



Feldis, Foto: Viamala Tourismus

Advanced Studio: Visions for deep local change – Case study Feldis

Tutors: Oscar Buson, Michael Wagner, Design Studio, optional compulsory, 16 ECTS, German/English, 144 Lessons (+ 372 h self study time), Wednesdays and Thursdays, 8:30 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. in the studio, introduction on Sept., 3rd 2025 at 2:00 p.m., minimum 75% compulsory attendance, continuous assessment, midterm and final reviews. Relevant reading will be made available at the beginning of the course. A list of recommended literature will be announced in the course and updated on an ongoing basis. Contact: oscar.buson@uni.li, michael.wagner@uni.li

The studio is run as a joint venture with ETH Zurich and ZHAW Winterthur and in collaboration with the Landscape Architecture programme at the University of Applied Sciences Eastern Switzerland (OST).

What does a remote village in the Alps need to be lively, diverse and resilient in the future? The Advanced Studio Urban Design is dedicated to researching and sustainably designing the village of Feldis in the municipality of Domleschg in the Viamala region of the canton of Graubünden (Switzerland). Feldis lies on a terrace with breathtaking views at 1,470 metres above sea level on the eastern slope of the Hinterrhein valley and has around

140 inhabitants. Two-thirds of the dwellings are second homes. The village faces a variety of challenges: demographic change, the climate crisis, economic upheaval, changes in tourism, etc. The aim of the studio is to develop holistic, transformative and regenerative design strategies that take into account the specific ecological, social and cultural conditions on site. The students begin with a thorough analysis at various levels – from the landscape to the village centre. They work with maps, photos, interviews and statistical material to understand the spatial potential and tensions of the region. Based on these findings, they develop visionary yet realistic scenarios for spatial development that showcase new forms of coexistence, construction and resource use in an alpine context. The studio is designed as a laboratory for future-oriented spatial production. It promotes interdisciplinary thinking, context-sensitive design and the ability to spatially design complex systems. In dialogue with local actors, spatial scenarios are developed that understand the region as a livable, resilient and shapeable future landscape.