

B.Sc. Urban Planning / ST 2014

## Excursion “Warszawa” | Programme

*Tuesday | 10/06/2014*

09:00 | Ministerstwo Infrastruktury i Roswoju

The Department for Coordination of Development Strategies and Policies within the Ministry of Infrastructure and Development is responsible for designing and assessing long term strategies in the fields of regional and infrastructure policy. During our visit, we will, on the one hand, be introduced to the most important spatial planning institutions and documents in Poland. On the other hand, we will learn about regional disparities and recent tendencies in regional development. A special focus lies on the importance of EU funds for regional and infrastructure planning in Poland.

Hosts: Magdalena Dziubek-Grudzińska, Eugeniusz Sadowski, Ewa Kubel, Jacek Bialek

14:00 | Wydział Architektury Politechniki Warszawskiej

The Faculty of Architecture of the Politechnika is one of the most renowned places to study architecture and urbanism in Poland. Our host, Prof. Magdalena Staniszki, will present on historic continuities and changes in the urban development of Warsaw. Her presentation will highlight several challenges of the post-socialist transformation: urban sprawl, shrinking open spaces, hypermarkets, brownfield transformation, public spaces and the changing townscape. Magdalena Staniszki is not only a widely cited scholar on urban transformation in Warsaw. She is also one of the most influential architects and urban designers in Poland. In several functions she has given advice to governmental bodies on urban and spatial planning.

Hosts: Magdalena Staniszki

18:00 | Dom Kereta

The Keret House is both an art installation and a unique residential building: with a maximal width of 133 centimetres, it is one of the narrowest houses in the world. Realised as an artistic concept during WolaArt festival in 2009, the Keret house is now a temporary workplace and hermitage for young creators and intellectuals from all over the world. The Keret House is supposed to produce creative work conditions and become a significant platform for exchange in the Wola district of Warsaw and beyond.

Host: Jakub Szczęsny

19:00 | Fundacja Na Miejscu

The Na Miejscu Foundation is a non-profit organisation that aims to build and strengthen local communities by creating places that evoke social interactions and bring people together. One of their projects is situated in the Wola district of Warsaw. Based on a participatory approach, the foundation aims to revitalise the public space (i.e. a playground and some greenery) between two large-scale apartment buildings which were erected in the 1960ies as part of the “Osiedle Za Żelazną Bramą” (Behind the Iron Gate Estate). The project which is still work in progress is an outstanding example of bottom up planning in Warsaw.

Host: Krzysztof Herman

*Wednesday | 11/06/2014*

10:00 | Urząd m.st. Warszawy, Biuro Drogownictwa i Komunikacji

As the name reveals, the Roads and Public Transportation Office of the City of Warsaw is responsible for both private and public transport planning. In his presentation, the director of the Office, Mieczyslaw Reksnis, will provide an overview of current transportation issues in Warsaw. He will address the challenges of urban sprawl, recent efforts to strengthen public transport and biking as well as the plans to build two ring roads which would significantly reduce traffic flows through the city centre. Taken together, the Roads and Public Transportation Office aims to support the sustainable development of the transport system of Warsaw.

Host: Mieczyslaw Reksnis

14:00 | Guided tour on Housing in Warsaw

On a guided tour through the districts of Śródmieście and Praga, Anna Domaradzka, a sociologist who works on neighbourhood movements and local communities, will address some particularities of housing in Warsaw: the problems of ownership restitution and their impact on urban development, the at least partly still very bad condition of historical tenement houses and the ongoing restructuring and gentrification processes which transform and segregate the city centre. We will also have the opportunity to see a squat and to visit a neighbourhood movement which aims to increase the accessibility of public spaces.

Host: Anna Domaradzka

17:00 | R.B. Zajonc Institute for Social Studies

The R.B. Zajonc Institute for Social Studies (ISS) is part of the University of Warsaw and renowned for its interdisciplinary approach in studying societies. Renata Siemienska who is Head of the Centre of Interdisciplinary Gender Studies at the ISS will present on current social problems in Warsaw with a special and highlight questions of social housing.

Host: Renata Siemienska

*Thursday | 12/06/2014*

09:30 | Huta ArcelorMittal Warszawa

The ArcelorMittal Warszawa steel plant in the district of Bielany was originally founded in the 1950ies as part of the political programme to industrialise Warsaw. According to the socialist idea to prioritise industry, the company grew rapidly. It became both one of the biggest corporations in the city with approximately 10.000 employees and the centre of an ideal piece of socialist urban planning. The plant has been surrounded with large housing blocks for workers and a broad axis to connect it with the city centre. Today, not only the neighbourhood of the steel plant has changed. The company is privatised and scaled-down, but it continues to be a challenge for urban planning. On the one hand, it provokes questions regarding brownfield revitalisation and conflicts caused by emissions. On the other hand, ArcelorMittal Warszawa contributes to a diversified urban economy.

Host: Ewa Karpinska

14:00 | Urząd m.st. Warszawy, Biuro Architektury i Planowania Przestrzennego

The Municipal Office of Architecture and Urban Planning is the key actor in planning issues in Warsaw. However, as the presentation of Wojciech Bartoszczuk, who is one of the Chief Planning Specialist of the City of Warsaw and a lecturer at the Politechnika, will show the Municipality suffers from partly too complex and partly missing regulations. Wojciech Bartoszczuk will describe the system of spatial planning and highlight some future challenges for the development of Warsaw.

Host: Wojciech Bartoszczuk

*Friday | 13/06/2014*

10:00 | Final discussion