Entrepreneurial City Lab - Envisioning a New Urban Paradigm – ZHUHAI X MACAU Cross Border

2017-18 2nd Term,
Mondays & Thursdays 1:30pm – 6.15pm
Venue: Urban Design Studio 5th Floor AIT Building
Instructor: Nuno Soares
The studio will be conducted as a comparative studio with one theme and one site in the confluence of two different territories Zhuhai X Macau.

The methodology of comparative studies will allow the students to explore different design perspectives and learn from the comparison of two different urban realities physically adjacent but administratively segregated.

Conceived as an Entrepreneurial City Lab, the studio will explore innovative strategies for a future vibrant district.

Under the theme of an Entrepreneurial City Lab, the studio will use the Zhuhai / Macau Cross Border Industrial Park as a pilot case to envision a New Urban Paradigm for the PRD conceived to simultaneously favor business, shared prosperity and quality of life.

Students will start by researching the site focusing on the context of the two adjacent urban conditions from Zhuhai / Macau and on the rationale of the Cross Border Industrial Park. They will further examine outstanding contemporary urban developments, as well as contemporary urban expansions of Macau (NRLP) and Zhuhai (Hengquing) as a preparation to explore and develop innovative proposals contemplating new urban rules and guidelines for the cross border site.

Contemporary district developments are often promoted by governments with social welfare goals, by real estate developers with marketing strategies and profitability targets, or industrial corporations driven by productivity. On this studio we will take a different approach and focus on the entrepreneurial city as a place that enables and facilitates start ups, development of innovative business models, flexible to evolve over time, a vibrant urban space welcoming for foreigners and locals, a cluster for innovation with a positive impact on the immediate surroundings and on the overall city.

This studio presents a challenge and opportunity to develop uncompromising top down design strategies to enable and facilitate bottom up initiatives. This is a cross-scale studio where students will develop urban fabrics, architectural block typologies up to the urban furniture scale.

**MODULE APPROACH**

This studio is organized as part of a comparative research project of the M.Sc. in Urban Design program, investigating, developing and testing urban rules for different cities in the Pearl River Delta. It will offer a field of experimentation to bring together various interdisciplinary perspectives at CUHK linking to new initiatives of the interdisciplinary Institute for Future Cities.
The studio will include the participation on the upcoming workshop in Macau in January 2018, to explore at a small scale the relation between entrepreneurial architectural prototypes and the immediate urban surroundings. Organized by CURB Center for Architecture and Urbanism in Macau this workshop studio will comprise site visits, lectures, fabrication and will culminate with a public presentation. The studio outcome will be part of an urban design exhibition integrated on the public discussion about the Macau New Masterplan. This will take place at CURB on the second half of 2018.

**ZHUHAI + CROSS BORDER ZONE**

Zhuhai + Cross Border Zone: The studio will explore the potential of a space physically and administratively located in between two realities, between Zhuhai and Macau. The masterplan will be envisioned as a new urban fabric conceived from the ground up as a footprint for an ideal entrepreneurial city. Of utmost importance in this context it is the integration of the new development into the existing and future conditions.

Students will study a radical reconsideration of urban infrastructure in the city, and alternative solutions for urban expansion and design approaches for a vibrant and sustainable entrepreneurial district.
Macau + Cross border zone:
The studio will focus on design proposals to create a masterplan for the existing cross border industrial zone integrating it with the Green Island district in Macau.

The masterplan will be conceived as a pilot case study for an ideal Entrepreneurial city whose urban principles, layout and infrastructural strategy should be able to influence the future development of Macau NRLP and PRD at large.

Students will be encouraged to rethink Macau’s practice of urban expansion and to question how to plan and design a vibrant and sustainable entrepreneurial district.

OBJECTIVES OF THE DESIGN STUDIO

- To create a sustainable mixed-use district, with focus on increasing living quality, social interaction and economic vitality;
- To create a Conceptual Plan and study schemes indicating, land use with program layout;
- To identify and understand how existing urban areas (To Ka Wan/Kai Tak and Cotai/Seac Pai Van) emerged and are currently transforming;
- To develop strategies to improve and enhance the neighborhood’s economic vitality and sustainability;
- To explore new opportunities for integrated infrastructure planning to guide the development of more cost-effective and resilient green infrastructure investments over time;
- To create a comprehensive urban design strategy to integrate the new development into the existing context;
- To increase the potential of Taipa’s northern shoreline and Ma Liu Shui’s shoreline as places for public enjoyment and leisure.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOME

Upon completing the studio, students will be able to:

- Understand how to organize a sustainable development strategy for To Ka Wan/Kai Tak and Cotai/Seac Pai Van, that will integrate economic, social and environmental perspectives;
- Understand, map and interpret the urban morphology of an important part of Macau and Hong Kong;
- Understand the complex relationships between enhancing urban mobility and environmental, economic and social sustainability;
- Learn from key examples of Urban Planning in Macau, Hong Kong and Singapore;
- Create a comprehensive urban design strategy by learning to work in different scales in the fields of architecture, urban design and city planning;
- Understand and address contemporary urban issues with particular focus on development of advanced urban design, presentation and communication skills while addressing key issues and developing context sensitive strategies and designs;
- Determine priorities and strategies to create an entrepreneurial urban ecosystem;
- Develop concepts on how urban design can foster and support healthy living.

STUDIO OUTPUT

Students develop individual strategies and designs for the improvement of urban integration including public spaces and street level building interfaces based on prior identified issues and realizing opportunities. Drawings and models in different scale 1:2500/1:1000/1:500, plus detail studies, montages and perspectives should show the intended qualities of urban transformation and integration of public spaces usable in various seasons and times of the day. Statements of addressed issues and design intentions should be formulated in text and drawings. With progression of the design project they should be revised and updated. Research findings and projects will be gathered in a joint studio booklet. All students have to submit a digital documentation.
DELIVERABLES

- Group studies according to defined issues
- Developing a site model (scale 1:2500)
- Written description of addressed issues and design intentions (500 words)
- Group drawings and models with strategic propositions (scale 1:1000)
- Phasing plan of proposed development strategies
- Urban integration, public space/building design drawings and models (scale 1:500)
- Detailed study of urban integration incl. mixed development & public spaces
- Photomontages, Sketch Up models, visualizations and perspectives studies of urban integration
- Studio booklet
  (Digital documentation of group and individual work is compulsory after final review)

ASSESSMENT SCHEME

- Group Research 20%
- Overall Group Strategy 20%
- Individual Design Work 50%
- Participation 10%

COURSE FORMAT

The course is organized in a research part (group work), overall and group strategy and individual design. The research encompasses field and precedent studies allowing for team and individual work. As part of the course students will join a workshop at CURB in Macau.

REQUIRED READINGS

Alex Lehnerer, Grand Urban rules (Rotterdam: 010 Publishers, 2009)
Jan Gehl, Cities for People (Island Press, 2010)

**RECOMMENDED READINGS**

Urban visions and experimental massing
- WORKac, *49 CITIES* (New York: Storefront for Art and Architecture, 2009)
- Stan Allen and Marc Macquade, *Landform Building* (Lars Muller Publisher, 2011)

Site and situation
- Frédéric Edelmann, *In the Chinese City*. Perspectives on the Transformation of an Empire (Barcelona: Actar 2008)
- Filipe Jorge and Francisco Figueira, *Macau From the Sky* (Lisbon: Argumentum, 1999)

City and citizens
Magda Anglès, *In Favor of Public Space*. Ten years of the European Prize for Urban Public Space (Barcelona: Actar, 2010)  

**Sustainability**  
Mason White, Maya Przybylski, *On Farming: Bracket 1* (Barcelona: Actar, 2010)

**SCHEDULE**  
(Will be handed in the first day of class)

**FIELD TRIP** (please check the boxes)  
[v] Yes  
[ ] No  
Local; [v] Overseas  
Date(s): TBC

**SAME COURSE OFFERED BEFORE** (please check the boxes)  
[v] Yes  
[ ] No  
Offer year [2016]  
Term [II]  
Course code [URBD 5720]

**ACADEMIC HONESTY AND PLAGIARISM**

Attention is drawn to University policy and regulations on honesty in academic work, and to the disciplinary guidelines and procedures applicable to breaches of such policy and regulations. Details may be found at http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/.

With each assignment, students will be required to submit a signed declaration that they are aware of these policies, regulations, guidelines and procedures. For group projects, all students of the same group should be asked to sign on the declaration.
Students are required to submit a softcopy of the assignment to the VeriGuide system at: https://veriguide2.cse.cuhk.edu.hk/cuhk/.
After submission, student should receive a receipt and an academic honesty declaration statement via an e-mail from VeriGuide. Please print the receipt and the declaration statement (below) and submit them to the lecturer together with a hardcopy of the assignment.

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