

## ARCH 5550 CONTEMPORARY URBAN CULTURES

[YAŞAR UNIVERSITY \* ARCHITECTURE DEPARTMENT \* GRADUATE PROGRAM]

- **ASSIST. PROF. DR. KIVANÇ KILINÇ**
- **OFFICE HRS: WED 14:00-16:00 OR BY APPOINTMENT**
- **DURATION OF COURSE: FALL 2018 SEMESTER**
- **CONTACT: [kivanc.kilinc@yasar.edu.tr](mailto:kivanc.kilinc@yasar.edu.tr) \* 0(232)4118138**

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course aims to scrutinize the relationship between the built environment and society, with a specific focus on how the “traditional” notions of the city, with its historic or planned center, community life and the succession of private and public spaces, are being challenged today. By introducing critical theories, histories and practices of contemporary architecture and urbanism, it resituates the city not only as a physical entity but also as an intellectual and social construct. In doing so, it invites students to rethink locality, place and identity in the age of postcritical, neoliberal and digital currents that have significantly transformed cityscapes on a global scale.

### **COURSE FORMAT:**

The course will be run in the form of a seminar. All course related documents, including the syllabus and the required readings will be available online (<https://kkilinc.yasar.edu.tr/>). Graduate students are expected to undertake weekly readings, submit 5 keywords/concepts for each reading in the beginning of the seminar, write a short response paper (in-class midterm exam), and work on a term paper throughout the semester. Grades will be based on level of participation and contribution to class discussion – submittal of 5 keywords/concepts for each reading (%10), presentation of term paper (%5+%10+%15), in-class mid-term exam (%20) and the final paper (%40). Please note that this is a graduate seminar, not a lecture, and active participation to discussion is a course requirement.

**\*Academic Integrity:** You are responsible for the content and integrity of your term papers. Plagiarism and academic dishonesty are serious matters. If it's not your work, don't claim credit for it. Cheating will result in disciplinary action, including possible dismissal from the course.

**\*Classroom Decorum:** At times, the topics discussed may be controversial. We expect you to work hard to express yourself in a respectful manner. All viewpoints that are expressed respectfully will be considered and discussed within the context of the course subject matter.

**Final Paper:** You will write a 20-page (double-spaced) literature review paper on a topic related to one of the course themes. It's recommended that you begin writing the first draft of your paper as soon as you submit the title and abstract. Please cite your sources properly. (Both email your paper to [kivanc.kilinc@yasar.edu.tr](mailto:kivanc.kilinc@yasar.edu.tr) and submit a print copy. Late submissions will not be accepted).

**Textbook:** There is no required textbook for this course. Course material, including weekly readings, course syllabus and announcements can be found at: <https://kkilinc.yasar.edu.tr/>

\*See next page for **Course Syllabus**.

## **COURSE SYLLABUS**

Introduction: **26.09.2018:** COURSE THEMES AND SYLLABUS

No required readings.

**Theme:** PREHISTORY OF MODERNITY

Reading: **3.10.2018:** Reading: Georg Simmel (1903), "The Metropolis and Mental Life," trans. Kurt Wolff *The Sociology of Georg Simmel* (New York: Free Press, 1950), 409-424.

Shane Ewen, "Urban Culture and Modernity" in *What is Urban History?* (Cambridge, Malden, MA: Polity, 2016), 92-113.

**Theme:** THE "AILMENTS" OF MODERNITY

Film: **10.10.2018:** "The Cruise", directed by Bennett Miller, 1998, 76 minutes.

Reading: David Harvey, "Chapter 2: Modernity and Modernism," in *The Condition of Postmodernity* (Oxford, UK: Blackwell Publishing, 2004), 10-38.

**Theme:** HOME/DWELLINGS/CITIES

Reading: **17.10.2018:** Hilde Heynen, "Modernity and Domesticity: Tensions and Contradictions," eds. Hilde Heynen and Gülsüm Baydar, *Negotiating Domesticity: Spatial Productions of Gender in Modern Architecture* (London and New York: Routledge, 2005), 1-29.

Adrian Passmore, "Home (1)", 106-108 and Jane Rendell, "Home (2)", 108-111, in *City A-Z*, eds Steve Pile and Nigel Thrift, (London and New York: Routledge, 2000).

**Student presentations (title and abstract) 24.10.2018:**

**Theme:** THE GLOBAL AND WORLD CITY DEBATES

Reading: **31.10.2018:** Saskia Sassen, "The Global City: Introducing a Concept", *Brown Journal of World Affairs* XI.2 (Winter/Spring 2005): 27-43.

Arthur S. Alderson and Jason Beckfield, "Power and Position in the World City System", *American Journal of Sociology* 109.4 (2004): 811-851.

**Theme:** POSTCOLONIAL PERSPECTIVES

Reading: **7.11.2018:** Anthony D. King, "Postcolonial Cities", eds. Rob Kitchin and Nigel Thrift, *International Encyclopedia of Human Geography* (Elsevier Science, 2009), 321-326.

Anthony D. King, "Postcolonialism, Representation, and the City", eds. Gary Bridge and Sophie Watson, *A Companion to the City* (Malden, Oxford: Blackwell Publishing, 2000), 261-269.

**Midterm Exam: 14.11.2018:** RESPONSE PAPER: Edward Soja, "Six Discourses on the Post-Metropolis," eds. G. Bridge and S. Watson, *The Blackwell City Reader* (Oxford: Blackwell Publishing, 2002), 188-196.

**Theme:** PLACE, LOCALITY AND MIGRATION

Reading: **21.11.2018:** Sharon Zukin, "Destination Culture: How Globalization makes all Cities Look the same", Inaugural Working Paper Series, *Center for Urban and Global Studies (Trinity College)* 1.1 (2009): 2-26.

Aylin Yıldırım Tschoepe, "Reconstructing Home: Social and Spatial Practices of Migrants as Agents of Cultural Change," *History Takes Place: Istanbul, Dynamics of Urban Change*, eds Anna Hofmann and Ayşe Öncü (Berlin: jovis Verlag, 2016), 114-133.

**Student presentations (title, abstract, annotated bibliography, images) 28.11.2018:**

**Theme:** URBAN CULTURES IN FLOW: THE DIGITAL AGE

Reading: **5.12.2018:** Hasan Uddin-Khan, "Because We Can: Globalization and Technology Enabling Iconic Architectural Excesses," *IJIA* 7.1 (2018): 5-26.

Saskia Sassen, "Reading the City in a Global Digital Age: The Limits of Topographic Representation," *Procedia-Social and Behavioral Sciences* 2 (December 2010): 7030–7041.

**Theme:** POSTCRITICAL/NEOLIBERAL DISCOURSES: CITY IN EXODUS

Reading: **12.12.2018:** Jamie Peck, Nik Theodore, Neil Brenner, "Neoliberal Urbanism: Models, Moments, Mutations," *SAIS Review*, XXIX.1 (Winter-Spring 2009): 49-66.

Eliana Abu-Hamdi, "The Jordan Gate Towers of Amman: Surrendering Public Space to Build a Neoliberal Ruin," *IJIA* 5.1 (2016): 73-101.

**Theme:** FLUID TIMES, IMAGES, ETHICS: PARAMETRICISM

Reading: **19.12.2018:** Patrick Schumacher, "The Historical Pertinence of Parametricism and the Prospect of a Free Market Urban Order," eds. Matthew Poole and Manuel Shvartzberg, *The Politics of Parametricism: Digital Technologies and Architecture* (London, New Delhi: Bloomsbury, 2015), 19-44.

Neil Leach, "There is No Such Thing as Political Architecture, There is No Such Thing as Digital Architecture", *The Politics of Parametricism*, 58-78.

**Final paper presentations and group discussion 26.12.2018:**

**FINAL PAPER SUBMISSION: TBA:** 20 pages literature review essay. See first page for details.