



## **CIEE Global Institute – Berlin**

<b>Course name:</b>	Design and Sustainability Seminar
<b>Course number:</b>	ENVI 3102 BRGE
<b>Programs offering course:</b>	Berlin Global Architecture and Design, Berlin Global Internship, Berlin Open Campus
<b>Language of instruction:</b>	English
<b>U.S. semester credits:</b>	3
<b>Contact hours:</b>	45
<b>Term:</b>	Spring 2020

### **Course Description**

Since 2014, most of the Earth's 7.5 billion people live in cities. This number is expected to increase to 70% of almost 10 billion people by 2050. An increasingly urbanized planet also coincides with an increasing awareness of anthropogenic stresses on the earth's natural systems and growing experience and approaches for improvement. It's clear that urban environments will have an important role to play in developing a more sustainable future for the entire planet. In this seminar students learn about the role of cities in positively and negatively influencing global climate and biological systems, and the approaches taken by European cities to mitigate the negative impact while creating healthier, happier, and more productive urban environments. Issues will span holistic dimensions of sustainable discourse, emphasizing the relationship and balance of environmental, social, cultural, and economic factors. The course will focus specifically on the northern European context, especially the host city, Berlin, where students will regularly visit projects and meet with local practitioners.

### **Learning Objectives**

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

- communicate ideas critically about cities, sustainable urban and community development, and citizen-led initiatives to shape the built environment.
- understand the relationship of architecture and design to sustainability and urban regeneration.
- explain the significant challenges facing cities now and during the next few decades, while examining the cultural, technical, political, economic, and aesthetic aspects of potential solutions.
- evaluate strengths and weaknesses in Berlin's urban development and compare these to U.S. approaches.



### **Course Prerequisites**

There are no prerequisites. However, it is recommended that students who plan to enroll be prepared for an intensive seminar setting. The focus of the course is on sustainability and the designed environment, in particular the impacts of urban development and society. Therefore, this course requires students to participate regularly and debate on challenging issues, as well as conduct independent research to develop an informed argument that will ultimately form the basis for a presentation (see below). In addition, assignments will include reading up to 50 pages per week and submitting thought provoking questions that will help spark group discussions.

### **Methods of Instruction**

Class presentations and discussions, readings, and site visits. We will visit a number of pioneering projects of sustainable design (including use of local and renewable energy, converted infrastructures, and ecological-political coordination) during co-curricular excursions. The resulting insights into strategies for creating economically, socially, and environmentally sustainable urban environments will be valuable to students of architecture and sustainability as well as those in other disciplines.

### **Assessment and Final Grade**

1. Participation:	20%
2. Key Topic Presentation and Discussion:	20%
3. Key Topic Research Paper:	20%
4. Key Topic Abstract:	10%
5. Response Essay 1:	10%
6. Response Essay 2:	10%
7. Response Essay 3:	10%
TOTAL:	100%

### **Course Requirements**

#### **Key Topic Presentation and Discussion**

15-minute (PowerPoint) presentation followed by discussion. Includes review of relevant best practices in Berlin as well as in the U.S. or elsewhere. Ideally should draw on both current theory and practice. For those enrolled in the Global Architecture and Design program, it should help to give studio project some direction and content.



### **Key Topic Research Paper**

Developed out of the individual presentation, this paper approximately 1,500 words in length, including mostly text but also some images. For students enrolled in the Global Architecture and Design program, it should relate to studio project in some way. Include references to best practices in Berlin as well as in the U.S. This paper will be submitted on the final day of the seminar.

### **Key Topic Abstract**

This 750-word abstract of the research paper is completed after discussion of potential topics and individual consultation with the instructor.

### **Responses**

Students will write three 750-word responses with critical reflections on the co-curricular excursions.

### **Participation**

Participation is valued as meaningful contribution in the digital and tangible classroom, utilizing the resources and materials presented to students as part of the course. Meaningful contribution requires students to be prepared in advance of each class session and to have regular attendance. Students must clearly demonstrate they have engaged with the materials as directed, for example, through classroom discussions, online discussion boards, peer-to-peer feedback (after presentations), interaction with guest speakers, and attentiveness on co-curricular and outside-of-classroom activities.

### **Attendance Policy**

Regular class attendance is required throughout the program, and all unexcused absences will result in a lower participation grade for any affected CIEE course. Due to the intensive schedules for Open Campus and Short Term programs, unexcused absences that constitute more than 10% of the total course will result in a written warning.

Students who transfer from one CIEE class to another during the add/drop period will not be considered absent from the first session(s) of their new class, provided they were marked present for the first session(s) of their original class. Otherwise, the absence(s) from the original class carry over to the new class and count against the grade in that class.

For CIEE classes, excessively tardy (over 15 minutes late) students must be marked absent.



Attendance policies also apply to any required co-curricular class excursion or event, as well as to Internship, Service Learning, or required field placement. Students who miss class for personal travel, including unforeseen delays that arise as a result of personal travel, will be marked as absent and unexcused. No make-up or re-sit opportunity will be provided.

Attendance policies also apply to any required class excursion, with the exception that some class excursions cannot accommodate any tardiness, and students risk being marked as absent if they fail to be present at the appointed time.

Unexcused absences will lead to the following penalties:

<i>Percentage of Total Course Hours Missed</i>	<i>Equivalent Number of Open Campus Semester classes</i>	<i>Minimum Penalty</i>
Up to 10%	1 content classes, or up to 2 language classes	Participation graded as per class requirements
10 – 20%	2 content classes, or 3-4 language classes	Participation graded as per class requirements; <b>written warning</b>
More than 20%	3 content classes, or 5 language classes	Automatic <b>course failure</b> , and possible expulsion

### Weekly Schedule

NOTE: this schedule is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor to take advantage of current experiential learning opportunities.

#### **Week 1**

Class 1:1 Introduction

Syllabus review and discussion based on the following questions:

- What are the global urban challenges and opportunities in the 21<sup>st</sup>-century city, regarding sustainability, democracy, architecture and design?
- How does your home city with Berlin?
- What do you expect from this seminar?

Class 1:2 Community-based and commercial initiatives along the Spree River Instructor-led presentation + discussion of:

- Spreefeld / Spree WG / CoHousing Cultures.
- Media Spree + Media Spree Versenken
- Your own proposed individual Key Topics

Reading:

- CoHousing Cultures <http://cohousing-cultures.net/?lang=en>
- LaFond, Michael and Larissa Tsvetkova. "CoHousing Inclusive: Berlin Practices and Model Projects of Spreefeld, Sharehaus, and Sredzkistrasse 44," *Irish Journal of Social, Economic and Environmental Sustainability* 1, no. 1, 2017. 42-48. Available at: <http://ijsees.ie/archive/>
- See online references below for "Spreefeld and Holzmarkt"

## Week 2

Class 2:1 Berlin as the Self-Made City

Presentation and discussion on the impacts of architectural design on society and self-initiated urban living, with selected case studies from contemporary Berlin.

Reading:

Selections from Ring, *Selfmade City*

### Response Paper 1 due

Class 2:2 Global Challenges Climate Change Adaptation I

Presentation and discussion on the four critical aspects of sustainability (social, cultural, economic, and environment)



Reading:  
Selections from Klein, *This Changes Everything*

### **Week 3**

- Class 3:1 Global Challenges Climate Change Adaptation II
- Discuss and decide on individual Key Topics!
  - Submit an abstract of the research paper

#### **Key Topic Abstract due**

- Class 3:2 Public Access to Berlin's Waterways  
Co-Curricular Excursion and guest speaker: Tim Edler from Flussbad Berlin

Flussbad Berlin is a community-sponsored urban redevelopment project to convert the 100-year-old Spree River canal, located in the heart of the historic district, into a publicly accessible swimming area, which is kept clean through natural, plant-based filtration.

Online Resources:  
<http://www.flussbad-berlin.de/start>

### **Week 4**

- Class 4:1 The Future of Self-Organized Housing Developments in Berlin  
Co-Curricular Excursion: id22  
id22 is an organization that specializes in creative sustainability with an emphasis on CoHousing and CoWorking spaces, community gardening, urban regeneration.

Online Resources:  
<http://id22.net/>

- Review also online references below for "Prinzessinnengärten, Bethaus, and Kunstraum Kreuzberg"

## **Response Paper 2 due**

Class 4:2 Workshop: Developing and Refining the Key Topic Research Projects

- Short individual meetings with each student.
- Submit a presentation outline in advance of the meeting.
- During the meeting, presentations and research papers are to be discussed with questions, feedback and recommendations.

## **Week 5**

Class 5:1 Development in Dialogue with the Past

Co-Curricular excursion to examine sustainable development along the site of the former Berlin Wall: Eco Chapel. FAT Koehl Architecture Office. Florian Koehl, Architect with offices on Strelitzer Str.

Online Resources:

<http://www.berliner-mauer-gedenkstaette.de/en/>

<http://www.kapelle->

[versoehnung.de/bin/englisch/index.php](http://www.kapelle-versoehnung.de/bin/englisch/index.php)

<http://www.fatkoehl.com/>

Class 5:2 Student Presentations

## **Presentations and Response Paper 3 due**

## **Week 6**

Class 6:1 Pioneer Projects

This session will offer a critical examination of citizen-led initiatives that are being developed in dialogue with urban planners. The second half of the session will feature a guest panel and discussion with:

- Kreativ Quartier Südliche Friedrichstadt – Bauhütte
- Horst Pfander, Selbstbaugenossenschaft, IBEB Projekt

Online Resources:



<http://www.bauhuetten-berlin.de/>

- See online references below for “Pioneer Projects, Process Orientation”

Class 6:2      Final Discussion

### **Research Paper Due**

#### **Readings**

Burdett, Ricky and Deyan Sudjic, eds. *Living in the Endless City: The Urban Age Project by the London School of Economics and Deutsche Bank's Alfred Herrhausen Society*. London: Phaidon, 2011.

Klein, Naomi. *This Changes Everything: Capitalism vs. the Climate*. New York and London: Penguin, 2014.

LaFond, Michael and Larissa Tsvetkova. “CoHousing Inclusive: Berlin Practices and Model Projects of Spreefeld, Sharehaus, and Sredzkistrasse 44,” *Irish Journal of Social, Economic and Environmental Sustainability* 1, no. 1, 2017. 42-48. Available at: <http://ijsees.ie/archive/>

Mansouri, Nariman, ed. *Living Tomorrow. Vienna: X-Change Culture Science*, 2014.

Ring, Kirstien and Franziska Eidner. *Selfmade City Berlin: Self-initiated Urban Living and Architectural Interventions*. Berlin: Jovis, 2013.

#### **Online Resources**

##### **Spreefeld and Holzmarkt**

[www.spreefeldberlin.de](http://www.spreefeldberlin.de)

<http://www.archdaily.com/587590/coop-housing-project-at-the-river-spreefeld-carp-aneto-architekten-fatkoehl-architekten-bararchitekten>

[http://www.uncubemagazine.com/sixcms/detail.php?id=14819803&articleid=art-14\\_16311762005-c3521afb-0372-4ff8-80a1-403449dc3af7#!/page38](http://www.uncubemagazine.com/sixcms/detail.php?id=14819803&articleid=art-14_16311762005-c3521afb-0372-4ff8-80a1-403449dc3af7#!/page38)

[http://www.holzmarkt.com/downloads/140411\\_Holzmarkt\\_Broschuer](http://www.holzmarkt.com/downloads/140411_Holzmarkt_Broschuer)



e.pdf <http://www.bauwelt.de/themen/bauten/Spreefeld-2172539.html>

[www.spreeacker.de](http://www.spreeacker.de)

<http://www.yaam.de/>

<http://www.exberliner.com/features/lifestyle/save-berlin-a-tale-of-two->

[condos/](http://condos/) <https://www.facebook.com/teepee.land.1>

<http://experimentdays.de/2>

016/

<http://www.luisenstadt->

[mitte.de/](http://mitte.de/)

<http://forum.luisenstadt->

[mitte.de](http://mitte.de)

### **Prinzessinnengärten, Bethaus, and Kunstraum Kreuzberg**

<https://www.modulor.de/en/store->

[berlin/](http://berlin/) <http://prinzessinnengarten.net/>

<http://www.betahaus.com/berlin/>

<http://kbh-mauerplatz.de/aktuell.html>

<http://www.kunstraumkreuzberg.de/programm.html>

<http://www.kunstraumkreuzberg.de/english.html>

<http://gaerten-am-mariannenplatz.blogspot.de/>

[https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Baumhaus\\_an\\_der\\_M](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Baumhaus_an_der_M)

[auer https://markthalleneun.de/](https://markthalleneun.de/)



### **Pioneer Projects, Process Orientation**

Berlin City Master Plan vs. 100% Tempelhof (Citizens' Initiative), housing for refugees. <http://www.thf-berlin.de/tempelhofer-feld/>

DIE GÄRTNEREI.BERLIN: <http://diegaertneri.berlin/category/blog/>  
<http://raumlabor.net/die-gaertneri/>  
[www.facebook.com/diegaertneri.berlin](http://www.facebook.com/diegaertneri.berlin)  
<http://raumlabor.net/die-gaertneri/>

Tempelhof: The mother of all 'abandoned' airports  
<http://www.abandonedberlin.com/2015/03/tempelhof-mother-of-all-airports.html>

Tempelhof: Community Gardens  
<http://www.nprberlin.de/post/fancy-purple-potato-grow-your-own-tempelhofs-urban-gardens>

Tempelhof: Pioneer Projects  
<http://www.thf-berlin.de/nc/en/get-involved/pioneer-projects/tp/0/>

100% Tempelhof: <http://www.thf100.de/start.html>

Tempelhof: Refugees  
[https://www.nytimes.com/2016/02/11/world/europe/tempelhof-airport-once-a-lifeline-for-berliners-reprises-role-for-refugees.html?\\_r=0](https://www.nytimes.com/2016/02/11/world/europe/tempelhof-airport-once-a-lifeline-for-berliners-reprises-role-for-refugees.html?_r=0)