COURSE DETAIL

PLACES AND NONPLACES: THE HYPERMODERNISM OF BERLIN

Country

Germany

Host Institution Free University of Berlin

Program(s) Free University Berlin

UCEAP Course Level Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s) Urban Studies German Architecture

UCEAP Course Number 117

UCEAP Course Suffix

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UCEAP Official Title PLACES AND NONPLACES: THE HYPERMODERNISM OF BERLIN

UCEAP Transcript Title HYPRMODRNISM BERLIN

UCEAP Quarter Units 4.50

UCEAP Semester Units

Course Description

Towards the end of postmodernism, and at the dawn of the "internet age," thinkers such as Michel de Certeau and Marc Augé developed a conceptual model to describe the rather vague feeling of arbitrariness and interchangeability of space they experienced in modern cities, the idea that the few remaining identifiable "places" in our contemporary urban environments were mere remnants of earlier, culturally inscribed sites, remanufactured for commercial (touristic) purposes. The vast remaining areas of the city were "non-places" and urban "filaments" that did not provide a sense of belonging. This freed city dwellers to (artistically or otherwise) misappropriate or re-inscribe objects of the urban fabric. In the early 1990s, the term hypermodernism (or supermodernism) was introduced to provide a framework for these observations in fields ranging from philosophy to anthropology and architecture. We will consider this concept and its more recent iterations with respect to new and planned buildings in Berlin (by international firms such as OMA and Herzog & de Meuron), to places of infrastructure (train stations, airports), shopping centers, so-called POPS (privately owned public spaces) and urban wilderness areas. Course participants will be encouraged to explore the city on their own and "respond" to particular sites through visuals, audio recordings, (creative) texts and other forms of artistic expression

Language(s) of Instruction

German

Host Institution Course Number 16917

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Host Institution Campus

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department Deutsche Philologie

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