Design, Data and Society

MSc 1 - The Brain Center
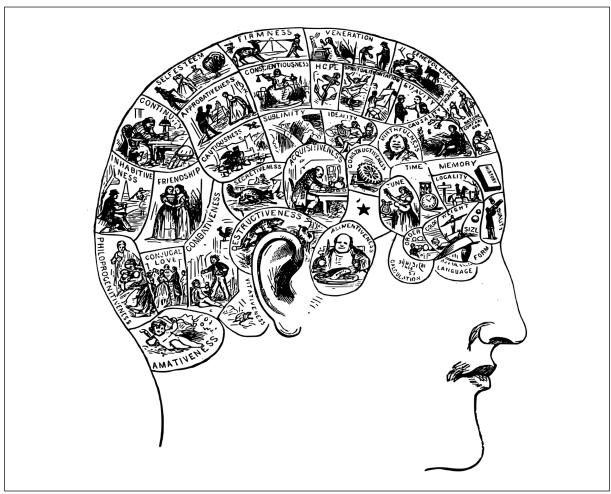
Image: Aspects of the Brain. Source: www.rawpixel.com © Public Domain

Tutors
Angela Rout (coordinator)
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Code	AR1DDS005
Credits	10 ECTS
Location	Cambridge, UK
Excursion	Yes
Costs	~300 EUR

The "Brain Centre" Studio challenges students to consider the role of new medical technology in advanced scientific research as a case study for architectural design that supports health and wellbeing.

Students will design a Brain Centre: an experimental facility for human and artificial intelligence research.

The Brain Center building provides a platform for collaborative research and data sharing. The building program aims to accelerate discoveries and insights into the complexities of the human mind and body. It contains hotel-like living experiment areas for week-long stays, laboratories, and dynamic social spaces where researchers and visitors are co-participants in groundbreaking research that aims to promote health and wellbeing among diverse populations. The laboratories facilitate sensing and brain imaging, while promoting a positive and holistic experience.

In this studio, students will learn how to Analyse, Design, and Visualise a mid-size building that connects data and design with societal needs. Through the development of design projects, students will explore the link between the conceptual language of architectural objectives (qualities), and metrics for measuring, evaluating and improving them.

The building site will be located at the University of Cambridge (UK), a world class intellectual centre and a global leader in medical science, research, education and patient care. Students will conduct research in thematic groups. Each student will individually develop a unique building design, elaborated through architectural drawings, images, and a physical model, integrating architectural design and building technology aspects. The studio will feature weekly studio discussions, research seminars involving external experts from Neuroscience and Artificial Intelligence fields, and a fun field trip to London and Cambridge in the UK.