

Glasgow School of Art Course Specification

Course Title: History of Architecture and Urban Studies 2



Please note that this course specification is correct on the date of publication but may be subject to amendment prior to the start of the 2025-26 Academic Year.

Course Code	HECOS Code	Academic Session
HAUS2102		2025-26

Course Title	History of Architecture and Urban Studies (HAUS) 2
Course Contact	Florian Urban

Credits	20
SCQF Level	Level 8
When Taught	Semester 2

Associated Programmes	Bachelor of Architecture with Honours
Lead School	Mackintosh School of Architecture
Other Schools	N/A
Date of Approval	Programme Approval March 2024

Course Introduction
<p>The History of Architecture and Urban Studies 2 (HAUS 2) course builds on the HAUS 1 course, exploring architecture in the urban context of the 19th and early 20th centuries, focusing on key theories and ideas that underlie architecture and urban development in Europe and other parts of the world, supported by in-depth knowledge and analysis on selected topics from this period. Students develop the skills acquired in the HAUS 1 course to analyse buildings and urban environments from select historical and geographical contexts in relation to socio-economic factors as well as structures of power, ideas and beliefs. Students learn to make informed arguments about these relationships, based on academic sources and scholarly methodologies.</p> <p>HAUS 2 consists of two components, HAUS 2 Core and HAUS 2 Elective. Students will undertake both HAUS 2 Core and one from a range of HAUS 2 Electives offered.</p>

Course Aims
<p>The aims of the course are to:</p> <p>professional: develop student ability to use the principles and practices of the ethical use of history to inform architectural debate, discourse and outputs</p> <p>design/create: develop student ability to devise relevant and historically informed outputs addressing the environmental, socio-economic, cultural, and aesthetic context of architecture.</p> <p>research: develop student research skills and tools in relation to historic and contemporary architecture</p> <p>communication: develop student ability to utilise the visual and textual modes of communication in architecture and urban studies</p> <p>skills: develop student ability to examine and explain the significance and meaning of buildings and urban ensembles within their social, political and economic context</p>

knowledge: develop student foundational knowledge of buildings and urban ensembles from a global and non-Eurocentric perspective, within their social, political and economic context, including questions of power, representation and exclusion, as well as energy use in historical and contemporary architecture

Course Intended Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of the course HAUS 2 students will be able to **interpret and demonstrate:**

professional: the principles and practices of the ethical use of history to inform architectural debate, discourse and outputs

design/create: construct and evaluate arguments in relation to historical and contemporary architecture

research: basic research skills to inform arguments in relation to historical and contemporary architecture

communication: the ability to visually and verbally communicate their arguments in relation to historical and contemporary architecture

skills: the use of analogue and digital tools to develop and present arguments in relation to historical and contemporary architecture

knowledge: the analysis of buildings, concepts and ideas to construct arguments in relation to historical and contemporary architecture

Indicative Content

HAUS 2 Core also focuses on the city from the early 19th to the mid 20th centuries, including topics such as urbanization, new model towns, the history of town planning and regulation, and urbanisation in developing countries.

HAUS 2 Elective allows students to focus on specific subjects in the field of architecture and urban studies, such as the architecture of pre-19th century periods, the architecture of specific places, the history of ideas, and the social, economic and political factors that influence architectural design in the urban context.

During the course students will:

- Make an informed argument on the relation between buildings and the society that produces them
- Use scholarly methodology to formulate a hypothesis and substantiate it based on acceptable sources
- explore architecture and urban studies in select periods and geographical regions, focusing on the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries

Description of Learning and Teaching Methods

Pedagogy:

The HAUS 2 course consists of two components: HAUS Core and HAUS Electives. The HAUS 2 Core component broadens students' knowledge of buildings and urbanism in a global context while exploring the principles and practices of the ethical use of history to inform architectural debate, discourse and outputs through lectures and discussion. The HAUS 2 Elective component enables students to explore a selected topic in-depth within a small-group seminar-based context.

Delivery:

The course is delivered using a range of learning and teaching activities, including lectures, small-group work and plenary discussions. Staff-directed study is complemented by independent student-directed study. The HAUS 2 Core component is predominantly delivered through lectures along with small group work and plenary discussions. The HAUS 2 Elective component is taught in seminar groups of approximately twenty students and includes individual work, small-group work, plenary discussions, as well as student-led presentations.

Timetable:

HAUS 2 Core lectures and Elective seminars delivered on a weekly basis.

Canvas:

The virtual learning environment tool Canvas is used for the dissemination, discussion, and access to relevant course information, and to signpost students to other relevant teaching and learning platforms used by GSA.

Indicative Contact Hours	Notional Learning Hours
32	200

Description of Formative Assessment and Feedback Methods

Formative feedback is delivered during the course, offering students the opportunity to obtain staff feedback on the student's essay outline.

As such Formative feedback provided fosters reflective learning while supporting the Summative graded assessment and feedback process, which generally happens at the end of the course.

Description of Summative Assessment arrangements

Summative assessment, generally undertaken at the end of the course, is designed and delivered to support student learning through evaluation of the Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs) for each course, aligned with the professional competencies required for architectural practice. Summative assessment in the History of Architecture and Urban Studies 2 course is undertaken through two 2,500-word essays, one for HAUS Core and one for HAUS Elective. Coursework assignment submissions utilising images and text are submitted in a digital format. Written feedback is provided on all summative assessments. Both components are required to be passed to pass the course overall.

All submissions will be assessed and moderated in line with the GSA Code of Assessment. Reassessment opportunities where a student has not passed the course are outlined in the GSA Code of Assessment.

Description of Summative Assessment Method	Weight %	Submission week
Assignment HAUS 2.1 Students are required to submit a HAUS 2 Core assignment of 2,500 words. The submission requires students to address 1 of 6 questions related to the technical, social and economic factors that influenced 20 th century architecture.	50%	Week 9
Assignment HAUS 2.2 Students are required to submit a HAUS 2 Elective assignment of 2,500 words. The submission requires students to present an argument related to the key themes of the selected HAUS Elective.	50%	Week 9

Exchange/Study Abroad	
Can this course be taken by Exchange/Study Abroad students?	Yes
Are all the students on the course taught wholly by distance learning?	No
Does this course represent a work placement or a year of study abroad?	No
Is this course collaborative with any other institutions?	No
If yes, then please provide the names of the other teaching institutions	

Reading and On-line Resources
Supporting the course, an indicative reading and on-line resource list is accessible via Resource Lists . This list will be reviewed and updated annually. Supervisors, tutors and peers will provide further recommendations appropriate to student's chosen research subject.