



AH/US 360 THE CITY AS A PLACE TO LIVE: THE BARCELONA EXPERIENCE

IES Abroad Barcelona

DESCRIPTION: To live our city means to expand the limits of our homes. To understand this concept, we will study public spaces and the importance of their form and qualities to help us feel one with the city. The course will focus on the characteristics of different public spaces and the activities that take place in them. Throughout the study in time of city urban development and its public spaces in both Europe and America we will distinguish the advantages of each. Barcelona will serve as a case study for the European perspective.

CREDITS: 3 credits

CONTACT HOURS: 45 hours.

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION: English

PREREQUISITES: None

ADDITIONAL COST: None

METHOD OF PRESENTATION:

- Lectures, discussions, and class activities: The lectures provide the theoretical content of the sessions together with adequate visual support. There will also be class discussions and activities to facilitate the students' ability to relate readings and lectures, analyzing or applying concepts.
- Course-related trips: Guided and self-guided visits to significant city areas related to the content of the course such as Barri Gotic, Eixample, Barceloneta, etc. Each student must complete a Report relating the Course related trips.
- Student Presentations: Each student will make a presentation based on their own research on one of Barcelona's public places. These public places together with those covered in course-related trips will make up an extensive list of possible eligible public places for their final project.
- Class Participation: Students are expected to have active participation in class discussions and complete all SCL activities during the sessions. Each student should lead the conversation about the reading in class or do a summary of previous class. The answers to the reading questions will be part of the grade and should be done before each class.

REQUIRED WORK AND FORM OF ASSESSMENT:

- Mid-term exam - 25%
- Course-related trips Reports -20%
- Students presentations - 20%
- Final project -25%:
- Class participation -10%

Mid-term exam

The midterm exam is based on the contents of the course and will consist of filling the blank questions and charts, together with short and essay-like questions. After midterm, some quizzes or take-home exams could take place and will be considered part of student participation.

Course-related trips Reports

Students will write a Report about the course related trips and self-guided visits describing the public places of the route, its qualities, and activities, together with their personal impressions.

Students' presentations

After Midterm students will select Barcelona's Public Places in groups, and among them each student will select one public place Barcelona and make a presentation of their research to the class (individually)

Final project

After the class presentations, the students will choose a specific public place or area in Barcelona. This project will be developed as an article for a specialized travel publication keeping in mind that the main theme of the course is public places and their social life. The article will be about one specific public place of Barcelona selected by the student. The selected place should be analyzed and described in detail, so that the reader is able to experience and understand the place and its life. The essay must be 2000 words.

Class participation

Students should maintain a good level of participation in most of the classes. Answering online reading questions will be considered part of the grade and will contribute to class participation. Every student should do one special participation about the previous class summary or lead the discussion of a reading.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

By the end of the course students will be able to:

- Recognize the more relevant urban features of both European (with Barcelona as specific case) and American contexts.
- Distinguish the historical layers in both European and American urban form process.
- Increase their understanding of cities and their urban/public places and the way people live in them.
- Identify Barcelona's public places features and contrast them with the public places in their own cities.
- Understand layouts and maps so that they manage to orient themselves in a building or city.

ATTENDANCE POLICY: As a member of our class community, you are expected to be present and on time every day. Attending class has an impact on your learning and academic success. For this reason, attendance is required for all IES Barcelona classes, including course-related excursions. If a student misses more than three classes in any course without justification, 3 percentage points will be deducted from the final grade for every additional absence. Seven unjustified absences in any course will result in a failing grade. Absences will only be justified, and assessed work, including exams, tests and presentations rescheduled, in cases of documented medical or family emergencies.

CONTENT:

Session	Content	Assignments
Session 1	General overview of the course.	
Session 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The idea of Public Realm. • City stability. • Models of social life. Review of urban design concepts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lennard S. <i>et al.</i> (1997). The public Realm and the good city. <i>Making cities livable</i>. (pp. 79-83). International Making Cities Livable Conferences. Carmel, USA: Lennard & Crowhurst Editors
Session 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The compact city, mixed uses and well-defined public places as centers of community life. • New Urbanism principles. City & drawings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lennard S. <i>et al.</i> (1997). Seven aims for the livable City. <i>Making cities livable</i>. (pp. 18-20). International Making Cities Livable Conferences. Carmel, USA: Lennard & Crowhurst Editors. • Crowhurst Lennard, S., & Lennard, H. (2011). <i>Principles of true urbanism</i>. International Making Cities Livable.

		https://livablecities.org/2011/03/01/articles-principles-true-urbanism/
Session 4	Course-related trip I: Public places in Barcelona's Gothic Quarter.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maxwell, R., & Bohigas, O. (1999). The Royal Gold Medal 1999: The City of Barcelona. <i>The Journal of Architecture</i>, 4, 229-244.
Session 5	Urban form through time, in Europe I <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Urban morphology in early cities. Determinants. The Barcino. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Morris, A.E.J. (1994). <i>History of Urban Form, before the Industrial Revolution</i>. (pp. 8-18) United Kingdom: Prentice Hall.
Session 6	Urban form through time, in Europe II <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The medieval Urban form; its legacy in Barcelona city shape. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Morris, A.E.J. (1994). <i>History of Urban Form, before the Industrial Revolution</i>. (pp. 92-103). United Kingdom: Prentice Hall.
Session 7	Urban form through time, in Europe III <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The urban form in the European Renaissance. Italy, France and the Royal Places. London Residential Square. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Morris, A.E.J. (1994). <i>History of Urban Form, before the Industrial Revolution</i>. (157-168, 191-197, 248-252, 261-265). United Kingdom: Prentice Hall.
Session 8	Course-related trip II (Self-guided): The Eixample. The Barcelona extension, and its emblematic urban form.	
Session 9	Urban form through time, in Europe VI <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 19th century Transformations The Industrial City. Haussman's & Cerdà legacy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Busquets, J. (2009). Barcelona Metròpolis. Un plan innovador convertido en realidad. La razón en la ciudad: El plan Cerdà. <i>Revista de Información y pensamientos urbanos</i> (76), 81-87.
Session 10	Urban form through time, in Europe V <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Modern's City. Le Corbusier. New building types & zoning. Leo Krier and his critical perspective. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Curtis, W. J.R. (1986). <i>Le Corbusier. Ideas and Forms</i>, (pp. 7-8, 60-66). Rizzoli.
Session 11	Midterm Exam	Midterm Exam
Session 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Barcelona experience. Making your way in the city. Different historical times and layouts. Barcelona's memorable places. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lynch, K. (1991). <i>City Sense and City Design</i>. Writings and projects. (pp. 468-475). The MIT Press.
Session 13	Course-related trip III: The Barceloneta. Past and present. 1992 Olympic games. The new seaside landscapes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Busquets, J. (2006). <i>Barcelona: The urban evolution of a compact city</i>. (pp. 89-93) Nicolodi & Harvard University Graduate School of Design, Actar Distribution.

Session 14	Urban form through time, in America I <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Architectural and urban heritage in America, first cities and its urban form. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Morris, A.E.J. (1994). <i>History of Urban Form, before the Industrial Revolution</i>. (pp. 321-329). United Kingdom: Prentice Hall.
Session 15	Urban form through time, in America II <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The evolution of urban morphology from the foundations through 19th century. The grids in America. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Morris, A.E.J. (1994). <i>History of Urban Form, before the Industrial Revolution</i>. (pp. 330-356). United Kingdom: Prentice Hall.
Session 16	Course-related trip IV: Students visit to their Barcelona's Public place (self-guided)	
Session 17	Urban form through time, in America III <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 20th century. Impact of modern movement ideas in USA. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jacobs, J. (1961). The Uses of Sidewalks in Jacobs, J. (Ed). <i>The death and life of great American cities</i> (pp. 29-54). Vintage https://www.miguelangelmartinez.net/IMG/pdf/1961_Jacobs_TheUsesofSidewalksby_excerpt.pdf
Session 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public places in Barcelona 1980-2000. The legacy of the Olympic Games 1992-2002. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brunet, F. (2005). The economic impact of the Barcelona Olympic Games, 1986-2004: Barcelona: the legacy of the Games, 1992-2002, <i>Barcelona: Centre d'Estudis Olímpics UAB</i>, 5-18. https://www.almendron.com/tribuna/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/wp084_eng.pdf
Session 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Barcelona latest urban proposal: The 2004 Forum of the Cultures. The huge developments in the area and La Mina's transformation plan. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clusa, J., & Marmolejo, C. (2004). Barcelona's next post-Olympic urban challenge. <i>The Universal Forum of Cultures 2004</i>. https://www.clusa-oriach.cat/20030706-CPSV-Forum%202004%20(6-jul)-JC-CM.pdf
Session 20	Barcelona's Public Places. Students' presentations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students' presentations.
Session 21	Barcelona's Public Places. Students' presentations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students' presentations.
Session 22	Barcelona's Public Places. Students' presentations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students' presentations.
Session 23	Urban form through time, in America IV <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recent developments in USA 	
Session 24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Debate: Public places in European cities versus public places in American cities. Final comments and conclusions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Debate
Final Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TBA Exams Week 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TBA Exams Week

COURSE-RELATED TRIPS:

- I: Public places in Barcelona's Gothic Quarter.

- II: The Eixample. The Barcelona extension and its public places.
- III: Public places in Barceloneta. Past and present 1992 Olympic games.
- IV: Visit to the selected Barcelona Public Place.

REQUIRED READINGS:

- Busquets, J. (2009). Barcelona Metr polis. Un plan innovador convertido en realidad. La raz n en la ciudad: El plan Cerd . *Revista de Informaci n y pensamientos urbanos* (76), 81-87.
- Brunet, F. (2005). The economic impact of the Barcelona Olympic Games, 1986-2004: Barcelona: the legacy of the Games, 1992-2002, *Barcelona: Centre d'Estudis Ol mpics UAB*, 5-18. https://www.almendron.com/tribuna/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/wp084_eng.pdf
- Clusa, J., & Marmolejo, C. (2004). Barcelona's next post-Olympic urban challenge. *The Universal Forum of Cultures 2004*. [https://www.clusa-oriach.cat/20030706-CPSV-Forum%202004%20\(6-jul\)-JC-CM.pdf](https://www.clusa-oriach.cat/20030706-CPSV-Forum%202004%20(6-jul)-JC-CM.pdf)
- Crowhurst Lennard, S., & Lennard, H. (2011). *Principles of true urbanism*. International Making Cities Livable. <https://livablecities.org/2011/03/01/articles-principles-true-urbanism/>
- Curtis, W. J.R. (1986). *Le Corbusier. Ideas and Forms*, (pp. 7-8, 60-66). Rizzoli.
- Jacobs, J. (1961). The Uses of Sidewalks in Jacobs, J. (Ed). *The death and life of great American cities* (pp. 29-54). Vintage. https://www.miguelangelmartinez.net/IMG/pdf/1961_Jacobs_TheUsesofSidewalksby_excerpt.pdf
- Lennard S. *et al.* (1997). The public Realm and the good city. *Making cities livable*. (pp. 79-83). International Making Cities Livable Conferences. Carmel, USA: Lennard & Crowhurst Editors.
- Lennard S. *et al.* (1997). Seven aims for a livable City. *Making cities livable*. (pp. 18-20). International Making Cities Livable Conferences. Carmel, USA: Lennard & Crowhurst Editors.
- Lynch, K. (1991). *City Sense and City Design*. Writings and projects. (pp. 468-475). The MIT Press.
- Marshall, T. Benach, N. (2004). *Transforming Barcelona*. (pp. 151-159). Routledge.
- Maxwell, R., & Bohigas, O. (1999). The Royal Gold Medal 1999: The City of Barcelona. *The Journal of Architecture*, 4, 229-244.
- Morris, A.E.J. (1994). *History of Urban Form, before the Industrial Revolution*. (pp. 8-18, 92-103, 157-168, 191-197, 248-252, 261-265, 321-329, 330-356). United Kingdom: Prentice Hall.

RECOMMENDED READINGS:

- Busquets, J. (2006). *Barcelona: The urban evolution of a compact city* (pp. 89-93, 248-258). Nicolodi.
- Balibrea, M. P. (2001). Urbanism, culture, and the post-industrial city: Challenging the 'Barcelona model'. *Journal of Spanish cultural studies*, 2(2), 187-210.
- Burton, E., Jenks, M., & Williams, K. (2003). *The compact city: a sustainable urban form?* Routledge.
- Cohn, D. (2004). A new event, the Universal Forum of Cultures, helps Barcelona transform an ailing district. *Architectural Record*, 192(6), 109-+.
- Corbusier, L. (1987). *The city of to-morrow and its planning*. Courier Corporation.
- Curran, R. J. (1983). *Architecture and the urban experience*. Van Nostrand Reinhold Company.
- Delevoy, R. L., Vidler, A., Krier, L., & SCOLARI, M. (1978). Rational architecture: the reconstruction of the European city. *ARCHIVES D'ARCHITECTURE MODERNE*
- De Sol -Morales, M. (2008). *Ten lessons on Barcelona* (pp. 278-309). COAC, Col legi d'Arquitectes de Catalunya.
- Frampton K. (2007). *Modern architecture: a critical history* (Fourth). Thames & Hudson.
- Hebbert, M. (2006). Town planning versus urbanismo. *Planning Perspectives*, 21(3), 233-251.
- Jacobs, J. (1958). Downtown is for People. In Jacobs, (Ed.) *The exploding metropolis*, 168. University of California Press
- Kostof, S., & Castillo, G. (1992). *The city assembled: the elements of urban form through history*. Bulfinch Press
- Lynch K. (1960). *The image of the city*. A Theory of good city form. MIT Press.

- Lennard H. L. Lennard S. H. C. & International Making Cities Livable. (2004). *The wisdom of cities: architecture place community neighborhood identity planning and values*. IMCL Council.
- Mateo, J. L. (1996). *Contemporary Barcelona, 1856-1999*. CCCB. Institut d'Edicions de la Diputació de Barcelona.
- McNeill, D. (2001). Barcelona as imagined community: Pasqual Maragall's spaces of engagement. *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers*, 26(3), 340-352.
- Mumford, E. (2000). The Ciam discourse on urbanism, 1928-60. *Bitacora Urbano Territorial*. The MIT Press
- Mumford, L. (2016). *The culture of cities*. Open Road Media.
- Reps, J. W. (1965). *The making of urban America: a history of city planning in the United States*. Princeton University Press.
- Shibley, R. G. (1998). The complete new urbanism and the partial practices of placemaking. *Utopian Studies*, 9(1), 80-102.
- Vázquez Montalbán, M. (1992). *Barcelonas*. Verso.