

English Course offering
Architecture / Urban Planning / Landscape Planning

Winter Semester 2026/27

!Course offerings are still Subject to change!

How to sign up to courses

Course offerings are still subject to change and will expand until the start of the semester.

Some lecturers will also make accommodations for international students in their German projects/seminars. It is always worth to ask them directly about the possibility of attendance if their courses are not in this catalog.

Signing Up to courses via ecampus:

Registration on ecampus is necessary in order to receive the credits from that course. The registration period for ecampus is in the first month of the semester. If a course has a limited number of available spots, the decision who will be able to take part in that course will be made by the lecturer. Registering a course in ecampus does not automatically mean that you will be able to take part in that class.

The registration on ecampus has to be repeated from Mo 08.03.2027 - Di. 06.04.2027, in order to register to the final examination, regardless of whether there actually is an examination for that course or not.

Signing up to courses via moodle:

Moodle is the main platform for communication between lecturers and students. Lecturers will upload any learning material, homework, as well as any updates to time and place of the course here.

Signing up to the moodle course prior to attending the first meeting of said course is advisable as any preparations and last minute changes to the course will be posted here.

The courses usually begin in the first or second week of the semester.

Signing up to a studio/project:

If you wish to take a Studio/Project class in the coming semester please contact the Student Assistant for Internationalisation (uk096790@student.uni-kassel.de) before 20:00 on Tuesday 13.10.2027. If you are unsure about which projects you want to choose, you can attend the „Projektplenum“ on 13.10.2027 at 14:00.

In your project request sent to the student assistant (uk096790@student.uni-kassel.de) please include the following information:

Full Name

Matrikel Nr. / Matriculation Nr.

Your Field of Study (Architecture/Urban Planning/Landscape Architecture)

Bachelor or Master student

Up to three projects/studios in order of preference

If you have any comments/special requests regarding your choice of project, you can also write those. For example: If the specialization of your course of study lines up with the project, or you have contacted the lecturer and made accommodations, that will give you a better chance of getting accepted into your choice of project.

Most studios/projects are presented in German, lecturers are usually able to make accommodations to English speaking students though. Please make sure to ask them if they would be able to make those accommodations before choosing a German language project/studio.

Please be aware that any requests sent after Tuesday 13.10.2027 20:00 cannot be fulfilled.

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How to read the catalog:

Example Course

Course
name

Prof. Example

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Course
description

Research
chair where
the course is
offered

Chair

Seminar/Project/Lecture
Link to ecampus

Bachelor Master

A S L

3/6/12 Credits

A=Architecture
S=Urban Planning
L=Landscape
Architecture

For example:
This course would
be open to master
students from
Architecture and
urban planning

Architectural History after Globalization

Department of history and theory of
Architecture

Prof. Dr. Alla Vronskaya

For several decades, authors of architectural history publications and teachers of lecture courses (such as “The History of the Built Environment,” taught at the University of Kassel) have increasingly emphasized global connections, mobility, and the circulation of people, ideas, materials, and expertise. Yet current geopolitical developments—renewed nationalisms, armed conflict, climate inequality, and breaking economic networks—question the validity of these narratives. In this seminar, we will reflect about the ways of addressing the global dimension of architectural history today. To do so, we will examine global architectural history as a historically situated method in its intellectual context, including such related approaches as world history, comparative history, and global history, as well as its more recent alternatives: crossed history, connected history, planetary history, among other. Topics will include world histories of architecture, nationalist historiographies, comparative methodology, critiques of Eurocentrism, colonial and postcolonial perspectives, environmental history, and emerging approaches that address an increasingly fragmented yet still interconnected world.

By the end of the seminar, students will be able to:

- identify major historiographical approaches to architectural history;
- distinguish between national, comparative, global, connected, and planetary perspectives;
- critically evaluate the assumptions and limitations of different historical methods;
- discuss the role of architecture within broader political, cultural, and environmental processes;
- develop and communicate independent historical arguments based on close reading and seminar discussion.

The seminar strengthens students’ analytical reading, academic discussion, and critical writing skills. This seminar is intended for advanced Bachelor’s and Master’s students in Architecture, City Planning, and Landscape Planning. It is particularly suited to students interested in architectural history and theory, as well as those seeking to place contemporary design questions in a broader historical and global context. The seminar is relevant to all three ASL disciplines by examining how buildings, cities, landscapes, and design knowledge have been shaped by processes that extend beyond national boundaries, including migration, colonialism, environmental change, and the circulation of ideas and technologies.

All literature will be provided on Moodle in the course of the seminar.
Active participation is mandatory.

Seminar

[Link to ecampus](#)

Bachelor Master

A S L

6 Credits

Arenas of Urban Future-Making: Heritage, Green Spaces, and the Transformation of Urban Neighbourhoods

Department of Urban and Regional Sociology

Dr. Iuliia Eremenko

Seminar

[Link to ecampus](#)

How do heritage protection and the creation of new green spaces transform urban neighbourhoods? Who benefits from the preservation of historic buildings, the redevelopment of public spaces, and the establishment of new parks? How do such projects affect housing, and access to urban space?

Bachelor Master

The seminar examines the preservation of urban heritage and the creation of green spaces as contested processes of neighbourhood change. Particular attention will therefore be paid to the relationship between the built environment, housing, lifestyles, and social inequalities at the neighbourhood level.

A S L

Drawing on Jasper and Duyvendak's Players and Arenas approach, students examine how diverse players pursue their goals within and across planning departments, public hearings, courts, and digital platforms. Urban outcomes are never predetermined. Students explore how players build alliances, mobilize resources, respond to opponents, move between arenas, and reshape the rules of participation.

6 Credits

Through interactive individual and group assignments, students analyse urban development cases from cities around the world. They apply theoretical concepts to concrete case material in order to interpret urban conflicts.

Jasper, J. M., & Duyvendak, J. W. (Eds.). (2015). Players and arenas: The interactive dynamics of protest. Amsterdam University Press.

Experimenting in Rotterdam: Open Spaces as Catalysts for Urban Transformation

Department of Open Space Planning

Dr. Beatriz Kauark Fontes

Prof. Dr. Rieke Hansen

Amid the multiple challenges the world is currently facing, there is an urgent need not only to rethink how we design sustainable urban spaces but also to reconsider what we mean by development, how we plan and implement it, and the systems within which we operate. With climate change, biodiversity loss, and scarce resources, we can no longer afford to continue “business as usual.” Instead, we must transform the ways we do, organize, and think—toward a more sustainable urban future. Planning and design have always played a crucial role in shaping our lives, and urban open spaces are active agents in shaping urban futures. But what exactly is urban transformation? What does it entail, and how can we work towards it?

In this seminar, we will explore this topic from the perspective of public open spaces, examining the differences between transformation theories, how to foster innovation and experimentation in urban open spaces, and how these spaces can serve as catalysts for new urban futures. We will analyze the topic from both an environmental-technological and a societal perspective, exploring new technologies and approaches to planning and design with nature, as well as innovative methods for designing with communities.

The seminar will consist of:

- 1.A conceptual overview of transformation theories
- 2.A discussion of urban experimentation and innovation in the context of local practices for open public spaces
- 3.An Excursion to Rotterdam, Netherlands for the exploration of innovative practices for the sustainable transformation of urban public spaces.
- 4.Reflection on findings and envisioned futures

This block seminar will include fixed meetings in October and November, followed by a 3-day trip during the Excursion Week to Rotterdam. The visit will include the 12th International Architecture Biennale Rotterdam, green and blue infrastructure tours, and other sites in the city that will serve as case studies for our exploration.

The seminar will be conducted primarily in English, welcoming both international and German students.

Seminar/Excursion

[Link to ecampus](#)

Bachelor Master

A S L

3 Credits

Shakir Ahmed

With global climate change in focus and increasing urban population trends, it is vital to reduce the intensity of urban heat island and adapt to the changing climate in cities. Urban green infrastructure (UGI) is a well-known and promising solution that can provide numerous adaptive measures to design and develop climate-resilient cities.

This course will investigate the relationship of urban green infrastructures and the various urban climate aspects like temperature, radiation, wind, precipitation, humidity etc. that can serve for cooling cities and also contribute in coping with other challenges in cities such as air pollution or water management. It will also provide a practical approach for the students to understand the relations and impacts of green areas on various urban climate factors.

Topics of the seminar include:

- green cooling mechanisms from micro to mesoscale,
- different types of green infrastructure such as parks, city trees, roof and façade greening,
- combinations with blue infrastructure under the focus of sponge cities,
- recommendations for optimizing green spaces in landscape architecture and planning
- techniques to monitor the effectiveness of green infrastructure as well as
- limits and trade-offs of green infrastructure for cooling cities
- practical exercise with GIS and ENVI met applications

After participating in this course, the students will be able to explain the mechanisms of local cooling and influencing factors, will be able to describe the effectivity of different urban green infrastructure types in order to reduce the urban heat island. Moreover, they will be able to critically assess the effectivity of urban green space solutions and understand microclimate factors through practical approach.

In this seminar, each lecture will provide a brief overview of a key aspect related to green cities with presentations, group activities and discussions of current research studies. The practical exercise will enable students to relate green spaces and the influencing factors of urban climate. The semester course completion will be based on a 20 minutes short presentations (50%) and the a final report/assignment (3500-5000 words) (50%) about a specific key aspect of green infrastructure.

Seminar

[Link to ecampus](#)

Bachelor Master

A S L

6 Credits

Writing Architectural History in the Age of AI

History and Theory of Architecture

Dr. Sarah Wheat Ordu
Lea Stöter

Seminar
[Link to ecampus](#)

Generative AI is transforming research practices across academic disciplines. Using architectural history as a case study, this seminar examines how AI is reshaping knowledge production, authorship, and academic writing. Rather than focusing on technical skills, the course encourages students to critically reflect on the role of AI in scholarly research and the changing relationship between human and machine knowledge.

Bachelor Master

A S L

The seminar brings together perspectives from the humanities and critical technology studies. Topics include historical research methods, archival research, writing as a mode of thinking, authorship, bias, environmental impacts, and the ethical implications of generative AI. Guest workshops and an archive excursion complement the seminar.

6 Credits

Throughout the semester, students develop their own architectural history research project while documenting and reflecting on their use of AI in a research journal. The course concludes with an autoethnographic essay examining how AI shaped their research and writing process. By integrating architectural history with Computing and Society, the seminar equips students with skills in historical research, academic writing, critical AI literacy, and reflective knowledge production.

Fokusseminar Water and space: Invisible Waters: Hidden Social and Spatial Practices of Everyday Life

Department of Design and Building Theory

Prof. Marie-Therese Harnoncourt-Fuchs
M.Sc. Büsra Balaban Öztürk

Seminar every WED 10:00 AM – 1:30 PM

START: 1st Meeting and studio room (to be announced via Moodle)

Course Language DE+EN

Course Deliverables: Intermediate presentations and a final summary.
The required deliverables, as well as the independent work required according to the module handbook, will be tailored to your academic progress (BA or MA).

We look forward to an exciting collaboration with you!!

Marie-Therese Harnoncourt-Fuchs, Büsra Balaban Öztürk

If you have questions contact Büsra Balaban Öztürk _ busra.balaban@asl.uni-kassel.de

Seminar
[Link to ecampus](#)

Bachelor Master

A S L

6 Credits

Seminar Narrativ V/SEM +DR Researchseminar

Department of Design and Building Theory

Sarah Blahut

Seminar
[Link to ecampus](#)

Compact seminar in three parts + interim supervision

In the „Narrative“ seminar, new formats for communicating project content with MR Technology are taught and tested 1:1. The participating students acquire knowledge of representation- and animation techniques, which they then apply directly to their own projects. Further information to be announced via Moodle

START: First meeting mid-November _ date and room to be announced via Moodle

Course Language EN+DE

Course Deliverables: Intermediate presentations and Animation
The required deliverables will be tailored according to the chosen Modul (BA or MA).

I am look forward to an exciting collaboration with you!!

Sarah Blahut

If you have any questions, please contact me: sarahblahut@gmail.com / blahut@asl.uni-kassel.de

Bachelor Master

A S L

3 Credits

Health, Law, and the Built Environment: Perspectives from Architectural History

Dr. Megan Eardley

How does law shape the built environment when buildings, landscapes, and urban infrastructures become sites of exposure or disease vectors? This seminar examines the intertwined histories of architecture, landscape architecture, urban planning, and environmental law through the movements of toxic substances, infection and contamination. Students will investigate how courts, legislatures, regulatory agencies, property owners, designers, and communities have defined—and contested—responsibility for hazardous environments. The course takes legal cases as historical records that reveal changing ideas about risk, evidence, and the responsibilities of design professionals. Topics range from contaminated housing and occupational exposure, to the siting of toxic industries and infrastructures, air and water pollution, as well as remediation efforts. Particular attention will be given to legal decisions that have transformed architectural practice, land use, environmental remediation, building regulation, and the spatial organization of cities.

By the end of the seminar, students will be able to:

- Describe new critical approaches to architectural and landscape history;
- Read across legal history, environmental history, urban studies, and science and technology studies.
- Discuss judicial opinions alongside plans, maps, environmental assessments, building codes, photographs, planning documents, and other forms of spatial evidence.
- Analyze how concepts such as nuisance, negligence, liability, zoning, regulatory authority, and environmental remediation become materialized—and how the built environment, in turn, becomes evidence in legal disputes.

The seminar strengthens students' analytical reading, academic discussion, and critical writing skills. It is intended for advanced Bachelor's and Master's students in Architecture, City Planning, and Landscape Planning interested in understanding how toxic exposure is addressed across scales, from the material detail of a building to the regional landscape and the metropolitan plan. Throughout, the course asks a broader question: what happens to architectural and urban history when exposure, liability, and law become central to the story of the built environment?

All literature will be provided on Moodle in the course of the seminar.

Active participation is mandatory.

History and Theory of Architecture

Seminar

[Link to ecampus tbp](#)

Bachelor Master

A S L

6 Credits

V/PRO + DR Profilprojekt - Wasser und Raum - Communal Washing Factory

Department of Design and Building Theory

Prof. Marie-Therese Harnoncourt-Fuchs
M.Sc. Büsra Balaban Öztürk

The Washing Factory is conceived as a hybrid of laundry facility, textile repair workshop, material archive, reuse laboratory, educational facility, and public urban space. Used textiles are collected, washed, repaired, filtered, repurposed, exhibited, and transformed into new materials or products. Water itself becomes part of this process, allowing its movement, consumption, treatment, and reuse to become legible within the architecture.

Spatial Program ~2500–3000 m²

The studio will be based in Kassel, focusing on a site in Wehlheiden at the intersection of Wittrockstraße and Kirchweg. Currently used as a parking lot, the site sits within a residential neighbourhood while remaining well connected to major urban mobility routes such as Wilhelmshöher Allee. Its combination of everyday neighbourhood life and urban accessibility makes it a suitable location for the Washing Factory.

Schedule:

1. WarmUP and Research

Typological, thematic, and theoretical research

2. Situate and Program

Site research, and understandings, exploring and situating

3. Conceptualize and Design

Initial architectural concepts and design scenarios, exploring form and space

4. Elaboration & Narrative

Exploring atmosphere, aesthetics, materials, and details within 2D/3D representation concept

We are pushing for work by all available means!

Studio Day every TUE from 2:00 PM in the studio room

START: 1st Meeting THU 15.10. at 4:00 PM _ Room will be announced via Moodle

Course Language DE+EN

Course Deliverables: Intermediate presentations and a final reader

The required deliverables will be tailored according to your academic progress (BA or MA).

We look forward to an exciting collaboration with you!!

Project

[Link to ecampus](#)

Bachelor Master

A S L

3/6/12 Credits

LEER: REALLABOR 1:1

Building Economy & Project Development

Prof. Dr. Gabu Heindl
M. A. Helena Rafalsky
M.A. Alexander Rakow

Activation of Vacancy to Activate Vacancy – 1:1 Laboratory

The student-run Vacancy Activation Agency is setting up shop in a vacant building in Kassel, creating a hands-on learning and experimentation space as well as an open address for the transformation of other vacant buildings. In the process, the agency identifies potential for repurposing, develops strategies, and connects relevant stakeholders from public administration, civil society, and property owners. Various usage scenarios—such as a youth center, club, exhibition space, social gathering place, or counseling center—are tested on-site; discussions about revitalizing vacant properties take place in collaboration with the local community.

With the planned 1:1 laboratory, we will not only create a space for learning and experimentation for educational purposes, but—above all—generate value-added benefits for the urban community that serve the common good. The concept of an initial use is central to this approach: already during the project period, potential long-term public uses are to be considered, tested, and jointly developed. We explicitly view the project as a collaborative interface between the university, city administration, urban community, and other local stakeholders.

Vertical-Studio:

Voraussetzung der Teilnahme: Studierende müssen für die VL Umbauwirtschaft absolviert haben

The Project is also connected to the ACE Research Studio of WS 2026-27.

It is recommended to enrol in both (project & research studio) together.

When?

Thursdays, 14:00-18:30, first meeting: 15. October 2026 14:00h

Dates:

Mid-Term: Thursday, 17. December 2026

Final Review: Monday, 08. February 2026

Presentation at Rundgang 09.-11. February 2026

Project

[Link to ecampus](#)

Bachelor Master

A S L

12 Credits

ACUS: Adaptive Climate-Responsive Urban Structures for resilient, inclusive and sustainable public spaces in Syria

Prof. Dr.-Ing. Julian Lienhard

No description so far

Department of Structural Design

Project

[Link to ecampus](#)

Bachelor **Master**

A S L

12 Credits