

CCSA

Center for
Critical Studies in
Architecture



SPATIAL PRACTICES AND HOUSING IN FRANKFURT

A Blended Intensive Program

Conceived by
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Goethe-Universität Frankfurt
Germany, Frankfurt am Main

May 2024

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HOSTING INSTITUTION

Goethe-Universität Frankfurt
Germany, Frankfurt am Main

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PARTNER INSTITUTIONS

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SYNOPSIS

The current BIP workshop integrates four partner institutions from Portugal, Spain, France and Germany, while offering the opportunity for students and scholars to participate in an intensive learning project within an interdisciplinary and multicultural team. This project expands and strengthens the exchanges and debates initiated in Lisbon, in the scope of the BIP “Living in Lisbon”, in which three institutes cooperated (ENSA Normandie, the ISCTE and the Goethe University Frankfurt).

The experience of the previous BIP enabled the construction of a pedagogical project on the housing question. This is a topic of great societal relevance; and yet it has rarely been the subject of analysis and discussion in architectural history courses offered in art history schools. The role of architects as critical protagonists in the social housing debates was the main focus of attention in the BIP Living in Lisbon. For the current BIP, Frankfurt will serve as point of departure for ample discussions on contemporary spatial housing practices.

The result is an international and interdisciplinary approach, which provides the workshop participants a series of perspectives and positions from art historians, architects, urban planners, landscape designers, sociologists, geographers and media studies scholars. In this sense, this BIP includes city walks, archival visits, group activities, students’ presentations, exercises with printed and digital material, and discussions with guest lecturers.

This BIP will strongly benefit from an ample network of collaborators based in the Rhein-Main institutions, whose work will provide meaningful insights and contribution to the project. Particularly relevant will be the collaboration with members of the Center for Critical Studies in Architecture (CCSA), the Museum Giersch der Goethe-Universität, and the DFG-Research Training Group “Societal Transformation and Spatial Materialization of Housing.” The CCSA is a research cooperation between the Goethe-University Frankfurt am Main, the Technical University of Darmstadt and the Deutsches Architekturmuseum.

DATES

Physical Component

Workshop in Frankfurt: **21st October – 25th October 2024**

Virtual Component

First Zoom Meeting Session: Tuesday **5th November 2024**, 18h-20h (CET Time Zone)

Second Zoom Meeting Session: **Tuesday 12th November 2024**, 18h-20h (CET Time Zone)

LOCATION

Goethe University Frankfurt, Campus Westend, SKW Building, Seminarhaus Building and Casino Building

Address: Theodor-W.-Adorno-Platz 1, 60629, Frankfurt am Main

AREAS OF KNOWLEDGE

Architecture, Urbanism and Art History

TARGET GROUP

Master's students in the fields of Architecture, History of Art and Architecture, and Urban Studies.

CREDITS

8 ECTS | Goethe University will issue a Transcript of Records in the end of the BIP implementation.

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION

English

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Not only does it aim to look at the role of architects, but also and mostly, it challenges how the housing question has been thematized, debated and mediated. It works at the intersection between the architectural production, the historical, socio-political and territorial context, the heritage and cultural making processes, as well as the public space and the public debate.

IMPLEMENTATION

Sessions will be based on (1) lectures held by scholars from partner universities and invited specialists; (2) city walks and visits to housing projects and sites; (3) debates and discussions; (4) sessions of presentation and critique; (5) working in groups, in an intensive workshop activity.

The physical component will be succeeded by two online sessions. One session will be integrated in a lecture-series program with guest speakers. The second session will focus on the examination of the output produced during the physical component and a discussion on the following steps for both disseminating the results and implementing a third BIP workshop among the partner institutions.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- 1 – Learning how to examine the housing question through an interdisciplinary approach;
- 2 – While being introduced to a number of critical cases, participants will be able to construct a repertory that serves as a basis for creating a critical position on how the housing question has been developed, mediated and historicized over the past century in a number of European cities, particularly in Frankfurt;
- 3 – Obtain a research experience as part of an international team;
- 4 – Knowing how to use bibliographic, cartographic and empirical sources to analyze architectural/urban phenomena;
- 5 – Experiencing how to collectively construct a research problematization and communicate it visually, written and orally.

ASSESSMENT

Assessment will be periodic and will be carried out in three moments:

- (1) Oral presentation of a piece of historical research, on a specific case study (in Portugal, France, Germany and Spain) -- 30% (carried out in groups);
- (2) Audiovisual presentation (3 minutes video), putting forward a critical position and reflection on the housing question in Frankfurt -- 50% (carried out in groups);
- (3) Delivery of a review (250 words maximum) on the Blended Intensive Program -- 20% (carried out individually). The classification will be individual and expressed through a numerical scale from 0 (zero) to 20 (twenty), and will result from the weighted average of the three moments of assessment. The approval in the curricular unit and the obtaining of the ECTS credits depends on a classification equal or superior to 10. The assessment aims to verify the degree of compliance with the objectives of the course unit concerning the acquisition of knowledge, its understanding and application, the acquisition of skills, critical thinking and decision-making capacity, organization and work methodology.

TENTATIVE PROGRAM

DAY 1 (Monday)

Morning: Welcoming words, Introduction and a talk by guest speakers from the new Graduate School on housing and the municipality of Frankfurt

Lunch: Buffet

Afternoon: Group Presentations from Spain, France and Portugal and

Late afternoon/early evening in Museum Giersch of the Goethe University: visit to the exhibition "*Wohnraum. Das Museum als Interieur*" and a conversation with artists, who are participating in the show

DAY 2 (Tuesday)

Morning: City Walks & Presentation on site by Frankfurt students

Afternoon: visit to the Deutsches Architekturmuseum & Book Launch

Evening: Guest Lectureship

DAY 3 (Wednesday)

Morning: Group Work with tutors (Casino room, Campus Westend)

Afternoon: Group Work without tutors (Casino room, Campus Westend). In parallel an internal meeting among the German, French, Spanish and Portuguese partners to discuss future BIP perspectives and BIP projects.

DAY 4 (Thursday)

Morning: Group Presentations of the story boards

Afternoon: Group Work without tutors

Evening: Opening of the exhibition in the Museum Giersch of the Goethe University

DAY 5 (Friday)

Morning: Group Work with tutors (Casino room, Campus Westend)

Afternoon: Film Premiere & Aperitif