

Drawing: Charlotte Malterre-Barthes, Scales of extraction

MASTER COURSE / EXPERIMENTAL HOUSE

Analogous to the modern movement that broke with the stylistic fixations of the main stream architecture at the turn of the 19th to the 20th centuries and radically re-defined the terms of the profession along the lines of industrialisation, mechanisation and political reform, today's architectural conventions seem to be literally swept away by the momentous developments that dominate us today: liberalisation and globalisation, the increasing social divide, ubiquitous digitisation along with rapid developments in technology and, most of all, the climate catastrophe seem to be re-writing the rules of our profession almost independently of the activities of its individual actors. It seems to be necessary pause and discuss and rethink the modes in which we plan, build and teach architecture.

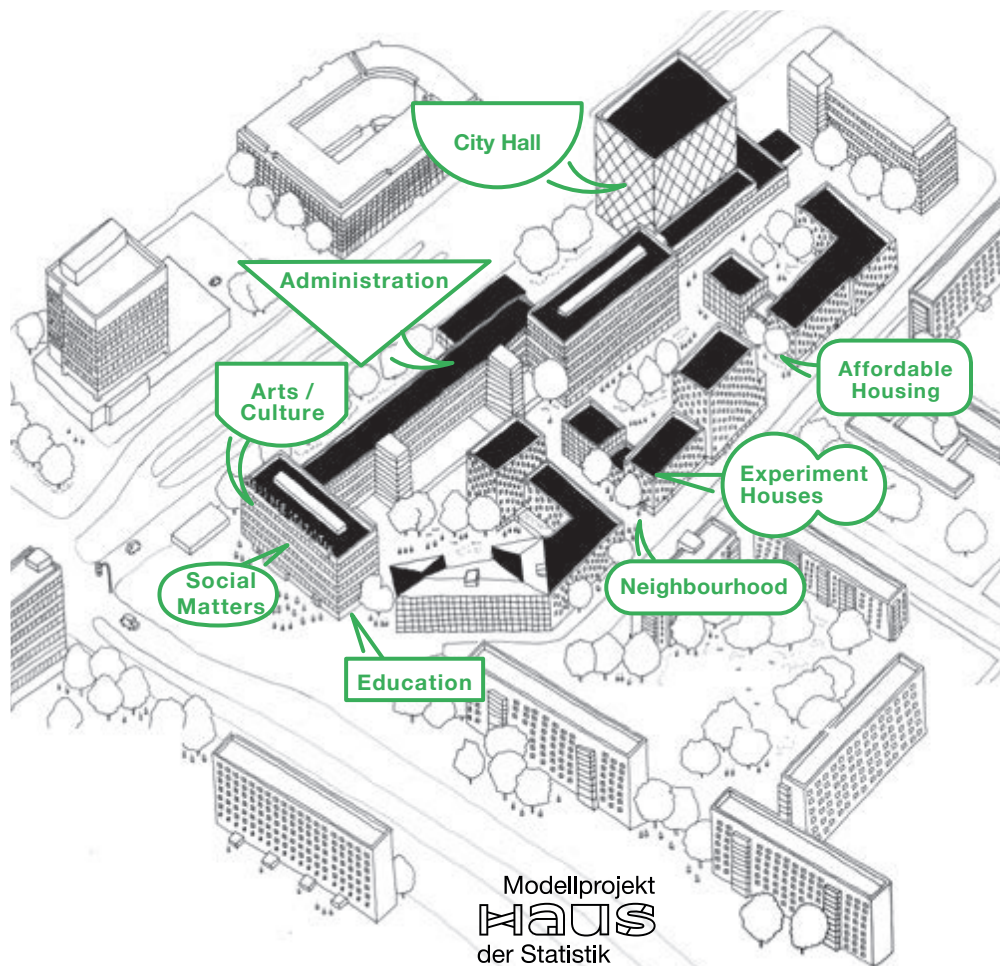
- How can we react as architects to all these challenges?*
- How is the building industry working today?*
- What are the legal frames in which we operate today?*
- Why aren't they leading to better cities?*
- What are the mechanisms / driving forces of the real estate market?*
- What are the main materials, which we usually plan with?*
- Where do they come from? What are the supply chains?*
- How do we want to live together in the future?*
- What are new modes of cooperative living and working?*
- What kind of strategies can we find to implement radical reduction, recycling and reuse in the building process?*
- How can we propose a kind of „non extractive architecture“?*

The idea of this course is to radically deconstruct the concept of a house, to let it fall into all its many conceptual, social, structural and economical components. To follow the tracks of its material components to their origin. We will try to restart, rethink, go away from the patterns that we have learned and inhabited all our lives and rethink what we formerly called a house.

In a second step we will try to draw a picture of the future demands of a house. What are today's technological, social, economical and environmental conditions



Haus der Statistik, south facade



Modellprojekt
HAUS
der Statistik



Backyard Haus der Statistik 2021

Being aware that there is no easy answers to be found, this search can only be an experiment, clearly framed but open and ready for failures. To be able to generate a productive creative process within this uncertainty every design team will be asked to set clear parameters for their research and experiment.

THE SITE / EXPERIMENTAL GROUND is the „HAUS DER STATISTIK“ HDS in Berlin, an old GDR governmental building complex at „Alexanderplatz“ in the centre of Berlin. Within the HAUS DER STATISTIK development there is the plan to build some experimental houses. The nature of these experiments is not yet defined, but it should explore new ways of collective living and working and house some of the many cultural and social actors which are involved in the HDS project. In the same time these houses should allow for experiments towards new and more sustainable building processes. Within a two weeks on site studio we will get a deep understanding of the Haus der Statistik process. We will learn about the complex project structure and meet different actors and pioneer users to learn about their projects, ideas and goals. Each design team will then be able to choose programs and a specific site within the HDS for their experiment.

ORIENTATION / READING TOGETHER / WHERE ARE WE NOW?

A common thinking laboratory in which we read and discuss theory, study existing concepts and reference projects, will accompany the whole design process. In weekly meetings we will read and discuss a selection of contemporary books and articles which discuss the contemporary political, economical, ecological constrains and propose different modes of change and action. All these concepts should be materialised in models, which become a shared concept, structure and material library.

The course aims to unfold the complex architectural design process in structured working phases. In contrast to the digital tools that we will use as drawing and communication tools, the course intends to be extremely spatial, tactile and with a lot of material specific model building and a high level of craftsmanship. The idea is to create a lively conversation between students, teachers, invited experts and different actors of the HAUS DER STATISTIK through different means of making. Central in the process should be the extensive drawing work and the work in different scales, real materials and big scale models.

TIMELINE & WORKING STEPS

Step 1: **WHERE ARE WE NOW? MAPPING REALITY**

Week 1-3

Common research on the conditions of ordinary building processes and the common materiality today. Analysis of 4 different examples in Bergen and Berlin. Drawing workshop mapping reality, material distribution chains, material value, CO2 footprint, recyclability, working conditions, planning methods.

Step 2: **BERLIN STUDIO I / HAUS DER STATISTIK**

Week 4-5

Excursion / workshop in Berlin. Introduction to the site. Meeting with different pioneer users, activists and architects. Workshop on site at HDS. We will learn about the ideas and strategies of “cooperative city development” and the very specific conditions and ideas of the different actors at HDS. We will study the urban conditions of the area around Alexanderplatz, its historical, social and urbanistic conditions. We will meet with different planners, specialists and involved activist.

STEP 3: **ARCHITECTURAL ETHNOGRAPHY / MAPPING REALITIES**

Week 6&7

Drawing workshop with Momoyo Kaijima ATELIER BOW WOW

Life obviously exceeds architecture, yet at the same time it is the basis and essence of architecture. Understanding its different forms, as ethnography shows, is the precondition of engaging with it. But, what does this mean for architecture? How can the myriad situations that both feed into and result from the design of a building be effectively mapped? How does one address architectural drawings, not just as simple notational systems but as instruments to document, discuss, and evaluate architecture? How can they work to explore people's actual usages, needs, and aspirations, and moreover to give shape to individualized life forms in today's globalized society?

Step 4: **POSSIBLE PATHS / BEST PRACTICE ANALYSIS**

Week 8&9

Analysis and models of selected buildings. Analysis drawing of program, structure and material use, material supply chains, grey energy, of the studied building. Analysis 1:50 model of main building principal and essential detail.

Model building workshop with

Step 5: **EXPERIMENTAL STRUCTURES / ESSENTIAL JOINT**

Week 10&11

Workshop on possible structures in 1:1 / 1:50. Out of the mapping and the research we will collectively define a matrix of materials, possible joints and construction principals. Each team will work on a specific set of conditions and explore different possible structures in 1:1 details and 1:50 models

BAS Teachers with local craftsman

Step 6: **DEFINE YOUR OWN EXPERIMENT**

Week 12

Choose site and program. What are you searching for? Which part of the research do you want to deepen? What are your references? What are your methods? What is your program? Write a short programmatic statement to describe and frame your project.

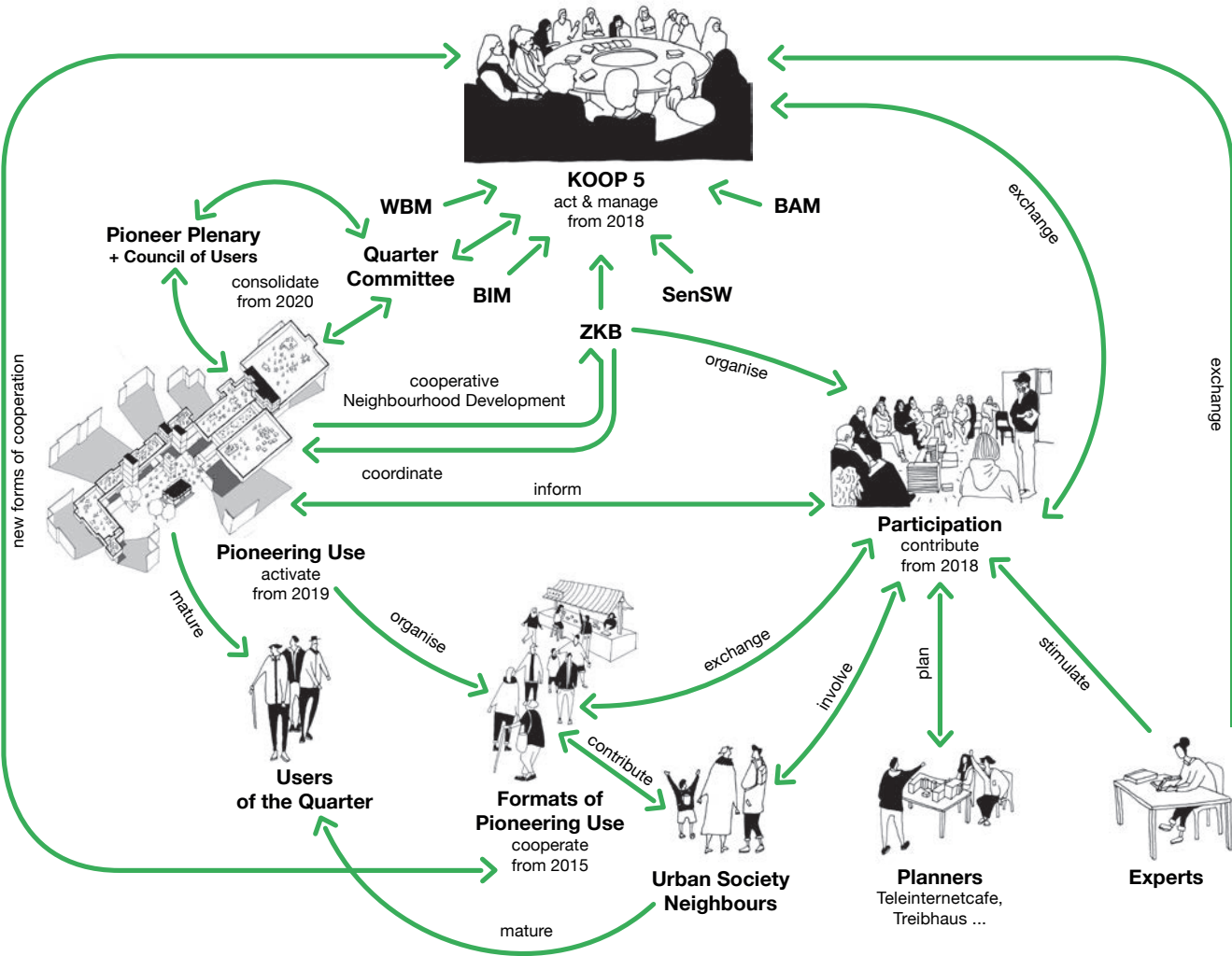
Step 7: **WORK ON EXPERIMENTAL HOUSES**

Week 13 - 20

Individual processes followed by the course teacher on specific houses at the HAUS DER STATISTIK site in Berlin

Step 8: **EXHIBITION AND SYMPOSIUM ON EXPERIMENTAL HOUSES IN BERLIN**

Week 21



Haus der Statistik, diagram project organisation by Zusammenkunft Berlin

READING LIST / COURSE TEACHERS

1. ARCHITECTURAL ETHNOGRAPGY /

The Japan Pavilion at the 16th Venice Biennale Catalogue, Momoyo Kaijima, Laurent Stalder, Yu Iseki with Simona Ferrari, Tamotsu Ito, Andreas Kalpakci (eds.) TOTO Publishing, Tokyo, 2018

2. The Architectures of Atelier Bow-Wow. Behaviorology Yoshiharu Tsukamoto, Momoyo Kaijima, Rizzoli, 2010

3. WOOD URBANISM From the Molecular to the Territorial, Daniel Ibanez, Jan Hutton, Kiel Moe, ACTAR

4. ARE WE HUMAN, Colomina & Wright, Lars Müller Publisher

5. THE ARCHITECTURE OF TREES, Cesare Leonardi, Franca Stagi

6. THE MATERIAL BOOK, Rubi Press

7. CRITICAL CARE Architecture and Urbanism for a broken Planet, Fitz, Kasky

8. STAYING WITH THE TROUBLE Haraway

9. AFTER GEOENGINEERING Holly Jane Book

10. THE PLANATARY GARDEN AND OTHER WRITINGS, Gilles Clément 2015

11. DOWN TO EARTH, Politics in the New Climatic Regime, Bruno Latour, 2019

12. Jane Hutton
Reciprocal Landscapes:
Stories of Material Movements

13. NON EXTRACTIVE ARCHITECTURE
On design without depletion, by Space Cavier, 2021



house of time Brugge 2019, raumlaborberlin with youngsters from Brugge



TEACHERS TEAM

- _ Cecilie Anderson architect / teacher APP
- _ Hector Pinas teacher APP
- _ Alberto Altés Professor KFT
- _ Jan Liesegang architect / teacher APP
- _ guest teacher Momoyo Kaijima APP / DAV
- _ teacher DAV to be defined