

PhD Course: Material Mobilities

Description: During the last decade of research affiliated to the 'new mobilities turn' the societal repercussions of intensive mobilities has been in focus. The 'turn' has documented the social, environmental, economic, and cultural effects of the contemporary patterns of movement of people, vehicles, goods, data and information. In parallel with this work new ideas and concepts about the human/non-human and the 'material dimension' of the social world has surfaced within a wide array of fields such as philosophy, anthropology, and cultural studies. The 'turn to the material' opens up a new set of research questions related to how artefacts and technologies facilitating and affording mobilities are being designed, constructed, and instituted? The new material interest furthermore point at new ways of comprehending the political and the power-dimensions of mobilities, places, and infrastructural landscapes. The turn to the material furthermore problematizes the Modern binary distinctions between humans and non-humans, subjects and objects, culture and nature. The course is aligned with the Center for Mobilities and Urban Studies (C-MUS) 2016 Conference 'Material Mobilities' taking place on November 29-30. Participants must enroll and participate in the full conference. The third day of the PhD course is the day after the conference where participants will be working with their projects in light of the conference inputs. The third day of the course will be organized as a roundtable discussion and participants must prepare a one page PhD project description of their project in relation to the conference theme. This page must be circulated to the organizers and participants no later than two weeks before the course. The participants are further expected to prepare one project statement/question to the plenary connecting the conference theme with their project. Finally the participants are expected to read a moderate amount of readings before the course. The course is aimed at PhD students within urban planning, architecture, geography, anthropology, and design with an interest in how the contemporary dynamic relationship between place, mobility, and materialities requires new theories, concepts and research approaches.

Organizer: Professor, Ole B. Jensen, obje@create.aau.dk

Lecturer(s): Professor Ole B. Jensen, Associate Professor Lea Louise Holst Laursen, and Associate Professor Claus Lassen

ECTS: 3 ECTS (participant work load)

Time: November 29, 30 and December 1 2016

Place: Aalborg University

Number of seats: 15

Deadline: One month before the course. For signup contact Ole B. Jensen, obje@create.aau.dk

Preliminary program:

November 29-30: Conference – see conference program

December 1

9.00 -11.00 Welcome, introduction and lectures

11.15 – 13.00 plenary workshop in groups

Break

14.00 – 15.30 plenary workshop in groups

15.30 – 16.00 discussion and sum up

