



## RE-FORM

Mastercourse Bergen School of Architecture | Autumn 2022 | Teachers: Pavlina Lucas, Associate Prof. APP (course responsible) - Magnus Wåge, Prof. APP - Sverre Sundresen, APP - DAV tba

### Context

Reduce, recycle, reuse - mottos of our time. The shift towards environmentally friendly modes of production and consumption is gathering momentum. The practice of architecture and urban development – traditionally part and parcel of a culture of unleashed consumption and of production systems driven by "new" and "more" – needs to be rethought.

We want to explore how the structure of our built environment can absorb, reflect, and participate in new lifestyles and production systems. How can our built environment react, adapt, and perform under shifting conditions? What elements have high resistance to change? Which aspects can be easily transformed? What possibilities for change arise from new patterns of living and working? How can different functions and programs be combined? What kind of strategies can be applied to achieve radical reduction, recycling and reuse?

We will practice the interdependent operations of addition, subtraction and reconstruction, placing proposals both within a tectonic and an ethical discourse. Taking existing structures as a point of departure will help us to tap into the pulse of ongoing cultural and economic changes and rehearse our ability to address their manifestation in the built environment.

**Re-form** looks at the theme of transformation and rehabilitation with the eyes of our time and explores this, beyond the practice of conserving heritage, as a key ingredient for an updated attitude towards the production and use of the built environment.

The first edition of the course (spring 2021) focused on Bergen. <https://bas.org/prosjekt/re-form-master-course-spring-21-2/>. This second edition will have a more rural setting in the municipality of **Meløy, Nordland**.

### Structure

Students will be presented with a number of existing spatial structures/environments amongst which they will choose one to work with. Working either individually or in groups, students will produce a precise architectural proposal for the transformation of their chosen site.

We will study the sites and their context in depth and register them through a range of methods – architectural, technical and artistic.

During our stay at the municipality (see info under study trip) students will develop and rehearse acts of re-form in 1:1. These will constitute a beginning for the architectural proposals to be developed during the rest of the semester.

Workshops will be held during the study trip and throughout the course by the responsible teachers and other experts. A close reading and understanding of the sites will also be facilitated through presentations and dialogues with local actors and groups.



### **Pedagogical approach**

We will learn by doing. The projects will grow organically from within through the different phases of their development, from the conceptual idea to the specific and precise solutions.

The establishment of an architectural concept will be constantly under development in relation to the framework and findings. The proposals themselves will be the testing ground for analysis, reflection and experimentation. The programmatic transformation will be established by testing different extremes of change.

Further into the research we will look into different performative aspects of the proposals and the interaction between these – for example function, structure, materials, envelop, technical requirements, regulations, energy use, etc – and develop strategies to deal with these themes.

### **Learning outcomes**

Drawing and proposing changes in direct relationship with existing structures will give students the opportunity to look in depth at the constitution of buildings and spatial environments and learn both from their own investigations of this and from professional sources/material.

Students will gain experience in working with a tight set of parameters and they will expand their capacity to develop a complex architectural proposal. They will practice and sharpen their skills of investigation, communication and graphic representation.

Students will acquire knowledge in structural systems, construction methods and architectural development. They will learn how to source relevant references and databases. When relevant, we will reference/follow planning regulations and building standards (TEK etc).

### **Participation / Deliverables**

The course requires full-time engagement from the students. Participation in introduction of the course, the study trip, the midterm and the final presentation is obligatory. Students are also expected to be present and to deliver material in relation to the workshops that will be organised throughout the semester. If students work in groups it is important that all members are fully engaged and contribute equally.

### **Study trip**

The first 3-4 weeks of the course will be held in Meløy. The municipality will organise and support accommodation. We will re-visit the sites at least once during the course.



## General Information

A master course is considered a formal exam at BAS. The only grading is Pass /Fail.

An external examiner will be present during the final review, and participate on the final grading of the student in collaboration with the teacher(s) in charge on the course.

If a student lacks the minimum level and attendance in order to be evaluated for the exam, the student shall receive written notice of this as soon as possible, and at the latest 2 weeks before the final review. Then this student will have failed the course. As a master course is based on the effort and work during a whole semester, this will be the basis for the approval for the exam.

Written notice/warning can be given throughout the semester if a candidate does not have the required progress or attendance. Then it is the student's responsibility to put in the extra effort and resources.

Even though a student does not receive a warning/notice from the teachers, the final result will be depending on an evaluation also by an external assessor, and the result can therefore not be guaranteed.

If a student has special needs and will need facilitation during the master course, the student must contact BAS before the course starts and inform the school about this. It is required to have documentation of a diagnosis in order to have facilitation. If you have had a process with this earlier in your study, you nevertheless have to contact adm. to inform and agree upon the specific needs for facilitation for the upcoming semester.

The final assessment will be made by the teacher(s) in charge of the course plus an external examiner during the final review, and will be based on:

1. The individual submission for the different stages of the project.
2. The level of participation and contribution to the collective/group work.
3. The assessment of the work/project as presented at the final review.

After the final review one will receive either a pass or fail. If there are minor weaknesses that could improve the project in order to pass, a candidate may be given supplementary work that is to be completed within 2 weeks after the final review. The supplementary work will be evaluated to either a pass or a fail by the teacher(s) in charge. If the weaknesses are not possible to overcome by doing supplementary work, the grade will be fail. This decision of giving supplementary work is solely up to the teacher and the external examiner.

## Portfolio

Students are expected to make a portfolio of all 3 master courses before diploma. This is to be submitted at the beginning of the diploma semester.