How to learn from history
Commemorate, celebrate and validate values by design

Teachers in Charge: Pr. Ole Bouman
Teaching team: Assistant professor: Pr. Weng Chao

Enrolled Students: 20 (including international students)
Time:
Venue:

Carlo Scarpa
Tomba Brion
1968-1978
Italy

Loin's Mound, Battle of Waterloo, Belgium

Memorial Concentration Camp Hinzert, Germany

Long March memorial, Tongwei

Overview:

This course aims to help students understand the role of architecture and design to commemorate, celebrate and validate important historical moments, concepts, individuals and their actions, reasserting the power of the discipline in actively upholding historical awareness.

Introduction:

According to the Austrian architect Adolf Loos, the most honest manifestation of architecture was the monument and the tomb. It has been a statement that for more than 100 years have occupied architects and critics, provoking them to consider the role of architecture as an important medium of history and culture. In reverse, one could say, that for centuries for an honest manifestion of the tomb and the the monument, people relied on architecture to create and send the desired message about past events or value systems.

I a world which increasingly becomes aware of the necessity of dialogue and a shared future for all, the traditions of highlighting specific values over others, and prioritizing specific groups or individuals over others, has been challenged by alternative ways to remember history and learn from it.

This course will address this contemporary dynamic, and will explore a variety of option by which architecture and design can vindicate its importance of carrying on and transcending history.

The studio will be divided by the following stages:

The culture of remembering
·   Analyzing different concepts of history and their ensuing policies of remembering.

Historical examples of monument design:
·   Learning from historical examples

Chosing a topic:
·   Defining an area, subject matter and purpose for a new monument

Develop a prototype to exemplify the above.

Objectives：

• Gain a comprehensive understanding of the architecture of memory

• Analyze and design architectural solutions that meet the current need to remember

• Apply modern architectural technologies, digital tools, and cross-disciplinary knowledge to creatively solve complex design problems.

• Develop critical thinking skills, combining a global perspective with local practices, driving the relevance and innovation of architecture in a transformative era.

Methods：

We will implement a pedagogic methodology in which the students will go from identifying urgencies, developing concepts, design strategies and eventually translate them into project agendas and form.

From the classical pedagogic science we will follow the approaches listed down below:

• Flipped classroom. Students will lead the class when presenting their proposals.
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        • Reflective Observation (sketching, interviewing, filming)
        • Abstract Conceptualization (diagnose, prototyping, modeling, testing)
        • Active Experimentation (prototypes, testing, actual construction)

The students will be asked to map both their own reflections on the topic and their research results, as a previous stage for their project. Personal and cultural backgrounds are also important to enrich the final results.

Information of the teacher in charge：

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