COURSE SYLLABUS						
Course Title	**Course Code**	**Semester**	**Course Hour/Week**		**Credit**	**ECTS**
Cultural & Contextual Studies I	INAD107	1	**Theory** 3	**Practice** 0	3	4
Course Type	Compulsory Courses	Department Elective	Faculty Elective	University Elective	CoHE (YÖK) Compulsory	Other
	x					
Level of Course	Associate Degree (Short Cycle)		Undergraduate (First Cycle)		Graduate/ Doctoral (Second /Third Cycle)	
			x			

Language of Instruction	English

Course Instructor(s)	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ehsan Daneshyar	**E-mail:** Ehsan.daneshyar@arucad.edu.tr **Office:** DANIEDE, DA OFF 01
Course Objectives	This course aims to provide students with a comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the historical development of design and art across Western and Eastern cultures, spanning from prehistoric art forms through the civilizations of Mesopotamia, Egypt, the Aegean, Greece, and Rome, to the foundations of Islamic art and architecture. Students will learn to identify key monuments and representative works within each period, analyze stylistic trends and distinguish the defining characteristics of typology, iconography, materials, and techniques that shape design and artistic production. The course further develops students' ability to interpret and contextualize works of design and art within their broader cultural, social, political, and historical frameworks, while critically evaluating and synthesizing major theoretical perspectives to inform deeper interpretation and understanding. Through this chronological and analytical approach, students will cultivate the critical and reflective thinking skills essential for engaging with design and art history as a foundation for their broader studies in architecture and interior architecture.	
Course Learning Outcomes	**Students will able to:**	**Teaching Methods** / **Evaluation Methods**
	1. **Describe and explain** the historical development of design and art across the cultures and/or periods covered, identifying their key	Weekly lectures / Mid-term & Final exams

	monuments and representative works.		
	2. **Analyze and distinguish** stylistic trends in design and art, defining their essential characteristics such as typology, iconography, materials, and techniques.	Weekly lectures	Mid-term & Final exams
	3. **Interpret and contextualize** works of design and art within their broader cultural, social, and historical frameworks, recognizing the roles of their creators and patrons.	Weekly lectures	Mid-term & Final exams
	4. **Critically evaluate and synthesize** theoretical perspectives related to design and art, assessing how these frameworks inform interpretation and understanding.	Weekly lectures	Mid-term & Final exams
Course Content	This course focuses on the history of design and art in Western and Eastern cultures, from the Mesopotamian civilization to the fall of the Roman Empire. It provides a chronological survey of architecture, interior architecture, sculpture, painting, furniture, and the decorative arts, examining these disciplines within their cultural, political, religious, socio-economic, and technological contexts. The course develops a solid understanding of key monuments and significant works of art. It also equips students with the analytical skills to identify stylistic trends in the design and art of the covered cultures and periods, and to examine their defining characteristics, including typology, iconography, materials, and techniques. Finally, the course introduces major theories of design and art, fostering students' critical and reflective thinking. Assessment consists of weekly lectures, two projects, a midterm examination, and a final examination.		

COURSE OUTLINE/SCHEDULE			
Week	**Topic**	**Implementation (theory/practice)**	**Required Reading, Preliminary preparation**
1	Introduction, Art before writing, Paleolithic Art, Cave art, Dwellings and shelters, Mesolithic art and architecture, Megalithic Art.	T	

2	Neolithic Art, Jericho, Catal Huyuk, Megalithic architecture, Stonehenge, The Bronze and Iron Ages.	T	See required reading
3	Mesopotamian Art, Sumerian art, Art of Akkad, Neo-Sumerian revival.	T	See required reading
4	Mesopotamian Art, Babylonian art, Assyrian art, Late Babylonian art, The Hittites, The Phoenicians, Persian art.	T	See required reading
5	Egyptian Art, The Old Kingdom: Tomb Architecture and Statues.	T	See required reading
6	Egyptian Art: The Middle Kingdom, The New Kingdom, Late Egypt.	T	See required reading
7	Aegean Art, Early Cycladic art, Minoan art, Mycenaean art, Greek art and architecture.	T	See required reading
8	Review week **(Midterm)**	---	---
9	Greek Art, Temple Architecture, Doric Order, Ionic Order, Doric & Ionic temples, The Classical Age.	T	See required reading
10	Greek Art, Acropolis complex, Corinthian Order, The Hellenistic period.	T	See required reading
11	Roman Art, Early Rome, Architecture, The early Roman Empire, The Colosseum, The Pantheon.	T	See required reading
12	Roman Art, Sculpture, Civic architecture, Town planning, Domestic art and architecture.	T	See required reading
13	Roman Architecture: Roman baths & villas	T	See required reading
14	Islamic Art & Architecture: Introduction	T	See required reading
15	Islamic Art & Architecture: later classical art and architecture, Islamic gardens and landscapes	T	See required reading
16	**Final exam**	---	---

Required Course Material(s) / Reading(s)/ Text Book(s)	Fazio, M. W., Moffett, M., & Wodehouse, L. (2013). *A world history of architecture*. Laurence King Publishing. **CALL NUMBER: NA200 .F39 2013** Ulrich, R. B., & Quenemoen, C. K. (Eds.). (2014). *A companion to Roman architecture*. Wiley-Blackwell. **CALL NUMBER: REF NA310.C58 2014** Fullerton, M. D. (2020). *Art & archaeology of the Roman world*. Thames & Hudson. **CALL NUMBER: N5760 .F85 2020** Hillenbrand, R. (2021). *Islamic art and architecture*. Thames & Hudson. **CALL NUMBER: N6260 .H55 2021** Bloom, J. (2007). *Arts of the city victorious*. Yale University Press. **CALL NUMBER: NK720 .B58 2007**

	Kostof, S. (2010). *A history of architecture*. Oxford University Press. **CALL NUMBER: REF NA200.K67 2010** Pile, J. F., & Gura, J. (2013). *A history of interior design*. Laurence King Publishing. **CALL NUMBER: NK1710 .P55 2013** Stansbury-O'Donnell, M. (2015). *A history of Greek art*. Wiley-Blackwell. **CALL NUMBER: N5630.S734 2015** Rice, D. T. (1965). *Islamic art*. Praeger. **CALL NUMBER: N6260 .R53 1965** Matthews, R. (2003). *The archaeology of Mesopotamia*. Routledge. **CALL NUMBER: DS69.5.M37 2003** Brewer, D. J. (2012). *The archaeology of ancient Egypt*. Cambridge University Press. **CALL NUMBER: DT60.B745 2012 c.2**
Recommended Course Material(s)/ Reading(s) /Other	Roth, L. M., & Clark, A. C. R. (2014). *Understanding architecture*. Westview Press. **CALL NUMBER: NA2500.R68 2014** Hopkins, O. (2014). *Architectural styles*. Laurence King Publishing. **CALL NUMBER: NA204 .H67 2014**

ASSESSMENT		
Learning Activities	**NUMBER**	**WEIGHT in %**
Mid-Term	1	20
Quiz	-	-
Assignment	-	-
Project	2	40
Field Study	-	-
Presentation / Seminar	-	-
Studio Practice	-	-
Other	-	-
Contribution of Final Examination/Final Project/ Dissertation to the Final Grade	1	40
TOTAL		100

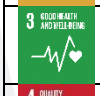
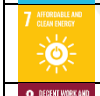
No	**PROGRAMME LEARNING OUTCOMES**	**Level of Contribution (1 = lowest / 5 = highest)**				
		1	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**
KNOWLEDGE *Understanding and knowing — theoretical, historical, and conceptual foundations*						
1	Demonstrate comprehensive knowledge of visual and spatial design language, encompassing fundamental principles of form, function, space, material, ergonomics, ecology, and society, as well as technical knowledge, in the production of human-centered interior environments.		x			
2	Critically engage the history of interior architecture, art, and design, drawing on research methodologies to inform culturally sensitive and contextually grounded design practice.					x
3	Understand interior architecture as a holistic and interdisciplinary profession, articulating the relationship between spatial design, architecture, art, and environmental stewardship.			x		

4	Understanding of theoretical, historical, cultural, ecological, and universal accessibility dimensions of interior design to inform responsible, inclusive, and environmentally conscious spatial decision-making.				x	
SKILLS *Doing and making — technical, creative, and methodological abilities*						
5	Develop and communicate design concepts through diverse visualization tools — including hand drawing, and digital modeling — demonstrating competency in contemporary representational technologies for professional design communication.	x				
6	Produce technically proficient sketches, technical drawings, and documentation according to professional standards, applying both analog and digital tools in spatial problem-solving.	x				
7	Apply systematic, research-based critical thinking in design processes and problem-solving, addressing contemporary spatial and ergonomic demands with research-driven design strategies.			x		
8	Produce design models, cost estimations, and technical documentation for project realization, incorporating sustainable design strategies and adaptive reuse methodologies for heritage and contemporary environments.	x				
COMPETENCIES *Professional behavior and attitude — ethical, creative, and lifelong practice*						
9	Articulate a personal creative vision and present design proposals verbally, visually, and textually across a range of media, upholding the high standards of creative excellence, considering legal and ethical practices.		x			
10	Demonstrate commitment to continuous self-development, lifelong learning, and professional ethics, contributing to the cultural and intellectual enrichment of local, regional, and global communities.	x				
11	Demonstrate proficiency in innovative design tools and emerging technologies, integrating traditional craftsmanship with contemporary digital methods to expand the boundaries of interior spatial design.	x				
12	Collaborate effectively in interdisciplinary and intercultural teams, demonstrating leadership, communication, and project management competencies in design and professional contexts.	x				

ECTS / STUDENT WORKLOAD				
ACTIVITIES	**NUMBER**	**UNIT**	**HOUR**	**TOTAL (WORKLOAD)**
Course Teaching Hour (X weeks * total course hours)	15	1	3	45
Preliminary Preparation and Self-Study	15	1	1	15
Mid-Term	1	1	15	15
Quiz				
Assignment				
Project	2	1	8	16
Field Study				

Presentation / Seminar				
Studio Practice				
Final Examination/ Final Project/ Dissertation	1	1	10	10
Other				
TOTAL WORKLOAD				101
TOTAL WORKLOAD / 25				4.04
ECTS				**4**

ETHICAL RULES WITH REGARD TO THE COURSE
Plagiarism Disclaimer Detected and undetected plagiarism is a serious offense at any time and can have devastating effects on your degree results and future professional life. Plagiarism is easy to avoid if you ensure that you properly identify and acknowledge your sources and do not copy directly from visual examples, designs, or notes that have themselves been taken word-for-word from your sources.

	SDG 1: No Poverty	
	SDG 2: Zero Hunger	
	SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being	
	SDG 4: Quality Education	**X**
	SDG 5: Gender Equality	
	SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation	
	SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	
	SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth	
	SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure	
	SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities	
	SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	**X**
	SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production	
	SDG 13: Climate Action	
	SDG 14: Life Below Water	

	SDG 15: Life on Land	
	SDG 16:Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions	
	SDG 17:Partnership for the Goals	

ASSESSMENT DETAILS AND EVALUATION CRITERIA:	
Final grades will be determined based on the course learning activities and the assessment details for the final examination or project, as outlined below, in accordance with the University's Education and Examination Regulations. Students are required to attend at least 70% of the classes. The maximum allowable absenteeism is 30%. **The mid-term exam (20%), two projects (40%), and final exam (40%) marks will be combined to determine the** overall assessment mark for this course.	
PREPARED BY	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ehsan Daneshyar
UPDATED	15.09.25
APPROVED	