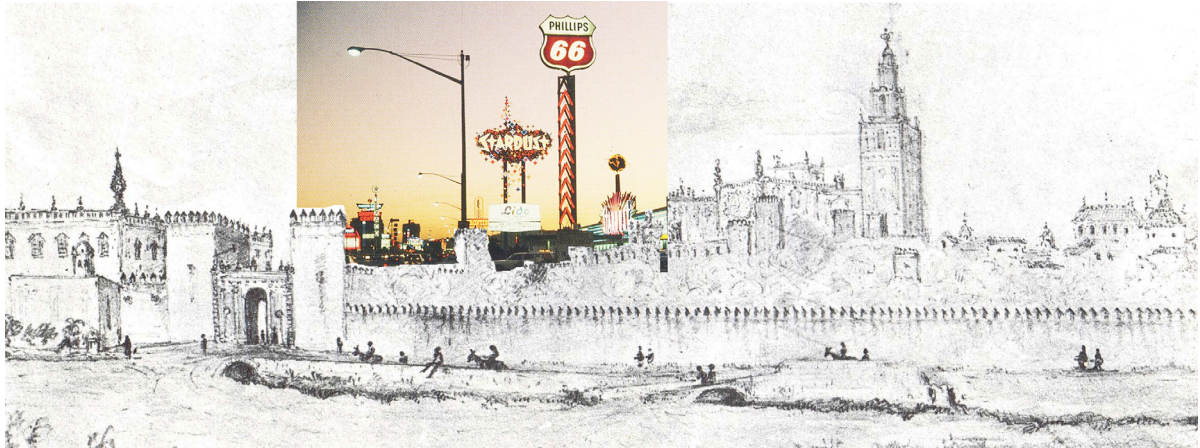




universidad de sevilla  
escuela técnica superior

**arquitectura**



BIP workshop INVISIBLE CITY SEVILLA: Improving the city through tourism  
School of Architecture. University of Sevilla

CODE ERASMUS BIP 2023-1-ES01-KA131-HED-000138344-5

Dates:

07 to 11 of April 2025 (physical mobility)

February to May 2025 (on-line connections)

## 1. Theme

### Tourism. City

In the lives of emperors there is a moment that follows pride in the disproportionate breadth of the territories we have conquered, melancholy and the relief of knowing that we will soon give up knowing and understanding them; a feeling like emptiness that comes over us one night along with the smell of elephants after the rain and of sandalwood ash that cools in the braziers; a vertigo that makes the rivers and mountains tremble, storied in the tawny rump of the planispheres [...] it is the desperate moment in which it is discovered that that empire that had seemed to us the sum of all wonders is a destruction without end or form, that its corruption is too gangrenous for our scepter to remedy it, that the triumph over enemy sovereigns has made us heirs of its long ruin. Only in Marco Polo's reports did Kublai Khan manage to discern, through the walls and towers destined to crumble, the filigree of a design so subtle that it escaped the bite of termites.

[...]

—Go on a trip, explore all the coasts, and look for that city —the Khan says to Marco—. Then return and tell me if my dream is true.

—Forgive me, sir: there is no doubt that sooner or later I will embark on that pier —says Marco—, but I won't come back to tell you about it. The city exists and has a simple secret: knows only departures and no returns.

Italo Calvino. Invisible Cities

The rise of tourism is changing the reality of many of the cities. This is a problem that was stated a long time ago and abundantly described, which goes beyond specialized studies to have become a current journalistic and political topic.

There has been much talk about this new element of mass consumption that, pushed by the geopolitical-health situation that makes Europe an attractive and safe destination, invades the cities of the Mediterranean arc.

### **Tourism Industry**

The reality of tourism is that of any productive industry, it has its factories, production elements in which the local population works through which the productive activity is developed, from which an enormous benefit is obtained quantified with its impact in numbers, always growing. Its footprint, like that of any other factory, extends into its surroundings, however, the location of the production poles of this manufacture benefits from its possibility of fragmentation and insertion into the historical fabric of cities.

Hotels, accommodation, restaurants, entertainment venues... colonize the city, substituting and displacing its uses, modifying its environment just when they are inserted in places or areas that they consider valuable in their previous state.

It would be worth asking for the development or the end of this process, foreseeing the possible deterioration or exhaustion of this deposit, anticipating the obsolescence of these new machines for inhabiting, or having fun.

### **Public space**

Tourism makes the public space the object of its visit, the space-of-use becomes a space-spectacle, causing its purpose or utility to change. Something that is evident in the most monumental environments, whose use is similar by all users, changes in communities and neighbourhoods, generating intensive or anomalous use, and discomfort for residents.

We ask ourselves if a balance point is possible that supposes a double benefit for the inhabitant and the visitor, and if architecture can help to find it.

Of course this is a problem for the city, but as long as there is a certain balance, the inhabitants could have the opportunity to interact or enjoy the city with the visitors.

We all travel and at some point, we are or have been on the other side of this reality. What is the relationship with the place and its inhabitants that we would like to have? Tourists probably seek to be able to use the city in a similar way to its inhabitants.

### **The Project. The Place**

We are working in the area of Seville with one of the highest heritage densities in the city, in a strip that despite its central and strategic position has never really been thought of, where a unitary project has never been carried out from its function, nor as green area nor from the benefit that the city that surrounds it can obtain from it. An area that in the same intense way wants and should be used by visitors and residents. We think it is necessary to organize its function and its flows and turn it into a walkable and pleasant place as a free space, as a garden, as a space for enjoyment, and we think that culture can play a role in this transformation.

### **The objectives**

We would like to know the projects carried out in this place during the first semester by students from Seville, Mainz and Lisbon, reflect on them, refine them and draw conclusions. We would also like to compare them with other projects carried out at the Faculties of Architecture of Cascais and Split, with similar themes during the same period. In this sense, the seminar becomes a teaching

complement, but also a way to specialize in the subject matter.

The theoretical theme and the research frame of the activity is a common one that have served during the last two years for several projects and ERASMUS BIP programs in the group-network of universities and academic people involved.

**2. Organization**

Escuela Técnica Superior de Arquitectura. Universidad de Sevilla, Spain

**3. Scientific Coordination**

Mario Algarín Comino

**4. Local Tutors**

Mario Algarín Comino

Andrés Galera Rodríguez

**5. On-line tutors**

Pedro Ravara, Faculdade do Arquitectura. University of Lisbon, Portugal

Olivier Boucheron, Ecole Nationale Supérieure d'Architecture University of Paris La-Villete, France.

Marta Pelegrín, Hochschule Mainz University of Applied Sciences, Germany.

Anh.Pham, Hochschule Mainz University of Applied Sciences, Germany.

Roberto Goycoolea Prado, Escuela de Arquitectura, Universidad de Alcalá de Henares, Spain.

Paz Núñez-Martí, Escuela de Arquitectura, Universidad de Alcalá de Henares, Spain.

Saša Randić, Faculty of civil engineering, architecture and geodesy, University of Split, Croatia.

Sanja Matijević Barčot, Faculty of civil engineering, architecture and geodesy, University of Split, Croatia.

Polona Filipic, Faculty of Architecture, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia.

Tadei Glazar, Faculty of Architecture, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia.

Mario Algarín Comino, Escuela Técnica Superior de Arquitectura, University of Sevilla, Spain

Most of these tutors are also coming for the BIP March Workshop.

**6. Scientific Board**

Names listed on 4 and 5

**7. Academic Partners**

University of Lisbon, Portugal

Hochschule Mainz, University of Applied Sciences, Germany

École Nationale Supérieure d'Architecture Paris La Villette, France

University of Alcalá de Henares, Spain

University of Split, Croatia

University of Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia

**8. Admission no and Credits ECTS**

15 to 25 students

55 seminar hours. 75 total work hours. 3 credits ECTS

**9. Design Workshop Stages. Work plan and activities. Schedule**

The design stage consists of three stages:

**10.1 Presentation and research stage**

2 online sessions:

Tuesday February 18. Online session 01	
Introduction. Information	9.00 h.-12.00 h.
Tuesday March 11. Online session 02	
Objectives Guidelines	9.00 h.-12.00 h.

**10.2 Presential on-site work**

Sevilla at the ETS of Architecture, April 07 to 12

Monday 07	arrivals Workshop presentation. Workgroups Lectures. The projects. Syllabus	11.00 h.-18.00 h.
Tuesday 08	Field trip. The Place. Visits: Cuartel de Caballería. Diputación Estudio Sur-Suroeste Fábrica de Tabacos Workshop session	9.00 h.-18.00 h.
Wednesday 09	Workshop session. Crits. The projects	9.00 h.-18.00 h.
Thursday 10	Field trip. Córdoba. Visits: Molino de Martos Mosque-cathedral	9.00 h.-18.00 h.
Friday 11	Lectures. The projects. Conclusions	9.00 h.-18.00 h.
Saturday 12	Departures	

**10.3 Final work and conclusions**

2 online sessions:

Tuesday April 23. Online session 03	
Workshop session	9.00 h.-12.00 h.
Tuesday May 02. Online session 04	
Definitive material. Publishing	9.00 h.-12.00 h.

**Total amount of time: 55 seminar hours. 75 total effective work hours.**

#### 10. Assessment.

Students will be graded on their attendance (online and presential), their group and individual work. More details are to be given later.

#### 11. Economic estimate of BIP activities

The budget includes mobility in the city and to the example locations for students and teachers, a brief- introduction notebook, drawing material and a lunch-coffee break in the mornings for the presential stage. Following the BIP program is estimated in 6000-8000 € depending on the number of students.

#### 12. Commitment on the part of the partner universities to provide a minimum number of students

The universities that are participating have engaged themselves to provide the minimum number of students for the program to be celebrated.

Seville, dec 11, 2024



Mario Algarín Comino

