

Architecture Philosophy and Theory

MSc 2_ Architectural Technicities_Neapolis



Photo by Stavros Kousoulas

Tutors

Stavros Kousoulas

Heidi Sohn

Andrej Radman

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| Code | AR2AT021 |
| Credits | 15 ECTS |
| Location | Naples, IT |
| Excursion | Yes |
| Costs | 400 € p.p. |

**Only for MSc2 projects*

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| Project type | Other |
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Approved Master 2 Yes
Architecture design
project

In this studio, the oft-cited quote 'we shape our buildings; thereafter they shape us' will not be taken as a metaphor. Focusing on the city of Naples, we will examine the ways that such a process occurs. In simple terms, we will not examine architecture as a product of culture or ideology, but we will rather claim the opposite: architecture produces culture and ideology. As such, the studio aims to complement architectural and urban methodologies that are based only on typological assumptions and will necessarily open architectural discourse to philosophy, media theories and affect studies.

To do so, focus will be placed on an urbanity that reinvents and sustains itself beyond any limit: Naples and its persistent, continuous presence for the past two thousand years. By examining Naples without prioritising any established narrative, the studio will problematise the moments, actors and transformations that assist the perseverance of the city as a force that determines diverse modes of life, from its inhabitants, to its architectural

forms, to its heterogeneous cultural influences and expressions. The students will eventually develop design proposals that will highlight architecture as a collective equipment that produces ways of life that can enhance (or diminish) our collective potentials. As such, the ambition of the studio is not to merely cater for the current needs, but to invent, propose and design new collectivities and their built environment.

By the end of the studio, the students will be able to: 1) develop a transdisciplinary approach to identify and address shared problems and concerns regarding the production of contemporary urban environments; 2) apply their own methodological innovations that may inform and trigger new ways of speculative design; and, 3) adopt a transdisciplinary, cross-domain mentality and attitude based on in-depth reading of seminal literature and its design application in real-life contexts.