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EXERCISE I SYLLABUS

EXAMPLES OF COLLECTIVE HOUSING [ANALYTICAL READING]

OBJECTIVES

The first assignment in Project V aims to familiarize students with the topic of collective housing buildings through an analytical and critical examination of built case studies.

By studying examples of collective housing buildings, the goal is to develop a critical perspective on architecture, focusing on understanding and refining design tools. The study is centered on various scales of analysis — from the urban fabric to the individual dwelling unit — observable in the selected examples.

In this sense, a group assignment is proposed with the objective of addressing a specific case study, examining it through a set of predefined analytical parameters.

PROGRAMME

The exercise is methodologically based on the decomposition of the case studies, the identification of their components, and the various relationships established, with the aim of developing a rational process for understanding the compositional principles of an architectural object and its relationship with its context. Regardless of the nature of the examples, the work must follow the same organisation and respond to the same parameters, in order to constitute a didactic tool that can be shared within the class and across classes. Accordingly, the analytical reading should be organised around three main themes:

Task 1. Organisation of the Dwelling Unit

It should allow for an understanding of the organisation of the dwelling unit, including its use, the nature of the spaces and their experiential qualities.

Work in class on drawings at scales appropriate to the resolution of each issue, considering the following parameters:

- 1.1 **Social / Private spaces:** a drawing identifying the INDIVIDUAL and COLLECTIVE domains as well as their ARTICULATION.
- 1.2 **Identification of served and servant spaces:** a diagrammatic scheme.
- 1.3 **Circulation:** a diagrammatic scheme.
- 1.4 **Relations – interior / exterior / transition:** a section and a perspective sketch revealing the INTERIOR/EXTERIOR relationship.
- 1.5 **Definitions of scale and use:** a plan and a section articulated to reflect the SCALE of the dwelling unit – the relationship between BODY dimensions and movements and the dimensions of SPACE – and its use – the practices associated with the space.
- 1.6 **Model at 1:50 scale:** this critical and conceptual model should make use of the possibilities opened up by the three-dimensionality of this study tool, emphasising one or more specific aspects of the case study, as revealed by the debate developed by each working group.

Task 2. Organisation and Composition of the Building

It should allow for an understanding of the building as an organism, the different elements that compose it, the relationship between its basic units (dwelling units) and the elements of articulation/distribution. It should also allow for an understanding of languages, aesthetic approaches, etc.

Axonometric diagrams will be used for the organisation of dwelling units, general uses, circulation and volumetric

composition; photographs for materialities, façade organisation and architectural language.
Work in class on drawings at scales appropriate to the resolution of each issue, considering the following parameters:

2.1. Building Organisation: Relationship and Articulation of the Basic Units (Dwelling Units) with the Whole

- 2.1.1 General uses (housing, commerce, parking, etc.)
- 2.1.2 Horizontal and vertical circulation
- 2.1.3 Contact with the ground, ground floor and accesses
- 2.1.4 Aggregation of dwelling units (spatial grid, structural grid and structuring elements)

2.2. Building Composition: Language, Aesthetic Approaches, Meanings

- 2.2.1 Organisation of the façade; language, elements and compositional rhythms
- 2.2.2 Materialities and colours

Task 3. Urban Relationship: The Building and Its Context

It should allow for an understanding of the building's integration within the urban fabric, its relationship with the built unit (block/slab/etc.) and with the urban elements of the public space (streets, squares, etc.).
Work in class on drawings at scales appropriate to the resolution of each issue, considering the following parameters:

- 3.1 Relationship of the building with the surrounding urban fabric – characterisation of the nature of the city space: public, private or of collective use.
- 3.2 Integration of the building within the built unit and the built masses (block/slab/tower, etc.): a three-dimensional (axonometric) diagram.

Schedule

Start: September 8

Task 01 [informal presentation in class]

Task 02 [informal presentation in class]

Task 03 [informal presentation in class]

Submission: September 22 [digital upload to the Cloud by 11:59 p.m.]

Presentation of printed panels in class: September 24

WORKING METHODS TO BE USED AND FINAL OUTPUTS

The work is to be carried out in groups of 3 or 4 students, each addressing one of the examples provided. The list of case studies will be supplied by the lecturer of each class.

In order to ensure comparability, all examples must be developed on the basis of:

[1] **Mandatory drawings**, presented at the same scale, which may use the original drawings or published material of the projects, duly processed or redrawn; and

[2] **Analytical and explanatory diagrams**, consisting of study and synthesis drawings of the observations, to be executed "freehand" or with precision instruments, including drawing over photographs or, if necessary, digital means for the final presentation.

Presentation Format

According to the templates provided (see annex to this brief), the work must be presented in a **booklet** composed of landscape A4 sheets, identifying at the top the selected example (black-and-white photograph, location, author and year) and the authors of the work.

The various graphic elements produced should preferably be placed at the centre of the page (both vertically and horizontally), respecting the proposed scales and ensuring comparability between case studies. Each analysis item must be clearly identified with the titles from the brief.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Assessment criteria include:

- a) Understanding the qualities of each example according to the established items and its contribution to the comprehension of the building as a whole;
- b) Ability to communicate the qualities of each example through the requested graphic elements;
- c) Ability to orally present the work carried out, with reference to other case studies;
- d) Quality and development of the working process;
- e) Attendance.

Lisbon, 08 September 2025