



Master in Architecture
University of Luxembourg

Design Studio
“Let's Talk About Belval”
Fall Semester 2022

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Teaching Team:
Prof. Dr. Florian Hertweck
Prof. Dr. Markus Miessen
Dr. Marija Marić
Dr. David Peleman
Dr. César Reyes Nájera
Guest. Prof. Carole Schmit

Students 3rd Semester:
Aisha Shah, Diogo Gomes Costa, Emine Ayse Karaarslan, Ivan Dmitrievich Badiarov, Kara Karami, Lun Lam Kwok, Mahdi Panjehpour, Malan Ilangarathna Ilangarathnage, Maria Vavoule, Maryam Rasheed, Melsida Babayan, Michel Da Silva Ferreira, Mohammad Ebrahim Tajik, Mohammed Zanboa, Selin Sarikaya, Shui Mei Chan, Siranuysh Martirosyan, Vanessa Peresi.

Students 1st Semester:
Alanka Nethmi Balasooriya, Artūras Čertovas, Christine Jiayi Chen, Meltem Durmuş, Wilhelm Gardeleone, Hosna Godazgar, Astrid Hennis, Avneez Madan, Niloofar Montazami, Heida Sigrun Palsdottir, Hui Por Pang, Clarisa Adriana Pop, Kristina Shatokhina, Christina Tornì, Arumi Zanira

“Let's Talk About Belval” is a proposal for an educational experiment: throughout Fall Semester 2022, students of the Master in Architecture Programme at the University of Luxembourg will unpack the spatial, social, economic and environmental contexts of their own place of study—Belval. Following 20 years since the conception, development and partial implementation of its Masterplan, we will reflect on the history, present and future of Belval, asking: Could Belval be seen as a “success story” of Luxembourg's project of regenerating formerly industrial sites and brownfields? How was the process of design of spatial planning and governance of Belval designed? Which parts of the original plans were implemented and to which extent? Which aspects of the project have proven successful and which have not? What can be changed, reused, and transformed under the premises of everyday urbanism and urgency of resilient urban planning? What are the structures of governing and repairing projects such as Belval? Beyond «model urbanism,» how does Belval continue to affect its surrounding territories and its inhabitants? And finally, who are Belval's existing communities and communities in becoming?

Merging two student groups (Semester 1 and Semester 3) into a single design studio, we will be working as an open and fluid team, consisting of students, teaching staff, but also external experts and users of the Belval Campus on a semester-long immersive on-site research project. The semester will kick-off with an intensive, festival-like week, which will be interrogating the spatial and social realities of Esch-Belval. The kick-off week will combine lectures, reading groups, discussions, and small-scale project work all tackling Belval as a case study through different perspectives: from spatial politics and real estate to the questions of media, representation and construction. All of the events of the first intensive week will be open to the public and take place in the public spaces of the Belval Campus.

Images cover and next page: Jo Coenen and Rolo Fütterer, Masterplan of Belval from *Agora, Belval-Ouest*, 2002.

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Day 1
Monday, September 19
Maison du Savoir, Belval
Room 4.540

Belval: History and Spatial Politics

9:45
Introductory information session for the semester

11:00
Introductory session to the M.Arch Programme and the Design Studio

14:00–16:00
Talks and Discussion

Patrick Bousch
National Policy Coordinator, LISER

Robert Garcia
Politician, Deputy Coordinator of Lux 2007

Denis Scuto
Historian and Deputy Director of C²DH Lab, University of Luxembourg

16:00
Talk by Erna Hennicot-Schoepges
Former Minister of Culture, Higher Education, Research and Public Works, 1999-2004

Day 2
Tuesday, September 20
Foyer of Maison des arts et des étudiants, Belval

History of Urban Planning and Governance

13:30–15:30
Talks and Discussion
moderated by Florian Hertweck, David Peleman and César Reyes
University of Luxembourg

Michel Wolter
Member of the Chamber of Deputies
Mayor of Bascharage
Former Minister of Internal Affairs, 1995-2004

Etienne Reuter
Former President of Agora, 2000-2016

Jean Goedert
Former City architect of Esch-sur-Alzette

Rolf Tarrach
Former Rector of the University of Luxembourg, 2005-2014

15:45–17:45
Talks and Discussion
moderated by David Peleman and César Reyes
University of Luxembourg

Christian Bauer
Architect of Maison du Savoir

Tatiana Fabeck
Architect of Maison des Sciences Humaines

François Valentiny and Daniela Flor
Architects of the Luxembourg Learning Center

Jim Clemes
Architect of the Belval Train Station

Christian Weier
Landscape architect of Belval

Day 3
Wednesday, September 21
Foyer of Maison des arts et des étudiants, Belval

Urban Planning and Governance Today

16:00–18:00
Discussion
moderated by Florian Hertweck, Markus Miessen, and Carole Schmit
University of Luxembourg

Léon Diederich
First Government Advisor of the Ministry of Higher Education and Research

Marie-Josée Vidal
First Government Advisor of the Ministry of Spatial Planning, President of Agora

Jens Kreisel
Vice-rector for research
University of Luxembourg

Georg Mein
Dean of the Faculty of Humanities, Education, and Social Sciences

Daniela Di Santo
Director of Le Fonds Belval

François Dorland
Director of Agora

Ulli Helweg
Urban planner, Former director of Agora

Véronique Astranskas
Vice Director of Le Fonds Belval

Lucio Wercollier
Architect, Project Leader, Le Fonds Belval

Yves Biber
Administrative director of Agora

Thomas Barra
Head of Infrastructure Department, University of Luxembourg

Closing apéro

Day 4
Thursday, September 22
Maison du Savoir, Ground Floor, Entrance hall (behind elevators)

The Campus and Its Users

14:00–16:00
Discussion
moderated by Marija Marić and Markus Miessen
University of Luxembourg

Natalie Kirwan
Head of Faculty Administration, University of Luxembourg

Laurent Frideres
Deputy Director of Administration, University of Luxembourg

Sara Volterrani
Study Program Administrator, University of Luxembourg

Monique Ludovicy
Conseiller de Direction Restopolis

Sandra Fonseca
ONET cleaning services

**Thierry Debourse/
Alba Cortizas Martinez**
Belval Plaza Shopping Centre Management

Patrick-Claus Leske
Representative of the Student Delegation, University of Luxembourg

Ramin Forghani
Doctoral researcher University of Luxembourg, Resident of Belval

Marina De Arujo Marins
Student and resident of Belval

Marie-Lorraine Maurière
CoffeeHouse Dalmat, Belval

Closing apéro

Day 5
Friday, September 23
Maison du Savoir, Ground Floor, Entrance hall (behind elevators)

Logistics and Infrastructure

14:00–16:00
Discussion
moderated by Marija Marić and Carole Schmit
University of Luxembourg

Pierre Karst
Chief Engineer, Agora

Laura Asuaje Casamayor
Head of Business Planning & Strategy, ArcelorMittal Luxembourg

Thomas Barra
Head of Infrastructure Department, University of Luxembourg

Mathieu Hoffart
Head of Logistics Department, University of Luxembourg