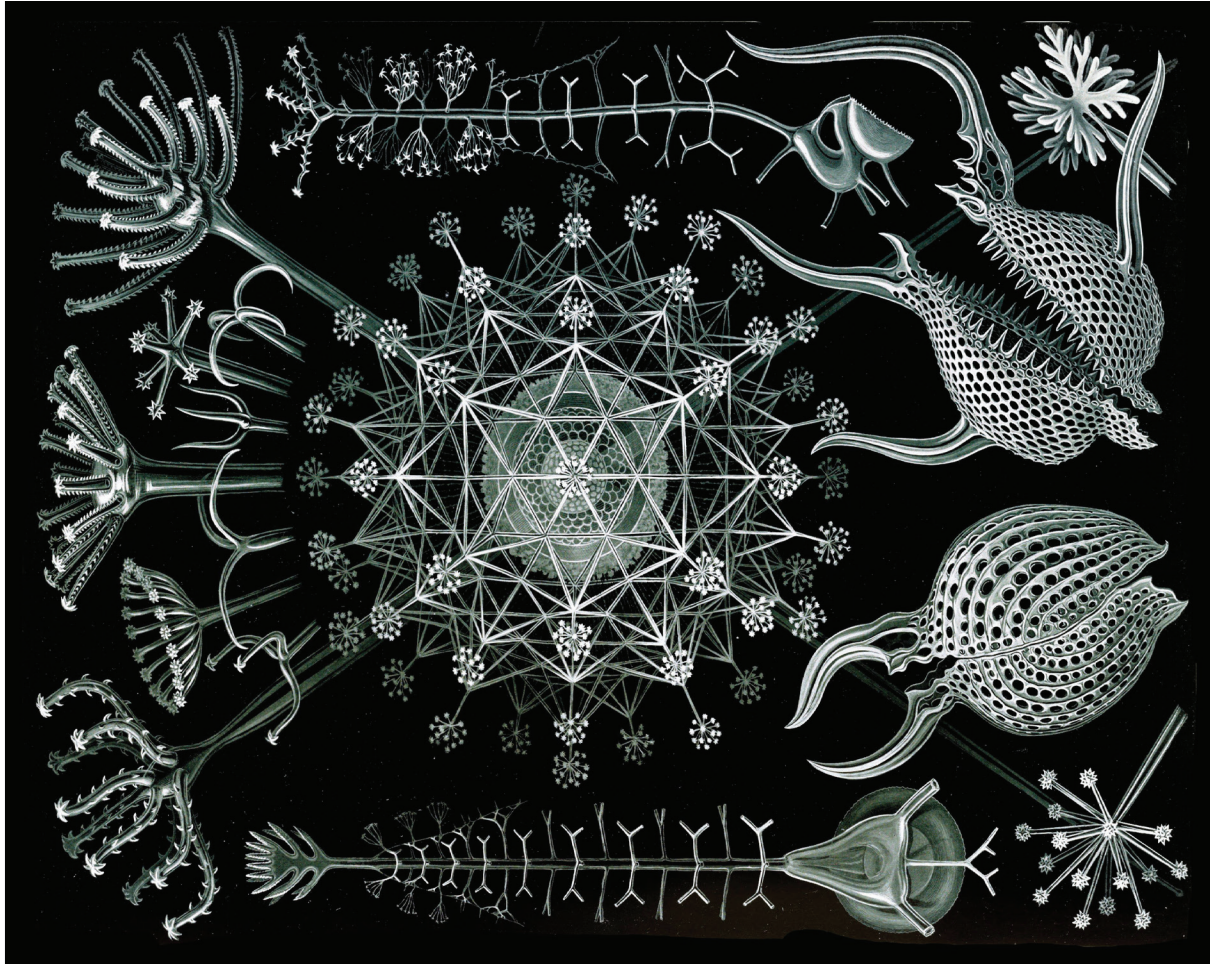# Design, Data and Society

AR0805_An Archeology of Digital Design
Architectural Intelligence: Critical Thinking on Its History and Future

Ernst Haeckel, Phaeodarea, Amoeboid Cercozoa, Art Forms in Nature, 1899, Science History Images / Alamy Stock Foto

Tutors
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Code	AR0805
Credits	5 ECTS
Location	Netherlands
Excursion	Yes**
Costs	50 EUR

*Only for MSc2 projects

Project type	Other

** only in the EU, green/yellow zones are allowed,

This seminar invites students to rethink intelligence as an evolving, relational concept emerging from not just human cognition, but also from ecosystems, machines, and the built environment.

Moving beyond conventional, human-centric definitions, we explore intelligence as an interconnected, ecological phenomenon—manifesting in learning machines, social environments, and architectural systems. Inspired by Simone de Beauvoir's idea that "intelligence supposes good will," we'll examine how diverse forms of intelligence are reshaping how we design, think, and interact with the world.

Students will connect historical and contemporary concepts of intelligence to diversify architectural discourse. Through the connected histories method, they will explore how ideas about intelligence—from early theories to cutting-edge applications—have shaped architectural thinking. By viewing intelligence through these dual lenses, students will gain a richer understanding of its role as both a historical and modern force shaping the built environment.

Throughout the seminar, students will engage with selected readings, reflective writing, and in-class discussions. Research will be conducted in thematic groups, with contributions to an exhibition made either individually or collaboratively as part of the group.

The seminar culminates in a collaboratively curated exhibition, "Architectural Intelligence: Diversifying Intelligence in Design," which showcases concepts and materials illustrating the connected histories approach. This public exhibition will demonstrate how a broadened understanding of intelligence can influence the future of design.