



## 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 as 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 case of study for the European perspective.

**CREDITS:** 3 credits

**CONTACT HOURS:** 45 hours

**LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION:** English

**PREREQUISITES:** None

### METHOD OF PRESENTATION:

- Lectures, discussions and class activities: The lectures provide the theoretical content of the sessions together with the adequate visual support. There will be also, 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. Each student must complete a field journal relating the four course-related trips.
- Student Presentations: Each student will make a presentation based on their own research of two Barcelona's Public places. These public places together with those cover 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 make a summary of one session reading and lead the conversation about the reading in class. The answers of 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 (15%); Offline Homework (15%); Final project (25%); Class participation (20%).

- **MID-TERM EXAM**: Based on the contents of the course and will consist of filling the blanks and charts, together with short and essay-like questions (25%). After midterm, quizzes or take home exams could take place and will be considered part of student participation.
- **COURSE-RELATED TRIPS REPORTS**: Students will write a journal about field studies and self-guided visits describing the public places of the route (visual report), its qualities and activities, together with their personal impressions. (15%)
- **OFFLINE HOMEWORK**: Some other assignments intended to improve student's capacity of observation; environmental qualities and city life will be done in class and complemented at home. After Midterm students will select Barcelona's Public Places in groups, and among them each student will take 2 or 3 Public places on Barcelona and make a presentation of their research to the class. (15%)
- **FINAL PROJECT**: After mid-term the students will choose a specific public place or area in Barcelona, and start a research on the selected place. The findings of this investigation will be part of the Final Project. This project will be developed as an article for a travel specialize publication keeping in mind that the main theme of the course is the 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 their readers are able to experience and understand the place and its life. The article must be at list 5 pages long. (25%)
- **CLASS PARTICIPATION**: A good level of participation should accompany the majority of the classes. Answer online reading questions will be considered part of the grade, and contribute to class participation. Every student should do a summary of one reading of the syllabus and be prepare to lead the class. (20%)



**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 its 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:**

Attendance is mandatory for all IES Abroad classes, including course-related trips. Any exams, tests, presentations, or other work missed due to student absences can only be rescheduled in cases of documented medical or family emergencies. If a student misses more than three classes in any course 3 percentage points will be deducted from the final grade for every additional absence. Seven absences in any course will result in a failing grade.

**CONTENT:**

Session	Content	Required Reading
Session 1	General overview of the course.	
Session 2	The idea of Public Realm. City stability. Models of social life. Review of urban design concepts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Crowhurst Lennard, S. H. (1997). The public Realm and the good city. In S. H. Crowhurst Lennard, Making cities livable. Carmel, USA: Lennard&amp;Crowhurst Editors. (pp. 79-83).</li> </ul>
Session 3	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"> <li>● Crowhurst Lennard, S. H. (1997). Seven aims for the livable City. In Suzanne H. Crowhurst Lennard, Making cities livable. Carmel, USA: Lennard&amp;Crowhurst Editors. (pp. 18-20).</li> <li>● Crowhurst Lennard, Suzanne H. (2004). Principles of True Urbanism. Available online at: <a href="http://www.livablecities.org/articles/principles-true-urbanism">http://www.livablecities.org/articles/principles-true-urbanism</a></li> </ul>
Session 4	Course-related trip I: Public places in Barcelona’s Gothic Quarter.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Journal of Architecture. (1999). The Royal Gold Medal 1999: the City of Barcelona. Vol. 4 Issue 3, 229-244. Retrieved from EBSCOhost.</li> </ul>
Session 5	Urban form through time. Europe I: Urban morphology in early cities. Determinants. The Barcino.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Morris, A.E.J. (1994). History of Urban Form, before the Industrial Revolutions. United Kingdom: Prentice Hall. (pp. 8-18).</li> </ul>
Session 6	Urban form through time, in Europe II The medieval Urban form; its legacy in Barcelona city shape.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Morris, A.E.J. (1994). History of Urban Form, before the Industrial Revolutions. United Kingdom: Prentice Hall. (pp. 92-103).</li> </ul>
Session 7	Urban form through time, in Europe III	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Morris, A.E.J. (1994). History of Urban Form, before the Industrial Revolutions. United</li> </ul>

	The urban form in the European Renaissance. Italy, France and the Royal Places. London Residential Square.	Kingdom: Prentice Hall. (pp. 157-168, 191-197, 248-252, 261-265).
<b>Session 8</b>	Course-related trip II: The Eixample. The Barcelona extension, and its emblematic urban form.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Busquets, J.(2009) An Innovative Plan Turned into a Grand Reality <a href="http://w2.bcn.cat/bcnmetropolis/arxiu/en/pagea fc0.html?id=23&amp;ui=290">http://w2.bcn.cat/bcnmetropolis/arxiu/en/pagea fc0.html?id=23&amp;ui=290</a></li> </ul>
<b>Session 9</b>	Urban form through time, in Europe VI. 19th century Transformations The Industrial City. Haussman's & Cerdá legacy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Solà-Morales, M. de. (2008). Ten lessons on Barcelona. Barcelona: COAC, Col·legi d'Arquitectes de Catalunya. (pp. 278-309).</li> </ul>
<b>Session 10</b>	Urban form through time, in Europe V The Modern's City. Le Corbusier. New buildings types & zoning. Leo Krier and his critical perspective.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Curtis, W. J.R. (1986). Le Corbusier. Ideas and Forms. New York: Rizzoli. (pp. 7-8, 60-66).</li> <li>• Busquets, J. (2006). The urban evolution of a compact city. Barcelona: Actar. (pp. 248-258).</li> </ul>
<b>Session 11</b>	Midterm Exam	
<b>Session 12</b>	The Barcelona experience. Making your way in the city. Different historical times and layouts. Barcelona's memorable places.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lynch, K. (1991). City Sense and City Design. Writings and projects. Cambridge, London: The MIT Press. (pp. 468-475).</li> </ul>
<b>Session 13</b>	Course-related trip III: The Barceloneta. Past and present. 1992 Olympic games. The new seaside landscape.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Busquets, J. (2006). The city of Barceloneta. In Joan Busquets, The urban evolution of a compact city. Barcelona: Actar. (pp. 89-93).</li> </ul>
<b>Session 14</b>	Urban form through time, in America I Architectural and urban heritage in America, first cities and its urban form.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Morris, A.E.J. (1994). History of Urban Form, before the Industrial Revolutions. United Kingdom: Prentice Hall. (pp. 321-329).</li> </ul>
<b>Session 15</b>	Urban form through time, in America II. The evolution of urban morphology from the foundations through 19 <sup>th</sup> century. The grids in America.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Morris, A.E.J. (1994). History of Urban Form, before the Industrial Revolutions. United Kingdom: Prentice Hall. (pp. 330-356).</li> </ul>
<b>Session 16</b>	Course-related trip IV: The Forum area. Modern developments in Barcelona.	
<b>Session 17</b>	Urban form through time, in America III. 20th century. Impact of modern movement ideas in USA.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jacobs, J. "The uses of sidewalks: Safety" From The death and Life of great American Cities (1961). Available online at: <a href="http://www.contemporaryurbananthropology.com/pdfs/Jacobs,%20The%20Uses%20of%20Sidewalks.pdf">http://www.contemporaryurbananthropology.com/pdfs/Jacobs,%20The%20Uses%20of%20Sidewalks.pdf</a></li> </ul>
<b>Session 18</b>	Public places in Barcelona 1980-2000. The legacy of the Olympic Games 1992-2002.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Marshall, T. Benach, Nuria (2004). Transforming Barcelona. London: Routledge. (pp. 151-159).</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Brunet i Cid, F. The economic impact of the Barcelona Olympic Games, 1986-2004. (pp. 5-18).</li> </ul>
<b>Session 19</b>	Barcelona's Public Places Project. Students presentations.	
<b>Session 20</b>	Barcelona's Public Places Project. Students presentations.	
<b>Session 21</b>	Urban form through time, in America IV, Recent developments in USA.	
<b>Session 22</b>	<i>Debate</i> <i>Public places in European cities versus public places in American cities.</i>	
<b>Session 23</b>	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"> <li>Clusa, J.; Marmolejo C. (2004) Barcelona's next post-Olympic urban challenge: The Universal Forum of Cultures 2004. (pp. 1-16). <a href="https://geographyfieldwork.com/pdf/forum2004.pdf">https://geographyfieldwork.com/pdf/forum2004.pdf</a></li> </ul>
<b>Session 24</b>	Final Project due. Final comments and conclusions.	

## Final Exam

### REQUIRED READINGS:

- Busquets, J. (2006). The urban evolution of a compact city. Barcelona: Actar. (pp. 89-93, 248-258).
- Busquets, J. (2009). An Innovative Plan Turned into a Grand Reality.  
<http://w2.bcn.cat/bcnmetropolis/arxiu/en/pageafc0.html?id=23&ui=290>
- Brunet i Cid, F. The economic impact of the Barcelona Olympic Games, 1986-2004. (pp. 5-18).  
[http://olympicstudies.uab.es/pdf/wp084\\_eng.pdf](http://olympicstudies.uab.es/pdf/wp084_eng.pdf)
- Clusa, J.; Marmolejo C. (2004). Barcelona's next post-Olympic urban challenge: The Universal Forum of Cultures 2004. (pp. 1,16). <https://geographyfieldwork.com/pdf/forum2004.pdf>
- Crowhurst Lennard, S. H. (1997). Making cities livable. Carmel, USA: Lennard & Crowhurst Editors. (pp. 18-20, 79-83).
- Crowhurst Lennard, S. H. (2004). Principles of True Urbanism. Available online at: <http://www.livablecities.org/articles/principles-true-urbanism>
- Curtis, W. J.R. (1986). Le Corbusier. Ideas and Forms. New York: Rizzoli. (pp. 7-8, 60-66).
- Jacobs, J. "The uses of sidewalks: Safety" From The death and Life of great American Cities (1961) Available online at: <http://www.contemporaryurbananthropology.com/pdfs/Jacobs,%20The%20Uses%20of%20Sidewalks.pdf>
- Journal of Architecture. (1999). The Royal Gold Medal 1999: the City of Barcelona. Vol. 4 Issue 3, 229-244. Retrieved from EBSCOhost.
- Lynch, K. (1991). City Sense and City Design. Writings and projects. Cambridge, London: The MIT Press. (pp. 468-475).
- Marshall, T. Benach, N. (2004). Transforming Barcelona. London: Routledge. (pp. 151-159).
- Morris, A.E.J. (1994). History of Urban Form, before the Industrial Revolutions. United Kingdom: Prentice Hall. (pp. 8-18, 92-103, 157-168, 191-197, 248-252, 261-265, 321-329, 330-356).
- Solà-Morales, M. de. (2008). Ten lessons on Barcelona. Barcelona: COAC, Col·legi d'Arquitectes de Catalunya. (pp. 278-309).

## RECOMMENDED READINGS:

- Balibrea, M. P. (2001). Urbanism, culture and the post-industrial city: challenging the 'Barcelona model' *Journal of Spanish Cultural Studies*, Sep2001, Vol. 2 Issue 2, pp. 187-210. EBSCOhost.
- Cohn, D. (2004). A new event, the Universal Forum of Cultures, helps Barcelona transform an ailing district, *Architectural Record*, Vol. 192 Issue 6, pp. 109-114. Retrieved from EBSCOhost.
- Crowhurst Lennard, S. H. (2004). *The wisdom of cities. Architecture, Place, Community, Neighborhood, Identity, Planning and Values*. Carmel, USA: Lennard&Crowhurst Editors.
- Curran, R. J. (1983). *Architecture and the urban experience*. N.Y.: Van Nostrand Reinhold Co.
- Frampton, K. (1980). *Modern Architecture a critical history*. London, England: Thames and Hudson Ltd. (pp. 20-28).
- Hebbert, M. Town planning versus urbanism. *Planning Perspectives*, Jul2006, Vol. 21 Issue 3, pp. 233-251. EBSCOhost.
- Hillman, M. (2002). In favor of Compact Cities. In M. Jenks, E. Burton & K. Williams, *The Compact City*. London, UK: Spon Press. (pp. 36-43).
- Jacobs, J. (1993). *Downtown is for People*. University of California Press, USA: Berkley.
- *Journal of Architecture*. (1999). The Royal Gold Medal 1999: the City of Barcelona. Vol. 4 Issue 3, pp. 229-244. Retrieved from EBSCOhost.
- Kostof, Spiro, Castillo, G. & Tobias, R. (1992). *The City Assembled: The Elements of Urban Form Through History*. Boston, USA: Bulfinch Press.
- Krier, L. (1978). *Rational - Architecture / Rationnelle*. Brussels, Belgium: Archives d'Architecture Moderne. (Bilingual French/English text).
- Le Courbusier, *Cities of tomorrow and its Planning*, (1929), translation Frederick Etchells, Dover Publications (1987).
- Lynch, K. (1960). *The Image of the City. A Theory of good city form*. Cambridge, Massachusetts, London: The MIT Press.
- Mateo, J. L. (Ed.). (1996). *Contemporary Barcelona, 1856-1999*. Barcelona, Spain: CCCB.
- McNeill, D.. *Barcelona as imagined community: Pasqual Maragall's spaces of engagement*.
- Mumford, E. (2000). *The CIAM discourse on urbanism 1928-1960*. Cambridge, Massachusetts: The MIT Press.
- Mumford, L. (1938) *The culture of cities*. Mariner Books (October 21, 1970).
- New Jersey, USA: Princeton University Press. Shibley, Robert G.
- Reps, J. W. (1965). *The making of Urban America. History of city planning in the United States*.
- Shibley, R. G. *The Complete New Urbanism and the Partial Practices of Placemaking*. Utopian.
- *Studies*, 1998, Vol. 9 Issue 1, pp p80-88. Retrieved from EBSCOhost.
- Smith, A. *Conceptualizing City Image Change: The 'Re-Imaging' of Barcelona Tourism Geographies*, Nov2005, Vol. 7 Issue 4, pp 398-423. EBSCOhost.
- *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers*, 2001, Vol. 26 Issue 3, p. 340, 13p.
- Vázquez Montalbán, M. (1992). *Barcelonas*. London, UK: Verso.