

Entwerfen 1 (Bachelor)

WS 2025/26

Institut für Gestaltung / Konstruktion und Gestaltung - i.sd Structure and Design

Course Number:

847326

Teaching Language:

German & English

Instructors:

Univ.-Prof. Mag. Stefan Rutzinger

Univ.-Prof. Mag. Kristina Schinegger

Arch. Lara Yegenoglu, BYAK, MA (LV-Leitung)

Tutorials:

Wednesday 10:00 - 17:00

Learning Outcome:

Students are able to master simple design and planning tasks. They are able to analyse a design task, to formulate an architectural programme, to create a spatial concept and to translate it into an architectural design of a high aesthetic level.

Climatic Commons

Adaptive Typologies
for Living and
Production

PJ
Design Studio E1
WS25/26

Intro

The E1 Design Studio explores Innsbruck's Alpine edge as a laboratory for new forms of living and working. Confronted with climate change, housing scarcity, and social transformation, students will develop volumetric typologies that interweave dwelling, production, and collective life. Spaces are conceived as climatic and social filters, structures as carriers of atmosphere and character. The goal is to create experimental, resilient proposals that envision future modes of collective habitation.

Lecturers

Arch. AA-Dipl. Lara Yegenoglu
Univ.-Prof. Kristina Schinegger
Univ.-Prof. Stefan Rutzinger

Kick-off

01.10.2025
3:30 PM
@i.sd foyer

i.sd
INSTITUT FÜR STRUKTUREN UND DESIGN
UNIVERSITÄT INNSBRUCK

CLIMATIC COMMONS

Adaptive Typologies for Living and Production

ABSTRACT

Amidst accelerating climate change, increasing housing scarcity, and shifting socio-ecological conditions, Innsbruck's Alpine edge becomes a testing ground for new forms of climate-responsive and adaptive architecture. This semester, the E1 Design Studio will explore how volumetric typologies can rethink the relationship between dwelling, working, and collective life – negotiating between the urgent demand for accessible and alternative forms of living, the pressures of densification in constrained valleys, and the need for spatial models that are climatically resilient and socially inclusive.

The studio will focus on the transitional zones between city and landscape, where sensitive architectural strategies are required to integrate new forms of inhabitation into the Alpine terrain. Here, climatic commons emerge: shared infrastructures, layered spaces, and adaptive structures that act simultaneously as housing, workplace, and social condenser. Students will develop volumetric design proposals that articulate not only built mass, but also environmental filters and spatial layers, rethinking what it means to live collectively under the pressures of climate, economy and social change.

INTRO

“No city is ever frozen. It is transforming; it is all about constant transformation all around us.” As Yona Friedman emphasized, “In architecture, the whole idea should be to find ways to adapt to reality.” Friedman's awareness of the necessity for adaptive approaches arose from surviving catastrophic conditions during the war, where flexibility and improvisation were essential for survival. Today, the built environment faces many ongoing challenges and transformation processes – climatic shifts, social changes, and evolving modes of living and working – which call for architectural strategies that are adaptive, responsive, and resilient.

Innsbruck, situated in the narrow Alpine valley of the Inn, exemplifies the urgency of this approach. Environmental change, including shifting climatic conditions and seasonal extremes, directly impacts the ways buildings perform and interact with their surroundings. At the same time, urban expansion is constrained by topography and rising housing costs create social pressures. Conventional densification strategies often fail to address the rising cost of housing and the lack of alternative models, climate resilience, or hybrid modes of living and working. Meanwhile, the peri-urban and mountainous zones surrounding the city – where the urban edge merges with forest and mountain landscapes – are particularly sensitive: these transitional

thresholds require careful design that negotiates topography, ecology, and urban expansion.

In this context, rethinking living environments is not only about producing more housing units but about reconfiguring spatial priorities: redefining borders, thresholds, and transitions between individual space and collective infrastructure; developing adaptive architectures that respond to seasonal and climatic shifts; and designing typologies where living, making, and working coexist.

The studio frames this challenge as both urgent and experimental: How can volumetric strategies generate new forms of collective living and creative production that are affordable, flexible, and environmentally responsive? How might these hybrid typologies – **climatic commons** – function as interconnected spatial, social, and ecological network, mediating between built mass, community, and terrain? The studio situates these questions within the discourse of volumetric design, where spatial mass is conceived as differentiated, layered, and adaptive. Structure becomes not only a framework or technical support, but the organizer of social layers and climatic filters – a carrier of meaning, atmosphere, and character.

DESIGN PROPOSAL

The E1 Studio will investigate how adaptive typologies can integrate living and working into Innsbruck's urban-rural edge, by developing projects that respond to pressing socio-ecological challenges and that operate through layered volumetric thinking.

All programs – from individual living units to shared infrastructures such as ateliers, workshops, digital production spaces, and collective courtyards – will be conceived as interdependent strata within one continuous system. ***Climatic adaptation is not treated as an added layer or external buffer, but as an intrinsic generator of structure and configuration: volumes, transitions, and networks of spaces are organized to respond differently to seasonal, social, and environmental requirements, while remaining part of a coherent architectural whole.***

The task is not to design conventional housing blocks, but to propose hybrid environments where living and creative production are interwoven, and where climatic responsiveness becomes a central design driver. These projects should rethink the balance between private and collective space, between individual needs and shared infrastructures, and between domestic life and cultural or productive work. In doing so, they must address the social urgency of developing inclusive and alternative modes of inhabitation that respond to social and economic pressures, while at the same time engaging the environmental urgency of designing for climate-responsive futures.

Each proposal will be rooted in a specific site condition along Innsbruck's thresholds, where the tension between terrain and city calls for sensitive integration into the natural environment. These edge conditions will become laboratories for testing how architectural responses can blur the distinctions between building and landscape,

enclosure and exposure, dwelling and production. The ambition is to develop volumetric typologies that integrate structure, character, and climate into a spatial continuum – spaces that are not static enclosures, but adaptive frameworks capable of hosting diverse forms of collective life and creative making.

DESIGN METHODOLOGY

Within the framework of the i.sd year topic, the studio will explore the volumetric condition as a design methodology. Volumetric design allows students to synthesize programmatic, climatic, and social information into differentiated spatial structures. Volumes are not conceived as inert mass, but as layered, porous, and adaptive environments.

Structure and character form the critical discourse: structure is not only a technical system of support, but also an organizer of spatial, social, and aesthetic relations. Character emerges from structural logics and volumetric articulation, from the way structure filters light, organizes collective spaces, or mediates between inside and outside. Rather than style imposed from above, character is understood as an emergent temperament arising from the accumulation of nuanced perceptions.

Through this method, students will be asked to create proposals that are at once performative and expressive — buildings that embody climatic responsiveness, social inclusivity, and material presence.

DESIGN DELIVERABLES & FORMAT

Over the course of the semester, students will produce a complete architectural proposal for a hybrid typology situated in Innsbruck's Alpine edge. The work will begin with analytical studies of site, climate, and social conditions, which will then feed into iterative volumetric explorations and structural experiments. These explorations will be developed into precise architectural proposals articulated through drawing, modelling, and atmospheric representation.

The final deliverables will include analytical diagrams and mappings; volumetric models exploring layering, density, and climatic adaptation; architectural drawings such as plans, sections, axonometrics, and elevations; and sectional studies that reveal the relationship between built structure, terrain, and collective space. Both physical and digital models will be used to communicate volumetric character, materiality, and atmosphere.

The semester will culminate in a final presentation where students present their projects as prototypes for new adaptive typologies: buildings that propose alternative futures of collective living, working, and co-production in the context of Innsbruck's climate, economy, and social dynamics.

REFERENCES

Books:

- Abraham, Raimund. *Elementare Architektur - Architectonics*, Verlag Anton Pustet, 2001.
- Aït-Touati, F, Arènes, A, Grégoire, A. *Terra Forma, A Book of Speculative Maps*. MIT, 2022.
- Atelier Bow-Wow. *Pet Architecture Guide Book*. World Photo Press, 2002.
- Blau, Eve. *The Architecture of Red Vienna*. MIT Press, 1999.
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- Flores, Ricardo. *Thought by Hand: The Architecture of Flores and Prats*. Arquine, 2020.
- Garstenauer, Gerhard. *Selected works and writings*.
- Giro, Christophe. *Robotic Landscapes - Designing the Unfinished*. Park Books, 2022.
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- Tschumi, Bernard. *The Manhattan Transcripts*, 1976-1981.
- Wigley, Mark. "Unleashing the Archive." *Future Anterior: Journal of Historic Preservation, History, Theory, and Criticism*, Vol. 2, No. 2 (2005): 10-15.

Websites:

- <https://cntxtstudio.com>
- <https://www.gercoderuijter.com>
- <https://oxman.com/projects>
- <https://projectstudio.co.uk>
- <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/bartlett/architecture/exhibitions/bartlett-b-pro-show>
- <https://transsolar.com/de>
- <https://www.futureenvironmentslab.com/copy-of-collaboration>

REMARKS

The E1 studio will meet once a week for joined workshops and individual tutorials. Besides the final submission of the project, the continuous design process is also part of the assessment. The attendance at Pin-Ups and Reviews is therefore mandatory.

BIO:

Lara Yegenoglu is an architect and director at VILAA, an architectural practice specialising in radical design solutions that respond to cultural, social, and environmental challenges. Working across rural and urban contexts within the fields of architecture, interior and landscape design, the studio approaches every project with sensitivity to site conditions, spatial qualities and the evolving needs of its users with a focus on adaptability, material intelligence, and the lived experience. The practice has developed an international portfolio covering residential, cultural, and public realm interventions. Throughout her architectural discourse Lara worked on projects of various scales and eventually was engaged in the restoration of Battersea Power Station with WilkinsonEyre. She has taught at several institutions in the UK, Germany and Austria including the Bartlett (UCL), IU, University of Innsbruck, Munich University of Applied Sciences and the AA School of Architecture in London, as a studio master of INTER14.

DATES:

OCT	W01	01/10/2025 WED	KICK OFF	
			INTRO	Course Info, Brief, First Task
	W02	10/10/2025 FRI	TUTORIAL	
			POP-UP ARCHIVE WORKSHOP 01	Observations of Change Site Analysis, Mapping
	W03	14/10/2025 TUE	TUTORIAL	
			DESK CRITS	Individual Groups
NOV	W04	22/10/2025 WED	TUTORIAL	
			WORKSHOP 02 DESK CRITS	3D Modelling, Axonometrics Individual Groups
	W05	29/10/2025 WED	TUTORIAL	
			DESK CRITS	Individual Groups
	W06	05/11/2025 WED	PIN-UP 01	
			FEEDBACK DEBRIEF	With Prof. Kristina Schinegger and Prof. Stefan Rutzinger All Groups
NOV	W07	12/11/2025 WED	TUTORIAL	
			WORKSHOP 03 DESK CRITS	Concept Diagrams Individual Groups
	W08	19/11/2025 WED	MIDREVIEW	
			FEEDBACK DEBRIEF	With Prof. Kristina Schinegger and Prof. Stefan Rutzinger All Groups
DEC	W09	26/11/2025 WED	TUTORIAL	
			DESK CRITS	Individual Groups
	W10	03/12/2025 WED	TUTORIAL	
			WORKSHOP 04 DESK CRITS	Design Drawings & Atmospheric Views Individual Groups
DEC	W11	10/12/2025 WED	PIN-UP 02	
			FEEDBACK DEBRIEF	With Prof. Kristina Schinegger and Prof. Stefan Rutzinger All Groups
	W12			HOLIDAY
	W13			HOLIDAY
JAN	W14			HOLIDAY
	W15	07/01/2025 WED	TUTORIAL	
			WORKSHOP 05 DESK CRITS	Layout, Graphics & Presentation Individual Groups
	W16	14/01/2025 WED	TUTORIAL	
			PROJECT PREVIEW DESK CRITS	Individual Groups
	W17	21/01/2025 WED	E1 FINALS	
			FEEDBACK DEBRIEF	With Prof. Kristina Schinegger and Prof. Stefan Rutzinger All Groups
JAN	W18	28/01/2025 WED	1.st CROSS REVIEW	
			E1, E3, M1	With E1, E3, M1 teaching staff & students and external guests