

OSLO SKØYEN | FROM NODE TO URBAN WATERFRONT

MASTER STUDIO AAR4515 URBAN DESIGN AND ARCHITECTURE | NTNU A-LAB | AUTUMN SEMESTER 2017

Skøyen is located in the western part of Oslo and constitutes a major urban development. The studio will explore how Skøyen can be developed from a node into a liveable city district on the fjord. In particular, it seeks visionary urban design and architectural projects to transform Skøyen's bay area into an urban waterfront and recreational park. Under the guiding theme of the adaptable city, we will create interfaces between city and nature, urban and suburban, public and private, and formal and informal spaces.

Oslo is one of Europe's fastest growing cities and over the last decades its urban fabric has been extended towards the water. Skøyen is part of this Fjord City plan that aims to redevelop the harbour areas of Oslo into future-oriented urban quarters. Yet in contrast to the high-end development of Aker Brygge, Bjørvika and Tjuvholmen, the studio envisions proposals for a more lively waterfront, in which different social groups and everyday activities can thrive and interweave.

As strategic site, we consider the area from Skøyen Sation to the Sjølyst Marina. The public transportation node serves as urban catalyst, incorporating railway, metro, tram and bus lines. Our main project site, the marina, is purely used for the storage of boats, which can be relocated or stored more efficiently. In this way, the huge bay area becomes available for urban transformation. Urban studies of the municipality propose high-density development with buildings heights of 8 to 16 floors for both the node and the marina. We will critically question these with the goal to design an everyday urban quarter that connects Skøyen with the fjord.



Based on the unique character of the bay, the studio will develop concepts for a mixed-use waterfront that relates to its built and natural context, by respecting the idiosyncrasies and identities already present on the site. The task is to integrate spaces and typologies for living, working and leisure on the water. The special scenery at the fjord allows for a wide variety of places, atmospheres and sensual experiences.

How can we create spaces that bring urban life to the marina and serves the needs of the growing population of Oslo? The existing qualities on the marina constitute significant resources, which can be enhanced in a number of ways. Present and new actors can become urban pioneers, the shores can be converted into a harbour promenade, the piers adapted for multiple water activities, sealed areas renaturalised into green spaces, and empty lots filled with new buildings.

In the future, the Skøyen Marina has to be reconceived as a connective place, where the city meets the fjord. The studio asks for visionary projects that contribute to the future development of Skøyen and its marina as well as foster the debate about novel spaces on the water.

The studio will be conducted in close collaboration with a-lab, who have their office located in Skøyen, and will host us during our excursion and field studies in Oslo. We will also collaborate with local stakeholders: the municipality, distinguished architects, landscape architects, planners, developers, and other experts.

REFERENCES

Dark, ADEPT. Skøyen sentrum: fra veikryss til levende bydel. Mulighetsstudie Oslo Kommune: 2013.

Dark, ADEPT. Skøyenområdet: analyse og studier. Mulighetsstudie Oslo Kommune: 2013.

PBE Plan- og bygningsetaten. Byplangrep Skøyen. Oslo Kommune: 2015.

Oslo Kommune. **Skøyen**. 2017, https://www.oslo.kommune.no/politikk-og-administrasjon/slik-bygger-vi-oslo/fjordbyen-vest/skoyen/



INTEGRATED COURSES

AAR4515 Urban Design and Architecture Studio (15 ECTS), www.ntnu.edu/studies/courses/AAR4515 AAR4905 Urban Lab (7.5 ECTS), www.ntnu.edu/studies/courses/AAR4905 Start 22.08.2017 | End 15.12.2017

INSTRUCTORS

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PARTNERS

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EXCURSION OSLO | AMSTERDAM AND ROTTERDAM OPTIONAL 11.09. - 22.09.2017

LANGUAGE

English

METHOD & OBJECTIVES

The studio and integrated lab course are structured into five interrelated streams.

Stream 1: Mapping & Imagining

We will explore Skøyen, its marina and context with field studies, mappings, and imaginations. The aim is to investigate the history, characteristics, atmospheres, spatial structures and activities on our site and its surrounding. Constant interpretations of our inventory will inform the design process.

Stream 2: Visioning, Projecting & Designing

The design process will begin with a visioning phase. Based on the site interpretations, you will propose ideas for the urban transformation of the Sjølyst Marina. Your visions will then be further developed into design concepts, strategies, and proposals throughout the semester. First, we will work on an master plan scale of 1:1000 to 1:500 and create urban design proposals for the redevelopment of the marina into an urban waterfront. Secondly, we will elaborate exemplary areas on an architectural and landscape architectural scale of 1:200 to 1:100 to show the main characteristics of the urban projects.

Stream 3: Exploring & Studying

Our research efforts will concentrate on the theme of the adaptable city, by exploring transformation strategies of former harbour areas into urban waterfronts. In the integrated urban lab course, we will critically study exemplary master plans and urban typologies, including town houses, slabs, urban villas, blocks, high-rises and hybrids. In addition, each student will read and write a short essay on a standard book on urbanism, architecture and the city. Both the studies and readings serve as references for our studio work.

Stream 4: Visualizing & Presenting

Throughout the semester, you will produce adequate visualizations and write a script about your design and research project. This will help you to guide, document and communicate the progress of your work.

Stream 5: Lectures & Reading

A lecture series will provide a broad perspective on urbanism and architecture. It will include introductions to the studio and lab topics, inputs from local stakeholders and experts, as well as presentations and readings on relevant urban design and architectural issues.

LEARNING OUTCOME

The learning objective is to gain advanced experience in urban design and architecture, concept development, visionary and strategic thinking, and visualization and communication techniques. These will enable students to tackle complex urban challenges and to synthesize their ideas and knowledge into a coherent design project. The studio and integrated lab seek to provide a comprehensive package linking design, research, theory and practice.