COURSE SYLLABUS						
Course Title	**Course Code**	**Semester**	**Course Hour/Week**		**Credit**	**ECTS**
Urban Concepts for Architecture	ARCH356	6	**Theory** 3	**Practice** 0	3	5
Course Type	Compulsory Courses	Department Elective	Faculty Elective	University Elective	CoHE (YÖK) Compulsory	Other
		x	x			
Level of Course	Associate Degree (Short Cycle)		Undergraduate (First Cycle)		Graduate/ Doctoral (Second /Third Cycle)	
			x			

Language of Instruction	English

Course Instructor(s)	Asst. Prof. Dr. Saloumeh Khayyat Kahouei	E-mail: khayyat.kahouei@arucad.edu.tr Office: Eternal Spring Building, office 2

Course Objectives	• To introduce students to fundamental concepts and theories in urbanism and urban design • To develop an understanding of the interrelationships between various spatial disciplines • To equip students with analytical tools for studying urban environments • To foster critical thinking about urban issues and their solutions • To provide a foundation for advanced studies in urban design and planning		
Course Learning Outcomes	**Learning Outcomes**	**Teaching Methods**	**Evaluation Methods**
	1. Identify and define fundamental theories, principles, and terminology of urban design and planning.	Lectures, visual presentations	Midterm exam
	2. Explain and interpret the interrelationships between architecture, landscape, and urban design disciplines.	Class discussions, comparative analysis	Midterm exam, class participation
	3. Apply analytical tools to evaluate urban morphology, spatial structure, and form.	Case study exercises, group analysis	Midterm and final exam

	4. Analyze the evolution of urban patterns and planning approaches in historical and contemporary contexts.	Visual mapping, reading assignments	Midterm assessment
	5. Evaluate urban design models and frameworks in relation to social, cultural, and environmental contexts.	Group critiques, discussion-based learning	Final project evaluation
	6. Create analytical diagrams and conceptual representations to communicate urban ideas effectively.	Workshop-based exercises	Final project evaluation
Course Content	The Introduction to Urban Concepts course provides a comprehensive foundation in urban theory, design principles, and analytical methods for students of landscape architecture and urban design. Beginning with fundamental urban theories and historical development patterns, the course progresses through the interrelationships between spatial disciplines including architecture, landscape architecture, and planning. Students develop practical skills in urban analysis through various methodological approaches while examining critical contemporary urban challenges. The course balances theoretical knowledge with applied learning, encouraging students to think critically about urban issues and their potential solutions. By integrating diverse perspectives and methodologies, the course prepares students for advanced studies in specialized areas of urban design and planning while fostering an interdisciplinary understanding of how built environments shape and are shaped by social, environmental, and economic factors.		

COURSE OUTLINE/SCHEDULE			
Week	**Topic**	**Implementation (theory/practice)**	**Required Reading, Preliminary preparation**
1	Introduction to the City Concept	T	
2	Historical Evolution of Cities: The Origins of the cities (from ancient civilization to the medieval period)	T	See required reading
3	The origins of the cities (from the medieval period to the Industrial Revolution)	T	See required reading

4	Analysing Urban Form/Urban Design and Changes	T	See required reading
5	Dimension of Urban Design- Morphological	T	See required reading
6	Dimension of Urban Design- Visual	T	See required reading
7	Dimension of Urban Design- Functional	T	See required reading
8	Review the urban design dimensions Midterm exam	T	See required reading
9	Dimension of Urban Design – Perceptual	T	See required reading
10	Dimension of Urban Design -Social	T	See required reading
11	Dimension of Urban Design -Temporal	T	See required reading
12	Garden City concept	T	See required reading
13	Urban Sprawl	T	See required reading
14	Neighbourhood unit concept	T	See required reading
15	Urban Theory & Thought	T	See required reading
16	Review of the semester	T	See required reading
17	**Final Exam period**		

Required Course Material(s) / Reading(s) / Text Book(s)	Vale, L. J. (2022). *Just urban design: The struggle for a public city*. MIT Press.**Call number HT166 .J87 2022** Smets, M. (2022). *Foundations of Urban Design*. Actar D, Inc. **Call number: HT166 .S5879 2022** Kasprisin, R. (2019). *Urban design: the composition of complexity*. Routledge.**Call number: HT166 .K359 2020**
Recommended Course Material(s) / Reading(s) / Other	Alexander, C.(1977). *A Pattern Language.* Whyte, W. H. (1980). The social life of small urban spaces. Hall, P. (2014). *Cities of tomorrow: An intellectual history of urban planning and design since 1880*. John Wiley & Sons. Gehl, J. (2011). Life between buildings. Lynch, K. (1964). *The image of the city*. MIT Press. Jacobs, J. (1992). *Death and Life of Great American Cities, 1961*. Carmona, M. (2021). *Public places urban spaces: The dimensions of urban design*. Routledge.

ASSESSMENT

Learning Activities	**NUMBER**	**WEIGHT in %**
Mid-Term	1	40
Quiz		
Assignment		
Project		
Field Study		
Presentation / Seminar		
Studio Practice		
Other		
Contribution of Final Examination/Final Project/ Dissertation to the Final Grade	1	60
TOTAL		100

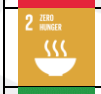
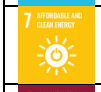
CONTRIBUTION OF COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES TO PROGRAMME LEARNING OUTCOMES						
No	**PROGRAMME LEARNING OUTCOMES**	Level of Contribution (1lowest / 5-highest)				
		1	2	3	4	5
1	Understand architectural history, theory, and cultural heritage, including the relationship between local/vernacular traditions and global architectural discourse.				x	
2	Understand the technical knowledge and the principles of structural systems, building technology, environmental performance, and construction processes as integrated components of architectural design.			x		
3	Comprehend sustainability, ecological sensitivity, and climate-responsive design principles and their application across different scales of the built environment.	x				
4	Recognize the legal, ethical, and professional frameworks governing architectural practice, including relevant codes, standards, universal ethical values, and the principles of project management and cost estimation.	x				
5	Apply creative and critical design thinking to develop holistic architectural solutions that respond to spatial, environmental, cultural, and social challenges at local, national, and global scales.					x

6	Produce professional drawings, models, technical documentation, and digital/parametric visualizations that effectively communicate architectural proposals at all stages of design.		x			
7	Conduct systematic, evidence-based research and apply critical evaluation methods to inform and validate design decisions throughout the design process.			x		
8	Integrate interdisciplinary knowledge — spanning art, engineering, ecology, and social sciences — to produce innovative and contextually sensitive design outcomes.			x		
9	Demonstrate professional and ethical responsibility, with sensitivity to environmental sustainability, socio-cultural diversity, and the well-being of communities served by architectural practice.				x	
10	Collaborate effectively in interdisciplinary and intercultural teams, demonstrating leadership, communication, and project management competencies in design and professional contexts.				x	
11	Communicate architectural ideas persuasively and clearly in verbal, visual, and written form to professional, academic, client, and public audiences.					x
12	Engage in continuous self-reflection, lifelong learning, and active contribution to the evolving architectural profession at local, regional, and international levels.				x	

ECTS / STUDENT WORKLOAD				
ACTIVITIES	**NUMBER**	**UNIT**	**HOUR**	**TOTAL (WORKLOAD)**
Course Teaching / Practice Hour (weeks/total course hours)	16	1	3	48
Preliminary Preparation and Self-study	16	1	2	32
Midterm exam	1	1	20	20
Presentation / Seminar				
Final Exam/project	1	1	25	25
TOTAL WORKLOAD				125
TOTAL WORKLOAD / 25				125/25
ECTS				**5**

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	X
	SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure	X
	SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities	X
	SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	X
	SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production	X
	SDG 13: Climate Action	X
	SDG 14: Life Below Water	
	SDG 15: Life on Land	X
	SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions	X
	SDG 17: Partnership for the Goals	X

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%. Midterm exam: 40% Final exam: 60%	
PREPARED BY	Asst.Prof.Dr.Saloumeh Khayyat KAhouei
UPDATED	February 2026
APPROVED	