Department 3: Architecture, Process and Project development

The School’s nine department designations all begin with ‘Architecture…’, because this is what it is all about. This also applies to Study Department 3’s designation, which continues ‘Process and Project Development’.

In this connection, Process is about the ways in which you can gain an overview of different courses and utilise different methodologies and tools to ensure progress.

And Project Development is about the fact that an architect’s work is never an isolated phenomenon – it always reflects and affects the many issues that mark the present age.

So, naturally, it is about architecture. However, it only gets really interesting, when you are able to act professionally. And it only gets really significant when you are capable of locking horns with the rest of the world.
1:1 Model // Michala Kjestrup, Victor Thystrup, Joakim Kern Malmgren, Clara Kynne-Schmidt, Rasmus Thomas Larsen, Torben Møller Kjelstrup
Study Structure

The Master’s programme consists of four semesters, which combine to meet the Study Department’s objective of graduates being able to function professionally in multi-faceted interplay with the world that surrounds the architectural profession.

The first two semesters introduce two different networks, which together influence the architect’s possibilities of acting and creating top quality architecture. One of these is the city’s complex network, and the other is production networks based on the actual materiality.

The third semester follows up on the core concepts of Process and Project Development – as an introduction to the graduation project.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1st</th>
<th>The City and Its Complex Programmes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>The Architecture of Material</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Material of Architecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>Process and Project Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th</td>
<td>Diploma project</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MASTERS' PROGRAMME
The City and Its Complex Programmes

Assignments throughout the 1st semester take place in Copenhagen and thereby also serve as a general introduction to the capital of Denmark – as seen from an architectural and a planning point of view.

Based on these general introductions, the assignment course takes its starting point in more specific studies of the city. The overall intention is that students develop architectural statements that relate both to the urban contexts and to a selection of social and functional programmes.

A number of courses are linked to the assignment course, expanding on the relevant knowledge content. These courses are prepared by Study Department 3 and the School’s institutes, and they include seminars, workshops and small, project-related assignments.
1st SEMESTER
The Material’s Architecture – Architecture’s Material

This 2nd semester constitutes the opposite to the 1st semester, as students work with product development based on studies of materials.

The intention is to produce architecture in dialogue with detail, component and production as an introduction to quite different players and mindsets than those encountered in the 1st semester assignment.

A number of courses linked to the assignment course, expanding on the relevant knowledge content. These courses are prepared by Study Department 3 and the School’s institutes, and they include seminars, workshops and small, project-related assignments.
Process and Project Development

During this semester, the individual student works with a theme or a project of their own choice. If a specific theme is chosen, this may serve as a basis for planning of the graduation project – and if a specific project is chosen, the actual course may serve as a process model for completion of the graduation project.

Throughout the semester, students work in ways that reflect both analytical and more experimental approaches, and they have the opportunity to work with special communication forms.

A number of courses are linked to the assignment course, expanding on the relevant knowledge content. These courses are prepared by Study Department 3 and the School’s institutes, and they include seminars, workshops and small, project-related assignments.

The semester concludes with the preparation and approval of a programme for the graduation project in the 4th semester.
Graduation Project

A Department teacher is assigned to each graduation project as a continual supervisor for the student. Special consultants with specialist knowledge may also be requested, and joint reviews are held throughout the semester with the participation of several teachers from the Department.
When the System meets the Place - Two Metro Stations in the Future of Copenhagen / Frida Vang
Study Department 3 organises two study trips per year – a short trip during the autumn semester and a longer one during the spring semester. In 2012/13, the short trip goes to Venice, where the architectural biennale is held this year. The target of the longer study trip has not yet been determined.

The map below shows former study trip destinations.
If you want to experience the most important trends in architecture right now, we recommend the world’s largest exhibition of Architecture in Venice as the best place to start. Curator of Biennale Architettura 2012 is the British architect David Chipperfield, who organizes an international exhibition with the theme: “Common Ground”. Additionally many countries are participating with their own exhibitions – including Denmark, in the competition of winning the prestigious Golden Lion.

See: www.labiennale.org/en/architecture

Piazza del Marco, Palazzo Ducale, Querini Stampalia, - Venice is packed with stunning architecture, but the most interesting is the city itself – built in water and with no cars at all.

Six of the Departments teachers are participating, - including Jan Christiansen and Troels Rugbjerg who arranges the trip.

The short study trip is intense and provides many new impressions in relatively short time. The study trip is also the best opportunity to get to know all your new fellow students that you are going to work with through the rest of the year.
Students in ‘Cloudscape’ by Transsolar og Tetsuo Kondo Architects during our visit at the Architecture Biennale 2010
The trip is Friday September 28, Saturday 29 and Sunday 30, 2012. Travel and accommodation is arranged by the students themselves. Venice has a Youth Hostel where there is a possibility of accommodation: www.hostelvenice.org

Please write if you are coming before September 15 to the secretary of the Department: Ulla Agger: ulla.agger@kadk.dk. It is possible to get a discount on the entrance to the Biennale from 20 to 10 Euro – do not forget your student ID!

Provisional Schedule
Thursday Sep. 27: Travel to Venice. For example on a flight – SAS has a direct route.
Friday Sep. 28: Tour of selected parts of the Architecture Biennale with Jan Christiansen – Associate Professor at the department and former City Architect of Copenhagen.
Saturday Sep. 29: Guided tour to selected architecture in Venice.
Sunday Sep. 30: On your own, either for remaining parts of the Biennale or to Verona visiting the masterpiece of C. Scarpa: Castelvecchio.
Monday Oct. 1: Return to Copenhagen.
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