

English for GCC/Architecture students - Designing Spaces

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Learning goals

The aim of this course is to develop core competences - designing with empathy, creativity, collaborative and communication skills (oral, written and visual).

Learning objectives

The first part of the course (3 sessions) will explore the notion of space, starting with different cultural perceptions of space including (proxemics), living space, gardens, working/learning spaces and public spaces. We will look at the relationship between humans and the space around them and the implicit or explicit cultural values present.

The second part of the course will be devoted to designing a space from a human-centric perspective. Students will follow a micro-version of the Stanford model design thinking process of empathizing (defining the real needs of the users, through observation, listening and pattern-finding), inspiration, ideation (brainstorming and creativity), making a prototype to present, and finally getting feedback from users and peers, which will inform the next iteration of the prototype.

Evaluation is based on active participation (40%) (presence, involvement and collaboration, a written journal), and the space project (60%), team work and cooperation, Project management - fulfilling objectives, time management, creativity and added value for users, quality of presentation and reflexivity (critical thinking skills).