

Course Title	Course Code	Semester	(T+P)	Credit	ECTS
Architectural Design Theory I	ARCH1003	1	2+0	2	2
Prerequisite	-				
Language	English				
Course Type	Mandatory				
Lecturer(s)	İmre ÖZBEK EREN (e-mail: imre.eren@marmara.edu.tr)				
Assistant(s)	Cansu TAŞ (e-mail: cansu.tas@marmara.edu.tr)				
Aim of the Course	Architectural Design Theory I aims to critically comprehend and discuss the positions, situations and meanings of architectural design process within the tangible and intangible contexts of life. Natural, physical, social, perceptual features of the environment is discussed through the lenses of architecture.				
Learning Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Acquiring knowledge about the fields associated with architecture and architectural design• Developing awareness about the diversity of architectural design approaches• Understanding the relationship between ontology and architectural design• Ability to discuss the consequences of geographical and critical positioning in architectural design• Recognition of architecture concerning materiality• Understanding the relationships between the methods and phenomena of translating, measuring, constructing with architectural design				
Course Description	The first part of this course, which has a conceptual and ontological focus, consists of discussions of matter and relationality, body conceptions, environmental perception and temporality. The physical and social context of the earth is discussed, as well as the basics of the act of architectural design. The second part of the course elaborates on the discussions in the first part of the course by centering on the acts of seeing, translating and constructing.				
Teaching Methods	<p>The course uses five platforms: a OneDrive cloud folder for course materials, Miro for weekly submissions and portfolios, Wayground for quizzes, Microsoft Forms for peer assessment and Microsoft Teams for announcements.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• All documents (except films etc.) are shared in the course Cloud Folder (2026-27-Fall-ADT1). For each week, the folder holds the prework, in-class practices and after-class assignments. It also holds the course rubric and other lecture materials.• Miro Board: (For weekly submissions). The course Miro board (Miro Board- ADT1 2026-27 Fall) has one page for each week and one page for each student. Each weekly page states the task for that week. Before class, students post their submission on the weekly page and copy it to their own page.• Miro Portfolio. Each student's page collects all weekly submissions and serves as their Miro Portfolio. There are two portfolios:<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Portfolio 1 before the midterm, covering the first half of the semester,◦ Portfolio 2 before the final, covering the second half. For each, students add a reflection (150–200 words) on how their thinking has changed.• Each portfolio will be assessed with all weekly submissions, using the course rubric.• Peer Assessment. After each portfolio deadline, each student assesses all other portfolios on Microsoft Forms, using the same rubric. The portfolio grade combines the instructor's score and the peer scores.• Quizzes. In-class quizzes on Wayground.				
Assessment Criteria	MIDTERM GRADE			%40	
	Miro Portfolio 1 (%30) + Quiz Evaluations (%10) + Midterm Exam (%60)				
	FINAL EXAM GRADE			%60	
	Miro Portfolio 2 (%15) + Quiz Evaluations (%5) + Presentations (%30) + Final Exam (%50)				
	FINAL GRADE			%100	
	Midterm Exam Grade (Semester/in-Year Evaluation) 40%+ Final Exam Grade (Semester/Final-Exam-Grade): 60%= Final (Success) Grade 100%				
	Quiz Evaluations: There are three quizzes in total (two before the midterm exam, one after). In each half, the two highest quiz scores count. A missed quiz counts as zero and cannot be retaken; the best-two rule covers one missed quiz per half.				
	Miro Portfolio: Portfolio score = 0.5 × instructor score + 0.5 × the median (middle value) of the peer scores received. Students who do not complete their assigned peer assessments lose 10 points from their own portfolio score.				

W	Date	MEOBS Info	Realtime Content / In class Activity	Pework	After-class Works
1	28.09.2026	MEOBS Info_W1: Prologue 1	School of Architecture Orientation Week Activities		
2	05.10.2026	MEOBS Info_W1: The Earth and Surfaces. Physical Context MEOBS Info_W2: Place and Spatiality	Understanding the Context <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. How do we learn? Introduction to architectural thinking ii. Earth, space and architecture: To nestle gently into the earth iii. Architecture is a profession, a building activity that re-shapes the earth iv. Communication with earth Questioning time, space, and meaning. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. How does a place constitute? ii. What is place, sense of place, genius loci? iii. Is there a non-place? iv. Is void a spatial element? <i>The outcomes: What have we learned so far?</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Some fundamental concepts of architecture o Questioning how a place/space perceived and defined <i>In-class participant cycle</i> Feedback about the most confusing and the most understandable points via writing on small pieces of paper.	Film 2 min. excerpt of the movie: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VVro5wxqh4U (For further research the full movie is: Matrix, 1999, Director: Wachowski Brothers) Reading C. Norberg-Schulz, 1980. Genius Loci, London: Academy Editions (p-5-6).	To be announced on Miro
3	12.10.2026	MEOBS Info_W3: Actors and Actions	Actors and Actions in Architecture: Communication through Architecture Prof. Dr. Simge ORHUN <i>The outcomes: What have we learned so far?</i> <i>In-class participant cycle</i> Feedback about the most confusing and the most understandable points via writing on small pieces of paper.	Film My Architect (A Son's Journey) 2003, Nathaniel Kahn, Documentary Reading Tschumi, Bernard. Event Cities 1. MIT Press, 1994.p. 13	
4	19.10.2026	MEOBS Info_W4: Materiality, Embeddedness and Embodiment	What is material, what is matter? Assist. Prof. Dr. Nil AYNALI <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Relation with material in contemporary architecture ii. Materiality in conventional architecture iii. Materiality in architectures that takes the matter as the main issue: e.g. Zumthor iv. The implicit nature of matter (e.g. Heidegger) <i>The outcomes: What have we learned so far?</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o To what extent we can understand materials in architecture? o Is material just a concrete feature? <i>In-class participant cycle</i> Feedback about the most confusing and the most understandable points via writing on small pieces of paper.	Reading İhsan Bilgin, 2016. Mimarın Soluğu. Metis. (Bölüm 3: 'Maddenin Yoğunluğu')	
5	26.10.2026	MEOBS Info_W5: Body Conceptions	Body Conceptions Assist. Prof. Dr. Aylin AYNA <i>The outcomes: What have we learned so far?</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o To what extent we can understand materials in architecture? o Is material just a concrete feature? <i>In-class participant cycle</i> Feedback about the most confusing and the most understandable points via writing on small pieces of paper.		
6	02.11.2026	MEOBS Info_W6: Time & Temporality	Time and Temporality: Relationship of Architectural Space with Time Prof. Dr. Simge ORHUN. <i>The outcomes: What have we learned so far?</i> <i>In-class participant cycle</i>	Reading Pallasmaa, J. (2000). Hapticity and Time. The Architectural Review, 207(1239), 78-84. (Matter and Time)	

			Feedback about the most confusing and the most understandable points via writing on small pieces of paper.		
7	09.11.2026	MEOBS Info_W7: Perception	<p>Materiality in the Architecture of Peter Zumthor. Assist. Prof. Dr. Nil AYNALI</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. What is space? Is it only a material presence? ii. Where does the space 'occur'? outside/inside? iii. The lived-space vs. perception iv. Subjective spaces <p>Grade Status I</p> <p><i>The outcomes: What have we learned so far?</i></p> <p><i>In-class participant cycle</i> Feedback about the most confusing and the most understandable points via writing on small pieces of paper.</p>	<p>Reading Juhani Pallasmaa, 1996. <i>The Eyes of the Skin</i>. John Wiley & Sons. (pp.30-31)</p> <p>Film https://v3.arkitera.com/diyalog.php?action=displaySession&ID=62&aID=646</p>	
8	16.11-2026-22.11.2026 MIDTERM WEEK				
9	23.11.2026	MEOBS Info_W9: Prologue 2: Identifying, Representing, Constructing	<p>The Phenomenology of Computational Design Thinking Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ethem GÜNER</p> <p><i>The outcomes: What have we learned so far?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o To what extent we can understand materials in architecture? o Is material just a concrete feature? <p><i>In-class participant cycle</i> Feedback about the most confusing and the most understandable points via writing on small pieces of paper.</p>	<p>Reading Juhani Pallasmaa, 1996. <i>The Eyes of the Skin</i>. John Wiley & Sons. (pp.15-19)</p>	
10	30.11.2026	MEOBS Info_W10: Scanning, Modelling, Projecting, Rendering, Printing	<p>Lost & Found in Translation: Architectural Computing. Res. Assist. Cansu TAŞ</p> <p><i>The outcomes: What have we learned so far?</i></p> <p><i>In-class participant cycle</i> Feedback about the most confusing and the most understandable points via writing on small pieces of paper.</p>	<p>Film <i>Flatland: The Movie</i>, 2007. (Recommended sequences 19,5 mins 1- 0:00- 04:08; 2- 38:30- 40:40; 3- 41:20- 45:36; 4- 51:00-54:00 ; 5- 56:00-59:00; 6- 1:29:00- 1:32:15)</p>	
11	07.12.2026	MEOBS Info_W11: Measuring (Distances, Levels, Dimensions) MEOBS Info_12: Order	<p>In pursuit of the deep meanings of some technical terms</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Why do we measure? What, and how? ii. Distance, Level, Dimension, Scale, Order iii. Spatial, Logical etc. Order iv. Organization of space v. In the pursuit of discovering the deep meanings of scale and order through three masters: Carlo Scarpa, Louis Khan, Architect Sinan <p>Grade Status II</p> <p><i>The outcomes: What have we learned so far?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Learning different aspects and meanings of the terms o Why do we measure? What, and how? o Is order an external must or an epistemological issue? o What do we do with "order"? <p><i>In-class participant cycle</i> Feedback about the most confusing and the most understandable points via writing on small pieces of paper.</p>	<p>Readings Onat, N. 1999. Merdiven, Carlo Scarpa ve ilk basamak, Tasarım Kuram Dergisi, 9-16.</p> <p>Film Playtime, 1967. Jacques Tati</p> <p>Further reading Kahn, L., I., 1955. Order and Form, Perspecta, Vol. 3, pp. 46-63</p>	
12	14.12.2026	MEOBS Info_W13: Techne MEOBS Info_W14: Shelter	<p>What is the meaning of dwelling?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. <u>Theoretical Background:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Cave, Nest, Primordial Hut, Shelter o Housing, Dwelling ii. <u>Learning from the Cases and Architects:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Çatalhöyük o Demir Houses (Turgut Cansever) o Falling Water (Frank Lloyd Wright) o B2 House (Han Tümertekin) 	<p>Film Baraka, 1992 Ron Fricke, Documentary</p> <p>Readings Heidegger, M. 1971. "Building Dwelling Thinking", in Poetry, language, thought,</p>	

			<i>The outcomes: What have we learned so far?</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meaning of shelter, dwelling • The architect's role in housing 	Trans. Albert Hofstadter, New York : Harper & Row, pp. 143- 159	
			<i>In-class participant cycle</i> Feedback about the most confusing and the most understandable points via writing on small pieces of paper.		
13	21.12. 2026		Student Presentations/ Teamworks (to be announced)		
14	28.12. 2026	MEOBS Info_W15: Epilogue	Student Presentations/ Teamworks (to be announced) Grade Status III		
04.01.2027-15.01.2027 FINAL WEEK					
18.01.2027-22.01.2027 MAKE-UP WEEK					

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ECTS / WORKING HOUR TABLE

Activities	Number of Weeks	Duration (Hour)	Working Hours
Duration of Course (Including Exams: 15 x Total Weekly Course Hour):	17	2	34
Extracurricular Working Hour (Seminar Attendance, Preparatory Work, Review Assignments, Internet Studies, etc.)	15	1	15
Submissions	9	1	9
Midterm	1	3	3
Final exam	1	6	6
Working Hours in Total			67
Working Hours in Total / 30			2,23
ECTS			2