COURSE SYLLABUS						
Course Title	**Course Code**	**Semester**	**Course Hour/Week**		**Credit**	**ECTS**
Mediterranean Culture and Transformation	INAD 337	2	**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. Aliye MENTEŞ YARDIMCI	E-mail: aliye.yardimci@arucad.edu.tr Office: TI OFF20
Course Objectives	This course examines continuity and change in architectural and cultural traditions within the Mediterranean context. It focuses on the defining characteristics of Mediterranean settlements and the transformation of traditional environments under shifting socio-cultural, economic, and environmental conditions. Through theoretical frameworks and selected local and international case studies—including works of Mediterranean artists and architects—students analyze and critically evaluate heritage, tourism, and regeneration processes shaping historic environments.	
Course Learning Outcomes	**Course Learning Outcomes (Students will be able to)**	**Teaching Methods** / **Evaluation Methods**
	1.**Explain and interpret** the relationship between culture and spatial transformation in traditional settlements. (Bloom Level: **Understand**)	Classroom discussion / Midterm Exam
	2.**Define and discuss** key concepts—such as tradition, continuity, change, community, and heritage—within the Mediterranean context. (Bloom Level: **Understand**)	Lectures, discussion, documentaries / Midterm Exam
	3.**Analyze** and articulate the interconnections between heritage, tourism, and regeneration processes and	Analysis tasks in class, discussion, documentaries / Presentation, Midterm and Final Exams

	their influence on the transformation of Mediterranean settlements.		
	4.**Evaluate** selected works of Mediterranean artists and architects through local and international case studies, assessing how their projects interpret, preserve, or transform architectural traditions within changing socio-cultural and economic contexts.	Lecture, evaluation tasks in class, group discussion, class drawings	Presentation, Midterm and Final Exams
	5.**Critically assess** heritage transformation projects in Mediterranean settlements by comparing conservation, tourism, and regeneration approaches, and formulating well-reasoned arguments regarding their cultural, spatial, and community impacts. (Bloom Level: **Evaluate / Create – advanced critical judgment**)	Critical Discussions after watching Documentaries	Midterm and Final Exams
Course Content	This course explores the concepts of continuity and change in architectural and cultural traditions within the Mediterranean context. It examines the defining characteristics of Mediterranean settlements and investigates how traditional environments transform under evolving socio-cultural, economic, and environmental conditions. Through theoretical discussions and local and international case studies, the course analyzes the interrelationships between culture, heritage, tourism, regeneration, and community dynamics. Particular emphasis is placed on understanding cause-and-effect relationships shaping historic environments from past to present. Students will evaluate selected works of Mediterranean artists and architects to understand how architectural traditions are interpreted, preserved, or redefined in contemporary practice. By critically assessing transformation processes in traditional settlements, students develop an informed perspective on heritage conservation and sustainable regeneration within the Mediterranean region. The outcome of this work will be the demonstration of: • active participation in class lectures and discussions • completing given tasks in class and as assignments as well as undertaking the exams.		

COURSE OUTLINE/SCHEDULE

Week	Topic	Implementation (theory/ practice)	Required Reading, Preliminary preparation
1	Introduction to the Course's Key Topics.	T-P	No need for preliminary preparation.
2	**The Mediterranean:** Definition and Context.	T-P	No need for preliminary preparation.
3	Mediterranean Countries, Islands, Villages, Coastal Towns, and Main Distinctions.	T-P	No need for preliminary preparation.
4	**Traditions and Characteristics in the Mediterranean:** Physical characteristics — morphology and layout, siting and topography. Class drawing exercises.	T-P	Preliminary preparation required.
5	**Rural Traditions and Cultural Landscapes.** • Agricultural systems and terraced landscapes • Village life, communal spaces, and rituals • Intangible heritage in rural contexts **Socio-Cultural Structures and Everyday Life.** • Family structures and neighborhood relations • Gendered spaces and domestic architecture • Religion and public life Community memory and identity	T-P	No need for preliminary preparation.
6	**Traditions in the Mediterranean:** Architecture. Class drawing exercises.	T-P	Preliminary preparation required.
7	**Continuity and Change in Mediterranean Traditions.** • Modernization and industrialization • Migration and urbanization • Political transitions and their spatial impact • Theoretical frameworks on cultural continuity **Midterm.**	T-P	No need for preliminary preparation.
8	**Heritage, Conservation, and Authenticity:** Transformation projects in	T-P	Preliminary preparation required.

	North Cyprus — Kyrenia Harbour and villages with rehabilitation projects.		
9	**Tourism and the Transformation of Historic Environments.** Regeneration and Adaptive Reuse in Mediterranean Contexts.	T-P	Preliminary preparation required.
10	**Case Studies I: Southern Europe (Part 1).** • Barcelona — urban regeneration and heritage tourism Matera — transformation from marginal settlement to cultural capital	T-P	Preliminary preparation required.
11	**Case Studies I: Southern Europe (Part 2).** Dubrovnik — tourism pressure and heritage management	T-P	Preliminary preparation required.
12	**Case Studies II: Eastern Mediterranean.** • Limassol and Girne — heritage, tourism, and coastal identity • Antakya — memory, multicultural layers, and reconstruction Byblos — continuity of ancient urban fabric	T-P	Preliminary preparation required.
13	**Mediterranean Architects and Contemporary Interpretations.** • Le Corbusier — modernism • Antoni Gaudí — Spanish modernism • Hassan Fathy — vernacular revival • Álvaro Siza — contextual modernism • Renzo Piano — technology and tradition Interpreting regional identity in global practice.	T-P	Preliminary preparation required.
14	**Mediterranean Artists and Cultural Narratives.** • Joan Miró — modernism • Yannis Kounellis — memory and materiality • Etel Adnan — landscape and belonging Representation of Mediterranean identity in visual arts.	T-P	Preliminary preparation required.

15	**Methods of Critical Analysis.** • Reading urban morphology • Cause-and-effect analysis in transformation processes • Mapping socio-economic change **Synthesis: Heritage, Sustainability, and Future Scenarios.** Community-based regeneration	T-P	No need for preliminary preparation.
16	**Methods of Critical Analysis:** Review Session for Final Projects.	T-P	No need for preliminary preparation.
17	**Final Exam**		

Required Course Material(s) / Reading(s)/ Text Book(s)	Concannon, C., & Mazurek, L. A. (2016). *Across the corrupting sea: Post-Braudelian approaches to the ancient Eastern Mediterranean*. Routledge. **ARUCAD Catalogue:** RC SUM DE 8.A35 2016 Le Corbusier. (1960). *My work*. Architectural Press. **ARUCAD Catalogue:** NA1053.JA Sweeney, J. J., & Sert, J. L. (1970). *Antoni Gaudí*. Architectural Press. **ARUCAD Catalogue:** NA1313.G3 S9 1970
Recommended Course Material(s)/ Reading(s) /Other	Orbasli, A., & Vellinga, M. (2020). *Architectural regeneration*. Wiley-Blackwell. **ISBN:** 9781119340331 Orbasli, A. (2008). *Architectural conservation: Principles and practice*. Blackwell Science. **ARUCAD Library Catalogue no.:** NA105.O73 2008

ASSESSMENT		
Learning Activities	**NUMBER**	**WEIGHT in %**
Mid-Term Submission	1	40
Quiz	0	
Assignment	0	
Project	0	
Field Study	0	
Presentation / Seminar	0	
Studio Practice	0	
Other	0	
Contribution of Final Examination/**Final Project/** Dissertation to the Final Grade	1	60
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			X		

	knowledge, in the production of human-centered interior environments.					
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)	16	1	3	48
Preliminary Preparation and self- study	4	1	6	24
Midterm Examination	1	1	2	2
Midterm Examination self preparation	1	1	15	15
Assignment				
Project				
Field Study				
Presentation / Seminar				
Studio Practice				
Final Project self preparation	1	1	25	25
Final Examination/ Final Project/ Dissertation	1	1	2	2
Other				
TOTAL WORKLOAD				116
TOTAL WORKLOAD / 25				4.64
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	
	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	
	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%. **Midterm 40%** **Final 60%**	
PREPARED BY	Asst. Prof. Dr. Aliye MENTEŞ YARDIMCI
UPDATED	February 2026
APPROVED	