

CRAFT & STRUCTURE UNIT

INDEPENDENT STUDY



LINGER, SIT, STAY, DWELL

Lecturer: Livia Herle

Architecture is characterized by a continuous shift in scale, from the vast dimension of the city to the precision of construction details. While architects have long engaged with furniture and product design, the growing transdisciplinary nature of both the profession and society encourages designers to move fluidly across scales. As a result, an ambiguous realm emerges in which architecture and furniture design intersect, blurring the boundaries between the two disciplines. In fact, many well-known architects such as Aino and Alvar Aalto, Trix and Robert Haussmann Charles and Ray Eames, Arne Jacobsen or Ero Saarinen have been working successfully in both fields.

A very visible intersection between these two worlds can be seen in public spaces, where design invites to linger, sit, stay and dwell. Coming in all shapes and variations, these places can invite one to relax or just allow a few minutes of rest in the form of benches, chairs, beds or hammocks. Thus, in this independent study we will take a deep dive into the architecture and design of resting. We will be investigating the typical outside furniture types through history and analyzing their development. Material suitability as well as their influence on the impression of the user also play a key role in the understanding of intentions. The same can be said about placing, shade, sun, landscape or in general the overall setting at hand.

Over the semester, a research study will be conducted by each participating student individually. There will be a separation in the topics, with each student having slightly altered focus points. Based on the theoretical work, the examined methods will be applied in an own investigation and planning for a resting place on the University Campus. Intentions, setting, material choices and the design output have to be described and integrated in the overall research paper, due in the exam week of the semester. Depending on the number of students, one or several pieces of furniture can be built in one to one. The results will be shown in a small vernissage at the end of the semester.

4 ECTS

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