

Istanbul Technical University - Department of Architecture
MIM 351E Architectural Design V - 24075 & MIM 312E- Architectural Design VI - 23963
Course Syllabus | 2025-2026 Fall Semester

Course Day and Hour: Monday & Thursday 13:30-17:30
Course Room: to be announced at sis.itu.edu.tr
Course Credit: 5
Course Web Site: Ninova

Course Instructor: Dr. Elif Sezen Yağmur-Kilimci
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Office no: 225 B

Project Studio Description

A Shared Space for Study and Work

The studio will focus on designing a shared study and work commons within the Kadıköy district of Istanbul to support emerging modes of working and contemporary practices of studying outside traditional settings, while contributing to the well-being of individuals and the community at large. Students will be encouraged to explore how architectural elements and environmental conditions, such as daylight, views, ventilation, and microclimate, can foster experiences of calmness, focus, encounter, and belonging, and support social and intellectual exchange within a dynamic urban setting.

The studio will be comprised of two main modules. As indicated in the weekly schedule, each module will be followed by pin-up reviews (juries) to evaluate and provide feedback on the work produced in that stage and up to that point. In the first module, students will be required to conduct research (identify emerging forms of studying and working, study precedents and analyse the social, cultural physical context) to define their design goals, identify the qualities of the environment that they want to create for its prospective users within that context and develop their building program and generate their initial design concepts with a focus on the 3D organization of the spaces and the building's form. In the second module, students will focus on design development with particular attention to the relationship with its context, its three-dimensional form, and the organization of its major spaces and volumes, and the enclosing and structural systems. They will work on detailing, specifying, and finalizing the design proposals. Last week of the semester will be devoted to presentation of the design intent, students will focus on how to best express their design intents and the motivations behind them in a comprehensive way.

Throughout the term, students will be expected to iteratively develop their own design goals within the larger studio theme and respond to the project through architectural interventions. They will be required to experiment with a variety of representational methods and tools for exploring, testing, and communicating their design ideas. These will include, but not be limited to, physical and digital models representing concepts or selected features of a design at a given scale, as well as hand-drawn and computer-generated drawings, sketches, diagrams (such as concept maps and mind maps), and collages.

Studio will favor common (pin-up) reviews, especially in the early phases of the project, followed by assignments, lectures, presentations, discussions, or individual critiques on the project as

needed. Students will be required to actively participate in common reviews and encouraged to listen the individual critiques. There will also be some in-class production activities depending on the studio's progress i.e. how the project unfolds. The timing and objectives of these activities will be determined and announced to the students prior to the respective class.

Project Studio Structure and Plan

Weekly Plan

WEEKS	DATE		TOPIC
1-5	09.02.2026 12.03.2026	Module I	Introduction of the Design Project Study of Precedents Readings of the Site and Use Case Analyses Conceptual Design
6	16.03.2026 19.03.2026	Spring Break	
7	23.03.2026 26.03.2026	Jury I	
8-13	30.03.2026 07.05.2026	Module II	Design Development (form, layout, structural system, enclosure, landscape) Finalization of Design Proposals
14	11.05.2026 14.05.2026	Jury II	
15	18.05.2026 21.05.2026	Module III	Representation and Presentation of the Design Proposal

Project Studio Assessment

Assignments, In Class Activities and Participation %10

Juries to be held during the term %40 % (20 % each)

Final submission %50

Note that students must attend at least 80% of studio hours to receive a grade for the course. In other words, students' total absences, including excused ones, should not exceed 20% of studio hours for them to remain eligible for a grade. Students must attend to the juries during the term in order to be eligible for final submission. The final submission will be evaluated based on both the quality of the design proposal and the development process.

Minimum requirements for final submission:

- Mappings and diagrams revealing research outcomes and various interpretations on individual design thoughts and decisions
- Technical drawings at various scales, expressing the proposed building design in relation to its context that include but not limited to plans, sections, elevations, perspective and axonometric drawings in appropriate scales
- Physical/Digital Models expressing the form and organization of the building spaces/volumes

- Visualizations of all kinds depicting the ways the users will experience the spaces you create within the building and the interactions, they will have with the proposed building environment and its surroundings.
- Representations of various forms developed during the term to explore and represent different aspects of design.

Contributors:

Academics and professionals from related fields will participate to the juries throughout the semester.

Recommended Readings

(Project specific readings will be shared during the term)

Alexander, C. (1965) A City is Not a Tree. *Architectural Forum*, Vol 122, No 1, April 1965, pp 58-62.

Ching, F. (2001) *Building Construction Illustrated*, 3rd ed. John Wiley & Sons Inc.

Lawson, B. *The Language of Space*, Architectural Press.

Lefebvre, H., (1991), *Production of Space*, Smith, Blackwell.

Lynch, Kevin (1960). *The Image of the City*. The MIT Press.

Tschumi, B. (1994) *Architecture and Disjunction*. MIT Press.

Tschumi, B. (1981) *The Manhattan Transcripts*. London: Academy Editions.

Zumthor, P. (2010). *Thinking architecture*. Birkhäuser.

Zumthor, P. (2006) *Atmospheres: Architectural Environments - Surrounding Objects*, Birkhäuser.