

COHA BITAR

POSGRADO
DE DISEÑO Y ARQUITECTURA
EN EL MARCO DE LA
COOPERACIÓN INTERNACIONAL
La Habana, Cuba 2007

ELISAVA Escola Superior de Disseny

POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMME
September – October 2007

PROGRAMME DIRECTOR
DR ANNA VINCENZA NUFRIO

In collaboration with:

ELISAVA Escola Superior
de Disseny

Centre adscrit a la



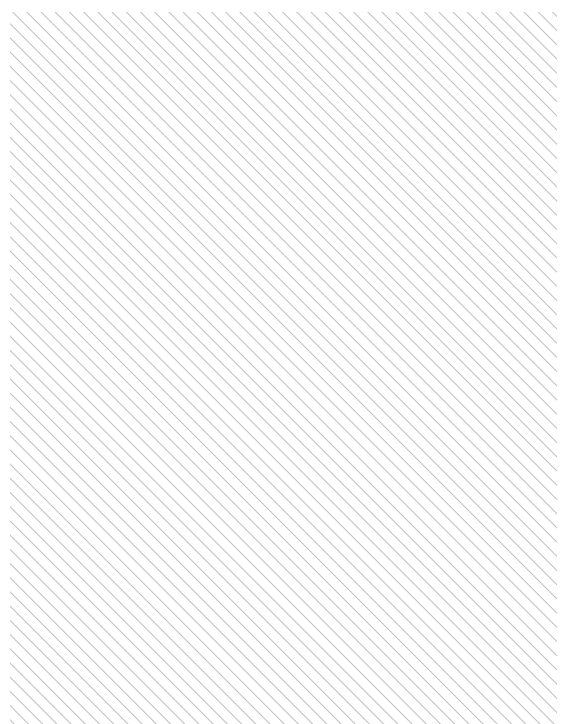
Instituto Superior Politécnico
José Antonio Echeverría
cujae



Agència Catalana
de Cooperació
al Desenvolupament



1. Overview	3
2. Introduction	4
3. Objectives	6
4. Structure	7
5. Director	11
6. Coordination	11
7. Intended Studentship	12
8. Enrolment	12
9. Registration	14
10. General information	15



1. Overview

The course **Cohabit. Design and Architecture in the context of International** Cooperation is conceived as a postgraduate programme organised by ELISAVA Escola Superior de Disseny (Barcelona, Spain), funded by the Agència Catalana de Cooperació al Desenvolupament (Generalitat de Catalunya, Spain), in collaboration with the Instituto Técnico Superior José Antonio Echeverría (Havana, Cuba) and sponsored by the Sociedad Civil Patrimonio, Comunidad y Medio Ambiente (Havana, Cuba).

The course is aimed at university graduates who have recently been awarded a degree. The course is to enable them to acquire specific training that broadens the basic education of an ordinary course of studies.

2. Introduction

In many places throughout the world there are urgent housing problems as a consequence of the large-scale movement of individuals and families, the arrival of immigrants in the cities of the first world, the reconstruction of cities completely destroyed by war or because of emergency conditions caused by natural disaster.

If the construction of emergency shelters following a disaster is analysed, it can be determined that there are very few issues in the construction field in which so much effort and money has been expended and yet in which, paradoxically, so little is known. We do not know anything about the function of local communities in rescue and reconstruction operations. We know very little about the usefulness and effects of our aid in the long term, whether tents or other types of shelter are concerned.

It is not easy to find an answer to the disillusionment that many people experience in relation to housing (elderly people, foreigners, young couples, university students), a disillusionment that is combined with a difficult situation in the housing market. In the same way, it is not easy for state intervention, the construction business, the property market and academic research to reach agreement.

Projects of “emergency housing centres” meant to meet temporary housing needs in many cases seem to be the only viable and possible solutions. These are centres of initial reception for immigrants, homes for the elderly, and single furnished rooms for workers and students.

These solutions only contribute to the disintegration of the social fabric of any city, relegating collective or private rituals such as the gathering, the encounter or the need for solitude.

The urgency of finding an answer to the housing shortage is a consequence of the present conditions in the construction business where state intervention has abandoned almost the entire sector to a property market not interested in meeting this need. At the same time, the current state of academic research in the field of Architecture has failed to provide any sort

of critical analysis concerning the real needs and values of human beings (a certain culture, an education, religious and domestic rituals), concentrating attention exclusively on aesthetic problems.

The current environment requires more involvement from universities and political institutions. It is the task of universities to define research avenues capable of designing viable solutions from a socioeconomic, cultural and technical perspective.

This approach will lead to the only possible research avenue: that which fosters relations between forms and the real needs of users. In this way, reference to comparative architecture (oriented not only towards theoretical research but also to knowledge of practices in other cultures), the appropriate technologies and research action (that privileges research born out of and structured for rapid application to real situations) will not be overlooked.

If the habitat of thousands of people is worth more than any attempt at planning, reflecting on the health conditions in cities that suffer housing problems means thinking not only about “typologies of accommodation”, but also about possible “intervention strategies”. The answer for those cities that continue to present themselves as supermarkets of consumerism - where there is only room for processes that neutralise differences -, the issue of new types of accommodation aimed at users other than the traditional family will not only mean intervention by the welfare state but, above all, an experience with new forms and new routines in the contemporary habitat. This is not about utopian or visionary projects. Only simple, concrete and indispensable proposals for meeting the visible needs of all of us.

3. Objectives

- Create a discussion forum for sharing the experiences of professionals who operate and are interested in projects in “difficult” parts of the world (humanitarian programmes, international organizations, research centres, freelance professionals).
- Guide participants towards specific professional training that broadens the basic education of an ordinary course of studies and facilitates the development of in-depth knowledge of the methods and working practices relevant to carrying out interventions in the urban sector of developing countries or the fourth world.
- Improve the quality of response in the area of housing and emergency situations.
- Look for solutions for a habitable space fit for those managing to survive abandoned on the outskirts of major cities in the first world.
- Improve knowledge of the methods and working practices for intervening in areas in which there are racial, social, economic and political conflicts; areas which are no longer exclusively found in developing countries.
- Teach the ability to recognise and identify opportunities and problems, using the tools appropriate to national and transnational development.
- Administering cooperation procedures, applying appropriate technological solutions, taking account of the specific conditions of the country which is the object of intervention.
- Improve knowledge of architecture as a discipline linked to social research.
- Make it possible for spaces to express the identities contained within them. Guarantee by means of an open project the right of every inhabitant to free himself from spatial homogenisation.

4. Course structure

The structure of the course Cohabit. Design and Architecture in the context of International Cooperation is built around a series of lectures, seminars and workshops organised into the following modules:

Theoretical module

This is divided into lectures, given by specialists as specific reflections within the activities of the programme, and seminars based on the extended participation of a specialist on a specific subject of study.

Practical module

This is divided into 3 workshops and professional practicals. Each workshop will be led by an expert in the subject under study. The workshops will be used to look for answers and solutions to issues arising from projects proposed in the theoretical discussions (lectures and seminars). The professional practicals will take place in conjunction with the *Oficina del Historiador de la Ciudad de La Habana* and the *Taller Integral del Barrio de Cayo Hueso*.

Tutorials

The purpose of these is to assist students in progressing effectively with their research dissertations. Each dissertation will be related to one of the research areas listed in the postgraduate programme.

The taught component of the course consists of 180 hours (18 credits) organized as 20 hours (2.0 credits) of research supervised by a tutor and 160 hours (16 credits) divided into the following lectures, thematic seminars, workshops and professional practicals:

Lectures

THE CONTEMPORARY CITY

Xavier Costa. Architect (PhD)

URBAN AND ARCHITECTURAL RENEWAL IN OLD HAVANA

Orestes del Castillo del Prado. Architect (PhD)

SOCIAL PRODUCTION OF THE HABITAT: HISTORICAL, CONCEPTUAL AND PROACTIVE REFLECTIONS

Mario Coyula Cowley. Architect

HOUSING AND NATURAL DISASTERS

Obdulio Coca. Architect

INTEGRAL WORKSHOPS IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD

Rosa Oliveras. Sociologist

THE ARCHITECT OF THE COMMUNITY

Rodolfo Livingston. Architect

CINEMA AND IMMIGRATION

Enrique Colina. Film critic

NEW CHALLENGES FOR PLANNING AND POLICIES IN THE CONTEMPORARY CITY: REFLECTIONS BASED ON THE EXAMPLE OF MILAN

Alessandro Balducci. Architect (PhD)

DOMESTIC ARCHITECTURE IN OLD HAVANA

Madeline Menéndez. Architect (PhD)

THE ARCHITECTURE OF EXCLUSION

Anna Nufrio. Architect (PhD)

MORALITY AND NEW CULTURE

Norbert Bilbeny. Philosopher

MANAGEMENT OF COOPERATION PROJECTS OF THE PNUD-PDHL PROGRAMME IN CUBA

Sergio Novás Tejero. Economist

DESIGNING WITH NOTHING

Ignasi Pérez Arnal. Architect

FOR RESCUING TRADITION

Alfonso Alfonso. Architect

COMMUNITY TECHNOLOGIES

Victor Viña. Designer

CITIES BUILT BY HAND

Verena Andreatta. Architect (PhD)

HOUSING AS SOURCE OF IDENTITY

Mabel Matamoros Tuma. Architect

TROPICAL ARCHITECTURE IN COLOMBIA

Eduardo Samper. Architect

ECO-DISTRICTS

Rafael Balanzó. Architect

Seminars

ARCHITECTURE AND EMERGENCIES

Sandra D'Urzo. Architect

DESIGNING SIMPLE OBJECTS

Curro Claret. Designer

**FORMAL CITY-INFORMAL CITY: ANALYSING AND UNDERSTANDING THE SELF-
CONSTRUCTED SPACE FROM A HERMENEUTIC AND DIALOGIC PERSPECTIVE**

Yuraima Elena Martín Rodríguez. Architect (PhD)

HABITAT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Dania González Couret. Architect (PhD)

Workshops

PARTICIPATIVE STRATEGIES FOR URBAN INTERVENTION

Anna Nufrio. Dr Architect

Gina Rey. Architect

Joel Díaz Gutiérrez. Architect

DESIGN; ART AND SOCIETY. INTERVENTIONS IN THE PUBLIC SPACE

Santiago Cirugeda. Architect, artist

Ramón Parramón. Architect, artist

MISSING A ROOF

Josep Bohigas. Architect

Daniel Cid. Art Historian

**THE HILL. AREA OF PROTECTION, URBAN HOUSING, RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN
PUBLIC SPACE OF ROADS, APPEARANCE AND RELATIONSHIP WITH THE URBAN
DEVELOPMENT OF THE AREA.**

Ada Portero Ricol. Architect (PhD)

5. Director

Anna Nufrio

Degree in Architecture from the Polytechnic University of Milan. PhD in Interior Architecture. Professor at the Faculty of Architecture and Society at the Polytechnic University of Milan and head of the Iberian-American Area of the “Laboratorio di Cooperazione allo Sviluppo” (Laboratory of Cooperation for Development) of the Department of Architecture and Planning of the Polytechnic University of Milan (DIAP). Professor at ELISAVA.

6. Coordination

BARCELONA

Virginia Angulo

Designer and planner. Twenty Design Studio

Noel Criado

Head of Enterprise Department. ELISAVA Escola Superior de Disseny

Victor Viña

International Relations. ELISAVA Escola Superior de Disseny

HABANA, CUBA

Ada Portero Ricol

Chancellor. Instituto Superior José Antonio Echeverría,
Universidad Cujae.

Dania González Couret

Vice-chancellor. Instituto Superior José Antonio Echeverría
Universidad Cujae

Orestes del Castillo del Prado

President. Sociedad Civil Patrimonio Comunidad y Medio Ambiente,
Oficina del Historiador de La Habana.

7. Intended studentship

- Graduates in Design
- Graduates in Architecture
- Graduates in Interior Architecture
- Engineers and Technical Engineers
- Graduates in Geography
- Graduates in Sociology
- Professionals from the sector (industry, administration, centres of learning, NGOs)

8. Enrollment

ELISAVA Escola Superior de Disseny has set aside 20 of the **35 available places** of the postgraduate course for a programme of grants that will be allocated as follows:

- **10 grants for professionals from Cuba's regions.**

The selection of the Cuban candidates will be the responsibility of the Instituto Técnico Superior José Antonio Echeverría (Havana, Cuba) and the Sociedad Civil Patrimonio, Comunidad y Medio Ambiente (Havana, Cuba).

- **10 grants for professionals from Spain and Latin America.**

The selection of the Spanish candidates will be the responsibility of ELISAVA Escola Superior de Disseny (Barcelona, Spain) and the selection of the Latin American candidates will be the responsibility of the Latin American universities invited to participate in the programme.

The course will have **open registration for a total of 15 professionals** who operate locally in decision-making or who implement policies that respond to processes of local development in complex and difficult areas in the social, urban and architectural context of their respective countries, or who may have developed a completed professional project related to one of the study and project subject areas proposed in the postgraduate course.

THE REGISTRATION FEE FOR THE COURSE WILL BE 3000 EUROS

THE FEE INCLUDES:

- Student visa valid for three months from the start of the course
- Cuban exit tax

THE FEE DOES NOT INCLUDE:

- Medical insurance
- Books and study materials
- Individual expenses
- Return airline ticket to Havana (approximately 850 euros from Europe, 600 euros from Latin America)
- Accommodation: in a family home with full pension (approximately 700 euros a month)

ELISAVA Escola Superior de Disseny will make available to all students enrolled on the course all the information necessary for taking care of accommodation and air travel formalities. For further information, please contact **cohabitar@elisava.net**

9. Registration

**THE PERIOD FOR APPLICATION BEGINS ON 21 MAY AND
WILL CLOSE ON 23 JUNE 2007.**

All the documents listed below should be sent as PDF files to the following e-mail address: **cohabitar@elisava.net**

- Fill out the online Application Form found at **<http://cohabitar.elisava.net>** (by 23 June 2007).
- Send a **CV and portfolio** in A4 size of a maximum of 20 pages in PDF format to the following address: **cohabitar@elisava.net**
- Official certificate with exam marks obtained
- Photocopy of undergraduate degree duly certified and issued by the university or equivalent academic institution of study, or proof of application for such.
- Two letters of reference from university professors or other suitable individuals who have been involved academically or professionally with the applicant.
- Copy of passport (with validity of at least 5 months starting from 1 September 2007)

**10. General
information**

**Cohabit. Design and Architecture in the context of
International Cooperation**

Years course has been running: first year

Duration: 180 hours

No. of academic credits: 18 credits

Dates: 3 September to 31 October 2007

Course location: Havana, Cuba.

Language: Spanish

Qualification: Postgraduate Diploma in Design and Architecture
in the context of International, certificate issued by ELISAVA
Escola Superior de Disseny.

Cost: 3,000 €

For more information and inquiries:

Visit our website <http://cohabitar.elisava.net>

Or contact us via e-mail at cohabitar@elisava.net