

Designing Urban Open Fabric of the New Era

Course Outline 2025

Course Date	20 July – 02 August, 2025
Class Hours	45 contact hours plus 1,5 hours digital lecture (Zoom) before coming to Frankfurt. Total 46,5 hours
Lecturer(s)	<p>Ulla Schuch</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Main lecturer for Open Space Design in Urban Context. Substitute professor in the international master's program Urban Agglomerations, responsible for Urban Open Spaces at Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences. Project management for green social education projects in Colombia in collaboration with the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development. CEO of the holistic learning platforms Deutsche Gartenakademie (German) and Empowerment bamboo (English).
Course Description	<p>This course teaches a tried-and-tested design method to making urban landscape future-proof and suitable for the common good. The design method can be used worldwide – regardless of climate zone, scale, culture and use.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Universal, holistic, agile design method • Guided design process from idea to draft • Basic intercultural mindset • Review of drafts with the SDGs
Learning Outcomes and Task	<p>The course aims to empower students to understand and apply the universal, holistic and agile design method of Ulla Schuch for urban open spaces.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing a conscious understanding of one's own needs, culture and desires vs. those of others • Using checklists, system thinking, participation and existing recipes for designing complexity • Having a clear understanding of the benefits, features, archetypes, toolbox, rules of open space and the green-blue-grey urban pattern • Having a first understanding of SDGs and humans in the context of urban landscapes and outdoor life • Being aware of uniqueness of climate zones, culture and use at any location • Being aware of 3. and 4. Dimension of Space Design • Understanding of natural vegetation and using the example of bamboo as a quickly renewable building material, CO2 storage, living cistern and cooling factor • Initial experiences in intercultural and interdisciplinary collaboration
Course Method	<p>This course is designed as a mix of different interactive teaching methods.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Imparting specialist knowledge

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application of what you have learned in 2 locations • Work with Buddy • Work with Peers • Case studies • Experimental exercises • Group discussion • Impulse presentations • Structured group activities in the plenary session • Exhibition objects to secure results
Course Materials	All course materials are included in the participation fee and will be provided to students in Frankfurt. (Sketch paper, pens, scissors, superglue, printing out posters)
Credits	Students will earn a total of 6 ECTS points for the successful completion of the course.
Assessment	Presentation and exhibition object
Grading	Students will be graded through participation and final assessment.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Assessment and Credits

Upon successful completion of the summer course, students will be awarded 6 ECTS points. A single ECTS point is defined as the equivalent of 25-30 hours of student workload, which includes pre-lecture via Zoom, homework, class hours, readings, preparation for class activities, as well as an assessment measure. Learning will be assessed at the end of the summer course. Lecturers will inform students about the assessment measures at the beginning of the summer course. Students will receive a Transcript of Records showing their grades earned in the course. This document can be presented to their home institution for credit.

Grading

Grades will be awarded based on the German grading system:

German	Sehr gut 1,0-1,5	Gut 1,6-2,5	Befriedigend 2,6-3,5	Ausreichend 3,6-4,0	TN Teilnahmeschein	LN Leistungs- nachweis	Nicht bestanden 5,0/ 6,0	
	very good	good	satisfactory	pass	Non exam paper	Exam/paper	not passed	
Americas	A 1,0-2,3		B 2,4-3,0	C 3,1-3,5	D 3,6-4,0	participated	passed	failed
European	A 1,0-1,5	B 1,6-2,0	C 2,1-3,0	D 3,1-3,5	E 3,6-4,0		FX/F 4,1-5,0	

Email and campUAS Online Learning Platform

Students are encouraged to use campUAS, our E-Learning Platform. Using campUAS enables students to access course materials and stay informed about extracurricular activities. We also expect students to check their emails on a regular basis.

Class Participation

Class participation is considered a requirement for successfully completing the program. Student questions, answers, comments, and insights over the course will not only benefit the whole class, but it will also ensure that students have a better understanding of the class material and contribute to their overall academic success.

Attendance

Students should attend each class. Students also need to inform their lecturer if they need to miss class. This can be done in person or via email.

Academic Honesty

Students caught cheating or plagiarizing will fail, at our discretion, either the assignment in question or the entire program.