UCLouvain

lbarc2143

2020

The 20th century built heritage and the preservation project

Due to the COVID-19 crisis, the information below is subject to change, in particular that concerning the teaching mode (presential, distance or in a comodal or hybrid format).

3 credits	30.0 h	Q2

Teacher(s)	Marino Giulia ;
Language :	French
Place of the course	Bruxelles Saint-Gilles
Main themes	The 20th century was a prolific and foundational period for architecture. It was at this point that the concept of innovation in construction became unavoidable, both in improvements to tried and tested techniques and the introduction of new materials and construction systems, most often dependent on the logic of industrialisation of building. The spatial, constructional and formal outcomes of this radical paradigm shift that began at the end of the 19th century and retains some relevance today form a significant and many-sided topic. Understanding the constructional logic of the recent past makes it possible, through its interpretation, to grasp the dynamics of today's design. But beyond its obvious cultural implications, a meticulous understanding of the material specifics of modern and contemporary production, down to the scale of the detail, should also be seen as a crucial step in implementing the project for preserving existing buildings with an eye to their adaptation to current technical uses and constraints. Hence the investigation of systems, processes and materials also takes account of the challenges of their conservation/adaptation, or even, where appropriate, their replacement with contemporary techniques. 20th-century building, by its constructional specifics, requires us to develop purpose-made preservation strategies. Critical history and the analysis of construction and materials thus provide us with both a methodological basis and a true design tool in a creative process combining theoretical knowledge and technical know-how, demonstrating the disciplinary coherence of the options chosen. In studying events that were particularly formative for the discipline, the course will deal with theoretical and operational design in the existing – conservation, restoration, renovation, reuse, as well as techniques of intervention in 20th-century building – ranging from the monumental heritage to more ordinary works. Notions of the history of the theories of conservation that developed in the 19th and 20th centuries will be developed throughout the quadrimester, not only by studying the foundations of the discipline, but also by stimulating students to develop a critical and coherent attitude to the project in the existing.
Aims	Understanding the material and constructional characteristics of a 20th-century building - Assessing the heritage value of a 20th-century building - Identifying and contextualising the issues at stake in the preservation operation (conservation, restoration, renovation, reuse, etc.) - Critically arguing a preservation strategy - Analysing a preservation project in relation to the theoretical foundations of the discipline - - - - *The contribution of this Teaching Unit to the development and command of the skills and learning outcomes of the programme(s) can be accessed at the end of this sheet, in the section entitled "Programmes/courses offering this Teaching Unit".*
Evaluation methods	**Due to the COVID-19 crisis, the information in this section is particularly likely to change.** Dissertation and oral discussion
Content	20th-century building, by its constructional specifics, requires us to develop purpose-made preservation strategies. Critical history and the analysis of construction and materials thus provide us with both a methodological basis and a true design tool in a creative process combining theoretical knowledge and technical know-how, demonstrating the disciplinary coherence of the options chosen. In studying events that were particularly formative for the discipline, the course will deal with theoretical and operational design in the existing – conservation, restoration, renovation, reuse, as well as techniques of intervention in 20th-century building – ranging from the monumental heritage to more ordinary works. Notions of the history of the theories of conservation that developed in the 19th and 20th centuries will be developed throughout the quadrimester, not only by studying the foundations of the discipline, but also by stimulating students to develop a critical and coherent attitude to the project in the existing.
Faculty or entity in charge	LOCI

Programmes containing this learning unit (UE)				
Program title	Acronym	Credits	Prerequisite	Aims
Master [120] in Architecture (Tournai)	ARCT2M	3		
Master [120] in Architecture (Bruxelles)	ARCB2M	3		