



The seemingly inconsiderate and endless development of real estate is an environmentally dangerous aspect that defies the crises of climate and ground. Seeing each inch of earth as unique and finite, the fabric of each urban context is under pressure of real estate development, a business of large-scale developments that often deny actual context and programme. In this realm, odd lots, as urban residual spaces, are not considered attractive albeit their actual individual potential. Already sealed or constructed upon, odd lots occupy restricted ground yet do not exploit their true and context-specific possibilities. These radically individual residual lots play a vital and subconscious role within the urban fabric by adding a facet of the uncontrolled and hence depth, that require absolute sensitivity in tailored development of programme and typology.

“spaces between places,
not out of sight, but out of mind”
Gordon Matta-Clark, Fake Estates 1971-1973

A series of odd lots, situated in Vienna and Barcelona, have been carefully and meticulously curated to serve as project sites: these sites range from small and hidden lots in courtyards, to locked-in sites and existing open structures, each offering unique properties on all terms.

The research of each specific site will lead to the development of an equally specific programme and typology. In reaction to the current influence of the pandemic on the question of living and social infrastructure, the programme on each site will primarily address living in combination with a shared or semi-public programme based upon the site-specific social and cultural context.

The in-situ research of these extremely specific sites, ranging from their built environment to the social and programmatic context of each, will form the primary research basis and narrative. Systematic research tasks, workshops and lectures will expand this basis, leading to the development of first typological proposals. By means of design by research through readings, models in different scales, detailed drawings, catalogues and cartographic diagrams, the proposals will be developed in detail to address the question of ground and resource consumption.

To enhance the diverse cultural context, research work and dialogue, the excursion to Barcelona is held in cooperation with local specialists. During excursions in Vienna and Barcelona, the odd lot project sites will be intrinsically analysed and reference projects visited.

Design studio Master ● 253.J71 ● 15 ECTS
Design studio Bachelor ● 253.J70 ● 15 ECTS
SS 2023

weekly meetings on Tuesday ● 09:00-14:00 ● project
team: 2 ● course held in German and English
registration with portfolio via TISS

Kick-Off ● 02.03.2023 ● 09.00 - 16.00 ● excursions
Vienna and Barcelona