UNIVERSIDADE LUSÍADA
LISBOA

Course Unit Program
Theory of Architecture

Academic Year 2026/2027

1. Organic Unit

Faculty of Architecture and Arts

2. Course

Architecture

3. Cycle

1st

4. Course Unit

Theory of Architecture (01329)

5. Scientific Area

6. Curricular Year

3rd

7. Type of Curricular Unit / Semester

2nd Semester

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8. Class type and workload (work time)

Theoretical classes:	30,00
Practical classes:	
Theoretical-Practical Classes	
Tutorial Guidance:	

9. ECTS Credits

2,00

10. Scientific Area Coordinator

Prof. Doutor HORÁCIO MANUEL PEREIRA BONIFÁCIO

11. Regent

Prof. Doutor Arq. JOÃO MIGUEL FERREIRA COUTO DUARTE

12. Assistants

13. Teaching Language

Portuguese

14. General Objectives

It is intended to give the student the most complete view possible of the panorama of architectural thought throughout the 20th century. In this way, reflection will be promoted around the thought and practice of architecture and the city, in order to promote a linked understanding of modernity and contemporaneity. The subjects are developed on a chronological basis, but are sheltered under major conceptual themes that allow a richer understanding of the period in question.

15. Specific Objectives

Give the student a base as complete as possible of knowledge about architectural thought in the path to contemporaneity.

Contribute to the maturation of your critical sense, duly substantiated.

Summon the inevitable understanding between Theory and Practice.

16. Skills to be acquired

Knowledge of architecture as a cultural and historical phenomenon. Knowledge of architecture as a scientific phenomenon, taking into account the sources and importance, validity and use, methods and research techniques. Contribute to the maturation of your critical sense, duly substantiated.

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17. Teaching Methodology

Theoretical classes where the structure, context and meaning of the periods, the different theories that best characterize them and the texts and works of the referred authors are explained, placing them in a critical perspective.

18. Course Unit Program

I. Introduction

The Problem of Theory of Architecture at the present time.
Theory of a general nature intrinsic to architecture, or the phenomenon of the specificity of the project in view of the architect's eclectic culture.
Dilemma between the universal explanation and the immanent aesthetic force of the concrete Architectural Object.

II. Contributions to the understanding of contemporaneity

1. Of the first criticisms of the Modern Movement. Post-war plurality and the third generation.
1.1. Louis Kahn and the search for modern identities.
1.1.1. Humanist and existential realism and the new regionalisms and the search for modern identities. The empirical space Alvar Aalto and Siza Vieira.
1.1.2. Realists, Brutalists and the continuity of expressionism Some cases: Niemeyer, Barragán, José António Cordech and Jörn Utzon.
1.2. Urban and planetary issues. Gordon Culler, Kevin Lynch, Jane Jacobs and Christopher Alexander. Utopias and alternative movements.
1.3. The postmodern condition and conceptual atmospheres.
1.4. Architecture as a communicative system.
1.4.1. Transition and doubt - the circumstances of a weak architecture.
1.4.2. Methods and Contributions to contemporary architecture. The method of art. The work of art as a new paradigm of architecture: Frank Ghery, Coop Himmeblau, Natalini.
1.5. Heterogeneity and formal renewal of contemporary architecture. Poetic singularities in contemporary discourse.

19. Assessment Methods

- Continuous assessment - Two tests with consultation and oral justification of the work carried out:
1- Iconographic analysis of an architectural object.
2- Analysis of a theoretical theme.

20. Didactic Resources

Library, Internet, powerpoint applications

21. Sustainability Objectives

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Ensure equal access to quality technical, professional and cultural education.

Guarantee equal opportunities in university education, including for people in vulnerable situations.

Ensure access for all to safe, adequate and affordable housing and basic services.

Strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world's cultural and natural heritage.

Support positive economic, social and environmental relationships between urban and rural areas

22. Keywords

Perception
Reflection
Project
Constructions

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23. Main Bibliography

Author(s): MONEO, Rafael
Title: Inquietud Teórica y Estrategia Projectual en la Obra de Ocho Arquitectos Contemporáneos.
Edition: 1ª Year: 2007
Local: Barcelona
Publisher: Actar Publishers
ISBN Code:

Author(s): NESBITT, Kate, editora.
Title: Theorizing a New Agenda for Architecture: an anthology of architectural Theory 1965-1995.
Edition: 1ª Year: 1996
Local: Nova Iorque
Publisher: Princeton Architectural Press
ISBN Code:

Author(s): Escobar, Juan Calatrava - Gómez Blanco, António, e tal
Title: Arquitectura y cultura contemporânea.
Edition: Year: 2010
Local: Madrid
Publisher: Abada Editores
ISBN Code:

24. Complementary Bibliography

Author(s): MONTANER, Josep Maria
Title: Depois do Movimento Moderno. Arquitectura da segunda metade do século XX.
Edition: 1ª Year: 2017
Local: Barcelona
Publisher: Gustavo Gili
ISBN Code:

Author(s): MONTANER, Josep Maria
Title: As Formas do Século XX
Edition: 1ª Year: 2009
Local: Barcelona

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Autor / Author	Prof. Doutor HORÁCIO MANUEL PEREIRA BONIFÁCIO
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