MA)

Title of the thesis

The name of the author

The name of the supervisor(s) and consultant(s), including the thesis consultant (instructor of the current subject)

Place of submission (PÉCS)

Year of submission

### Subject schedule

<b>Week 1</b>	Thu 15:00–18:15
Feb 10	consultation
	theoretical introduction
<b>Week 2</b>	Thu 15:00–18:15
Feb 17	consultation
	theoretical introduction
<b>Week 3</b>	Thu 15:00–18:15
Feb 24	Expo Break
<b>Week 4</b>	Thu 15:00–18:15
Mar 03	consultation
	conceptual drafts
<b>Week 5</b>	Thu 15:00–18:15
Mar 10	consultation
	conceptual drafts

<b>Week 6</b>	Thu 15:00–18:15
Mar 17	consultation
	individual presentations
<b>Week 7</b>	Thu 15:00–18:15
Mar 24	consultation
	manuscript drafts
<b>Week 8</b>	Thu 15:00–18:15
Mar 31	consultation
	manuscript drafts
<b>Week 9</b>	Thu 15:00–18:15
Apr 07	consultation
	editing practice
<b>Week 10</b>	Thu 15:00–18:15
Apr 14	consultation
	editing practice
<b>Week 11</b>	Thu 15:00–18:15
Apr 21	Spring Break
	Application deadline for final exam: 24:00, April 24
<b>Week 12</b>	Thu 15:00–18:15
Apr 28	consultation
	elaborating manuscripts
<b>Week 13</b>	Thu 15:00–18:15
May 05	consultation
	elaborating manuscripts
<b>Week 14</b>	Thu 15:00–18:15
May 12	consultation
	checking manuscripts
<b>Week 15</b>	Thu 15:00–18:15
May 19	consultation
	evaluation (pass/fail)

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.

### Important dates

Application deadline for final exam: April 24 (12:00 p.m.)

Electronic submission of thesis and diploma works: June 10 (12:00 p.m.)

Deadline for acknowledging submissions, and issuing final exam sheets: June 13 (12:00 p.m.)

Final exams: 17–25 June, 2022.

Pécs, February 04, 2022

Dr. habil. Vilmos Katona  
responsible lecturer