

School of Architecture + Design (A+D) 2017 Fall Travel Program
Segment 3 | Switzerland | France | Spain | Portugal |
(Wednesday October 11 – Tuesday November 7, 2017)



Faculty Member of Record: A+D ARCH Prof. **Mario Cortes** and **Henri T. de Hahn**
Course Title: Fall Travel Program Segment 3 (Switzerland, France, Spain and Portugal)
Course Number: Per Fall Travel Program
Type: Off-campus

Introduction

Mario Cortes and Henri T. de Hahn, architecture professors at the School of Architecture + Design (A+D), will be joining the 2017 Fall Travel Program during the final segment (No. 3) and offer students a particular insight into the culture of four countries –Switzerland, France, Spain and Portugal and their ensuing architectural production.

Program description:

Modern as well as contemporary European architecture remains without reservation a model for an integrative practice of architecture spanning from early design schematics to completed built work. The resulting artifacts often forcefully and unabashedly exhibit their presence by being *contemporary*, yet mostly balancing any 'wow' factor with more humble testimonies that subtly integrate each intervention within a historic fabric. This attitude to ground a project has, over the recent decades, shown architecture's great dexterity in handling complex urban left over spaces, interstitial spaces, and concerns about historic preservation, in particular within the historic fabric of European city centers.

The proposed itinerary is tailored to build on the previous three segments of the Fall Travel Program and focus on a number of architects (i.e. S. Calatrava (6); Le Corbusier (5); A. Gaudi (3); R. Koolhaas (1); Enric Miralles (2); R. Moneo (5); E de Moura (3); J. Nouvel (2); F. Nieto E. Sobejano (4); A. Siza (3), and P. Zumthor (2) as well as other star and lesser known architects (i.e., Atelier Cube (3); R. Bofill (3); F. Gehry (1); A. Gigon et M. Guyer (1); N. Foster (1); Mies van der Rohe (1); D. Perrault (1); Sana (1); B. Tschumi (1) and P. Versteegh (1) whose production remains remarkably noteworthy and important to visit first hand. While students may at this time be familiar with many of the architects – either through their academic tenure at A+D or through the previous segments of the Fall Travel Program, the faculty of record are interested in contextualizing each visit while bringing any previous experiences to bear on the production of new knowledge as students develop their attitudes about form making, construction, structure, technology, siting, all topics which will lead to the development of a personal language that will culminate during the students' upcoming thesis year.

The intended visits allow for a comparative discourse between religious, institutional, civic, real estate developments, private and social housing, and commercial interventions within both urban and rural contexts. Noteworthy, a number of impromptu and scheduled discussions regarding the understanding of each city will be held, as the urban European morphology remains integral in how building types are generated. Discussions will pay particular attention to the role of the concluding segment of the Fall Travel Program, taking care to provide a serious 'bookend' to the student's introduction to foreign cultures and to the spaces and places they have visited during the semester.