

Subject card

Subject name and code	Urban Transformation: an urban planning competition in collaboration with the town of Reda, PG_00210499						
Field of study	Spatial Management						
Date of commencement of studies	October 2024		Academic year of realisation of subject		2026/2027		
Education level	Bachelor's studies		Subject group		Obligatory subject group in the field of study Optional subject group		
Mode of study	full-time studies		Mode of delivery		at the university		
Year of study	3		Language of instruction		Polish		
Semester of study	5		ECTS credits		2.0		
Learning profile	academic		Assessment form		credit		
Conducting unit							
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor		dr Hanna Obracht-Prondzyńska				
	Teachers						
Lesson types	Lesson type	Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Project	Seminar	SUM
	Number of study hours	30.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	30
	E-learning hours included: 0.0						
Learning activity and number of study hours	Learning activity	Participation in didactic classes included in study plan		Participation in consultation hours		Self-study	SUM
	Number of study hours	30		0.0		20.0	50
Subject objectives	The aim of the course is to develop students' skills in urban analysis and design in response to the real development challenges facing the city of Reda. The course focuses on exploring pathways for transforming a commuter town into a more multifunctional city offering high-quality urban spaces, diverse urban functions, attractive shared places, and conditions that foster social integration. Particular attention is given to the development of a city centre or a system of local centres connected by a network of public spaces, in line with the principles of the 15-minute city, climate-aligned urbanism, and the circular economy. The course also aims to develop design competencies through the implementation of a competition brief in collaboration with the city. Students will engage in a process of spatial diagnosis, identification of barriers and opportunities, formulation of a development strategy, preparation of a functional programme, and development of an urban design concept for a selected area. The course combines GIS analyses and field observations with strategic thinking and design at different scales, from the urban structure to detailed urban design. It prepares students to work on real-world urban challenges, developing their ability to collaborate, justify design decisions, and communicate proposals to stakeholders.						

Learning outcomes	Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
		The student understands the processes of transformation in contemporary cities and is familiar with the principles of shaping urban centres, public spaces, and functional-spatial structures that support quality of life, social integration, and sustainable development. They are able to use GIS analyses, field observations, and available data to examine urban morphology, the functioning of the city, barriers, and development potential. The student formulates a spatial transformation strategy incorporating the 15-minute city concept, climate change adaptation, and circular economy principles. They are able to develop a functional programme, a site development concept, and detailed urban design solutions, and to communicate them through plans, diagrams, visualisations, and project boards. They collaborate in a team, justify the proposed solutions, and present the concept in a competition format, taking into account the needs of the city and its residents.	[SU5] implementation of a problem task [SK2] presentation/project/paper/report
Subject contents	• Introduction to the Competition Brief and Reda's Urban Transformation. Presentation of the objectives of the collaboration with the city, the scope of the project, and the challenges related to developing a city centre, public spaces, and diverse urban functions. Introduction to the 15-minute city concept, climate-aligned urbanism, and the circular economy. • Study Visit and Urban Exploration. Observation of the spatial structure, the functioning of the city, existing shared places, and potential emerging centres. Identification of problems, needs, and opportunities for transformation. • Urban Analysis Methodology. Defining the scope of GIS analyses and field observations. Selecting data, indicators, and methods for assessing urban morphology, accessibility, the distribution of functions, the public space system, and spatial connections. • Spatial Diagnosis of Reda. Analysis of the functional-spatial structure, access to services, mobility, barriers, and development potential. Identification of existing and potential centres of urban activity. Preparation of conclusions and an analytical board. • Transformation Strategy and Functional Programme. Formulating a vision for the development of a city centre or a system of local centres. Defining connections between them, the role of public spaces, and directions for the development of urban functions. Preparing a functional programme and preliminary spatial design objectives. • Site Development Concept – Part I. Translating the strategy into urban design solutions. Shaping the built form, public spaces, pedestrian and cycling connections, green spaces, and the distribution of functions. • Site Development Concept – Part II. Developing the site development plan and its three-dimensional form. Integrating solutions that support quality of life, climate adaptation, and the efficient use of existing resources. • Urban Design Detail – Part I. Selecting a component of the strategy for detailed development. Designing a selected public space or another key element of the urban structure, taking into account its functions, users, and relationship with the surrounding area. • Urban Design Detail – Part II. Developing detailed site design solutions, including elements of public space, greenery, mobility, and urban furnishings. • Visualisation and Project Communication. Preparing visualisations, diagrams, and graphic materials illustrating the proposed transformations. Developing a coherent project narrative linking the diagnosis, strategy, and detailed solutions. • Preparation of Competition Boards. Preparing final boards presenting the analyses, strategy, functional programme, site development plan, and urban design details. Improving the clarity and graphic quality of the materials. • Presentation of Competition Projects. Team presentation and justification of the concepts, discussion of the proposed directions of transformation, and evaluation of the solutions in relation to Reda's needs and development challenges.		

Prerequisites and co-requisites	Basic knowledge of urbanism, spatial planning, and urban design is required, enabling students to analyse and develop concepts for urban spatial development. The ability to read maps and plans, familiarity with the basic principles of shaping functional-spatial structures, and basic skills in using GIS tools and graphic design software are useful. Students are expected to be willing to undertake fieldwork, collaborate in teams, independently seek information, and develop their design skills. They should possess basic competencies enabling them to prepare urban design boards, diagrams, and visualisations.		
Assessment methods and criteria	Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
	Presentation of the competition project	51.0%	15.0%
	Urban design detail board	51.0%	30.0%
	Board presenting the site development plan, visualisation, and graphically represented functional programme	51.0%	30.0%
	Urban analysis board	51.0%	25.0%
Recommended reading	Basic literature	Gehl, J. (2014). Miasta dla ludzi. RAM. Moreno, C. (2024). 15-minutowe miasto. Jak uratować czas i planetę. Wysoki Zamek. Sim, D. (2020). Miasto życzliwe. Jak kształtować miasto z troską o wszystkich. Wysoki Zamek. Montgomery, C. (2015). Miasto szczęśliwe. Jak zmienić nasze życie, zmieniając nasze miasta. Wysoki Zamek. Lynch, K. (2011). Obraz miasta. Archivolta.	
	Supplementary literature	Jacobs, J. (2014). Śmierć i życie wielkich miast Ameryki. Centrum Architektury. Carmona, M., Heath, T., Oc, T., & Tiesdell, S. (2010). Public places, urban spaces: The dimensions of urban design (2nd ed.). Routledge. Roberts, P., Sykes, H., & Granger, R. (red.). (2017). Urban regeneration (2nd ed.). SAGE Publications. Ellen MacArthur Foundation. (2019). City governments and their role in enabling a circular economy transition: An overview of urban policy levers. Ellen MacArthur Foundation. Newman, P., & Kenworthy, J. (2015). The end of automobile dependence: How cities are moving beyond car-based planning. Island Press.	
	eResources addresses		

Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	• What factors influence the functioning of a commuter town, and how can its transformation towards a more multifunctional city be supported? • Which characteristics of Reda's urban morphology and functional-spatial structure may support or hinder the development of a city centre? • Should Reda develop one main centre or a system of smaller local centres connected by a network of public spaces? • How can the 15-minute city concept support access to services, active mobility, and residents' everyday lives? • How can public spaces and shared places be designed to foster social integration, strengthen local identity, and enhance the attractiveness of the city? • How can climate change challenges and circular economy principles be incorporated into an urban transformation strategy and urban design? • What new housing models and urban functions can support the development of a more diverse urban structure? • Conducting a study visit, GIS analyses, and field observations to identify Reda's urban morphology, functioning, barriers, and development potential. • Identifying existing emerging urban centres and developing an urban transformation strategy. • Developing a functional programme and a site development concept for a selected area, consistent with the adopted strategy. • Preparing a detailed concept for a selected urban design element and visualisations of the proposed solutions. • Preparing competition boards presenting the diagnosis, strategy, site development plan, and urban design details, followed by a team presentation of the project.
Work placement	Not applicable

Document generated electronically. Does not require a seal or signature.