explorations in infrastructure space 02

ON AIR

Studio Background: "Is infrastructure but the plumbing and wiring of the human environment, or is it the true lifeblood of the spaces we inhabit? Infrastructural systems facilitate the flow of anything from people and goods to resources and information. While engineered to perform an array of specific tasks, such as networks also determine the structures of buildings, cities, and metropolitan regions, if not for entire nations and the planet itself. Yet these vast service armatures tend to be pushed to the background, remaining out of sight as long as they function, as the common observation goes. They are the products of generic protocols often applied irrespective of contextual specificities and eventual environmental consequences. Ubiquitous and anonymous, they have become so ingrained in our lives as to steer the habits of collective behaviour. Infrastructure, in this sense, could be considered a conduit of conduct, an underlying logic of space that perpetuates unchecked conventions of production and consumption."(1)

Against this background, we will develop a deeper understanding of how infrastructures work. This is done not only by exploring their spatial conditions, but also the protocols related to their access and use. The exploration will be carried out as an iterative process of mappings as a method of learning and creating knowledge. At the sametime, it will be used to develop an appropriate visual language to communicate the project. The course aims to develop meaningful projects that keep both the concrete and the immaterial in play — on air. These could be either a conceptual study that explores the potential of past, present and future infrastructures, or implemented as a 1:1 test situation. Being conceived as case studies, the implications of any approach must also be explored.

teachers

Aleksandra Ivashkevich
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(1) Infrastructure Space
ed. Andreas & Ilka Ruby
Something Fantastic
Ruby Press, 2017

How we work

The production of architecture is a process based on collaboration, discourse and exchange. The design of this process is an important part of the studio work. BAS is a place for research and gaining knowledge through experimentation, where students are the leading power. Through negotiation and a practice of self-organization, we develop a studio culture of collaboration.

Learning Outcome

Skills
> using reading of theoretical background literature to create referential framework forthe course
> using writing to create a meaningful framework for the project
> diverse methods of exploration
> creating structures for decision making in design pro cesses
> developing a visual language to represent your project

Knowledge
> deep knowledge of the studio topic through individual research and diverse input

Compentencies
> critical thinking
> collaborative working
> trust in representing an individual standpoint

Reading
> Extrastatecraft — The Power of Infrastructure Space
  Keller Easterling, Verso 2014
> Support Structure
  Céline Condorelli, Sternberg Press 2009
> Technical Lands: A Critical Primer
  Jeffrey S Nesbit, Charles Waldheim, Jovis 2022
> Infrastructural Love:
  Caring for Our ArchitecturalSupport Systems
  Hélène Frichot, Adrià Carbonell, Hannes Frykholm,
  Sepideh Karami
> Ghosts of my Life
  Mark Fisher, Zero Books, 2014

Talks
> Mark Lecky
> Céline Condorelli
> Karen Werner