



INSIDE OUT * OUTSIDE IN

Studio Loeliger Strub

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Play, 'Shape-building game', archive photograph, 1960s/1970s

A PLAYFUL APPROACH TO URBAN LIVING & PLANING



The question “How do we want to live?” serves as the starting point for a playful and speculative exploration of new forms of communal living. Over the course of two consecutive semesters, each building on the other and starting from diametrically opposed perspectives, students develop urban housing concepts that integrate social, ecological, and structural considerations. The work moves from the individual room to the apartment and the house, and then to the city and back again. Different notions of community, privacy, and neighborhood are explored and translated into precise architectural projects.

Studio HS 26

THE CITY IN THE HOUSE

In the first semester, students develop new forms of housing from the residents' perspective. By questioning conventional notions of housing and addressing specific spatial needs, they create apartments, houses, and ultimately an urban building block for a larger community. The design process deliberately begins without a fixed program of spaces or a predetermined building site. Individual residential units are combined to form a large building for several hundred residents. Diverse neighborhoods, communal spaces, cultural offerings, and workspaces are organized and interconnected within an architecturally varied building structure and are only situated as a building block of the city at the very end.

A black and white photograph of a city street. On the left, there are historic multi-story buildings with many windows. On the right, a modern, taller building with a flat roof and horizontal lines is visible. The street is at the bottom, with some cars and a person visible.

Studio FS 27

THE HOUSE IN THE CITY

In the second semester, the question of the future of housing is examined from an urban perspective. Every architectural intervention takes place within an existing context. The starting point is an existing neighborhood, whose spatial, social, and ecological conditions are analyzed. Based on an understanding of existing structures, potential sites for densification are identified, and building sites for complementary urban elements are designated. Students develop their individual projects as standalone buildings within this urban context. Existing developments, open spaces, and social structures are incorporated and complemented by new forms of housing, communal uses, additional services to fill gaps, and public spaces.

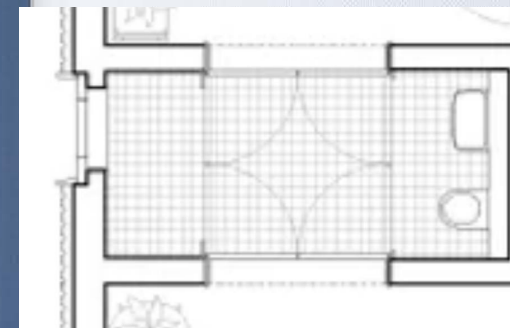
WHAT DO WE NEED FOR LIFE ?

Both semesters are based on the same fundamental questions and theories. What do we need to live, and what things can we do without? What can be reimagined or approached differently?

Fotoserie von Herlinde Koelbl: Schlafzimmer, Moskau (2000)

Regulations, standards & safety-first thinking

In the studio, we will discuss and scrutinise the proportionality of these demands from a holistic perspective as generalists.





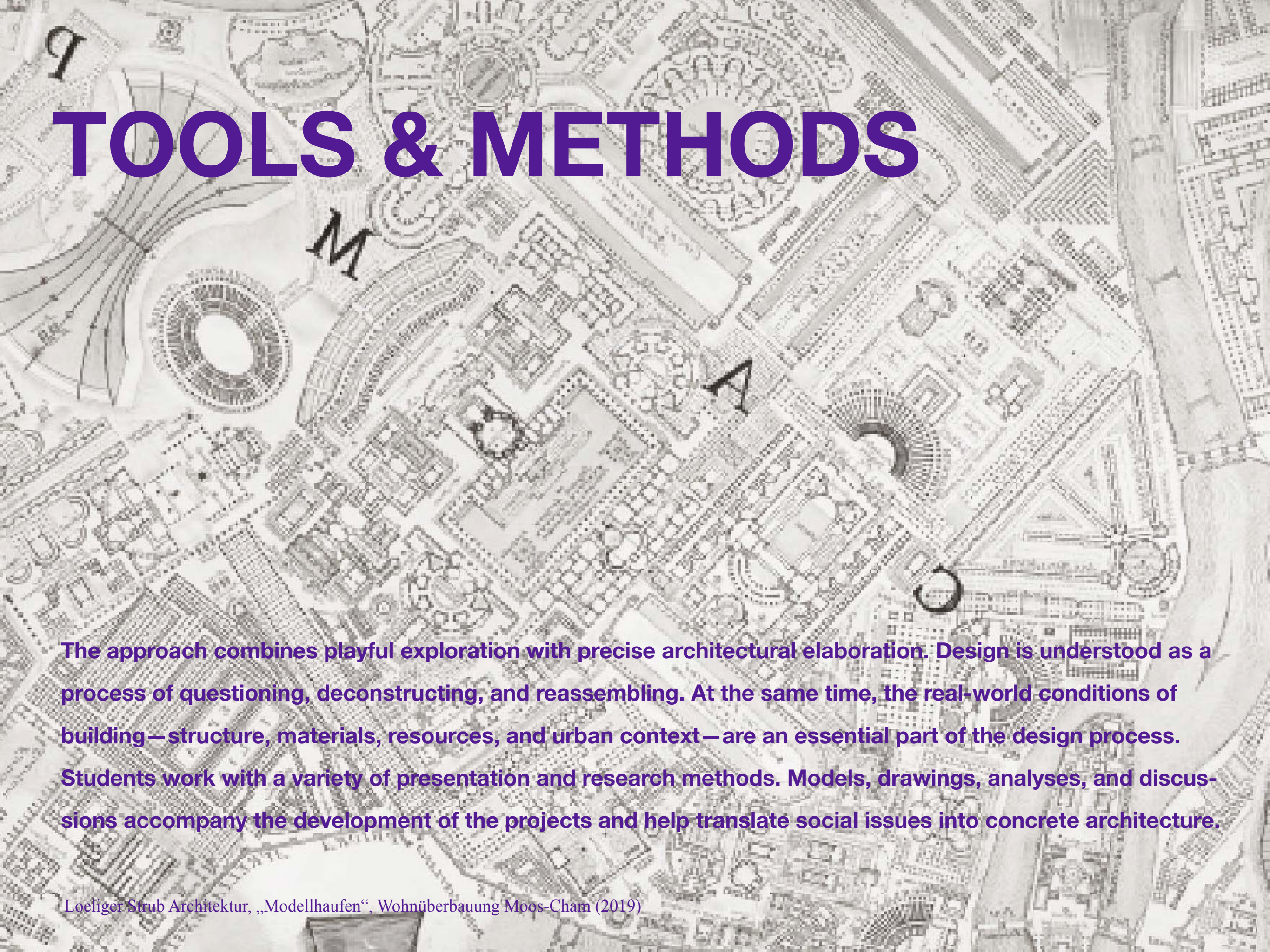
Simple structures & durable constructions

Simple structures and durable designs are more important than theoretical CO₂ efficiency.



Sufficiency in standards and practice

We take a fundamental look at our expectations regarding privacy, comfort, and safety.

An aerial photograph of a town, Moos-Cham, with various architectural annotations overlaid. In the top left, a handwritten letter 'Q' is present. In the center-left, a handwritten letter 'M' is placed over a circular feature. In the center-right, a handwritten letter 'A' is placed over a street intersection. In the bottom right, a handwritten letter 'C' is placed over a circular feature. The title 'TOOLS & METHODS' is written in large, bold, purple capital letters across the top half of the image.

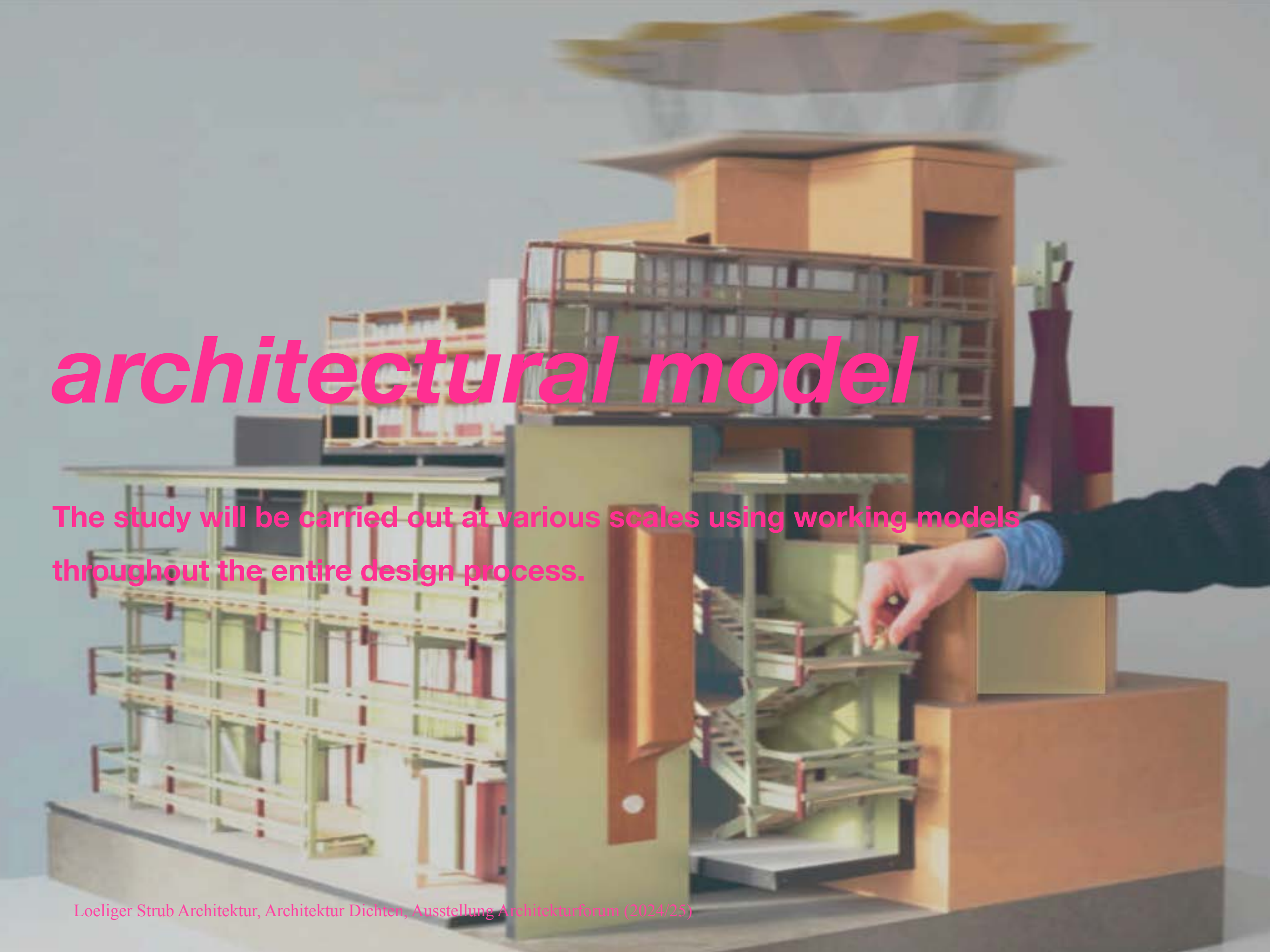
TOOLS & METHODS

The approach combines playful exploration with precise architectural elaboration. Design is understood as a process of questioning, deconstructing, and reassembling. At the same time, the real-world conditions of building—structure, materials, resources, and urban context—are an essential part of the design process. Students work with a variety of presentation and research methods. Models, drawings, analyses, and discussions accompany the development of the projects and help translate social issues into concrete architecture.



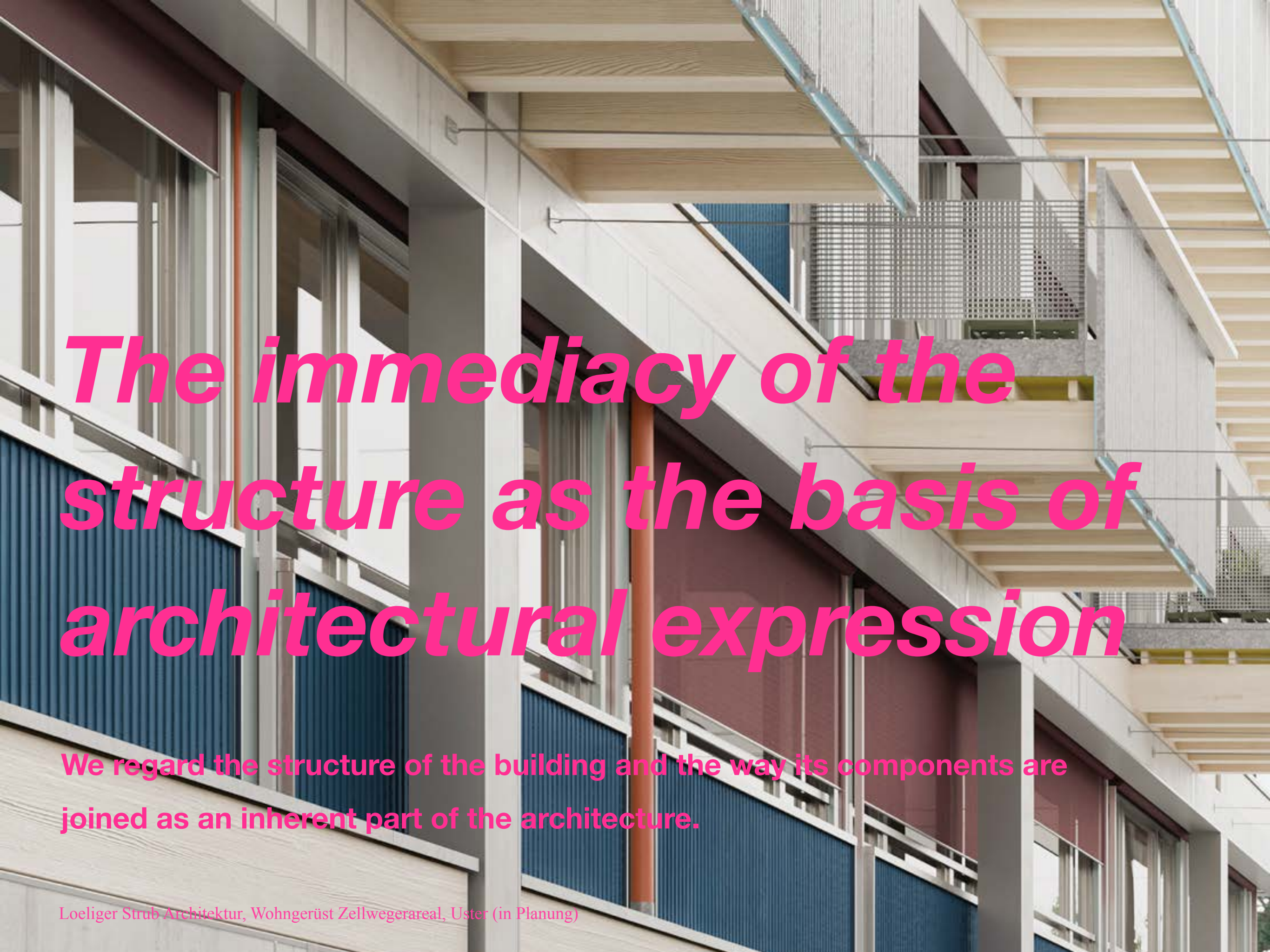
Simultaneity & equivalence of scale

Architectural issues relating to space and proportion, or structural considerations regarding the use of materials and the joining of components, are addressed simultaneously and in parallel with issues concerning the spatial programme or urban planning.

A detailed architectural model of a multi-story building. The model features a complex facade with a grid of windows and balconies. A hand is visible on the right side, interacting with a small, dark, rectangular object on the model's surface. The model is constructed from various materials, including wood, metal, and plastic, and is set against a plain, light-colored background.

architectural model

The study will be carried out at various scales using working models throughout the entire design process.

A photograph of a modern building facade featuring multiple levels of balconies. The balconies have light-colored wooden decking and metal railings. Below the balconies, there are sections of blue corrugated metal panels. The building's structure is composed of light-colored concrete or stone. The text is overlaid in a bold, pink, italicized font.

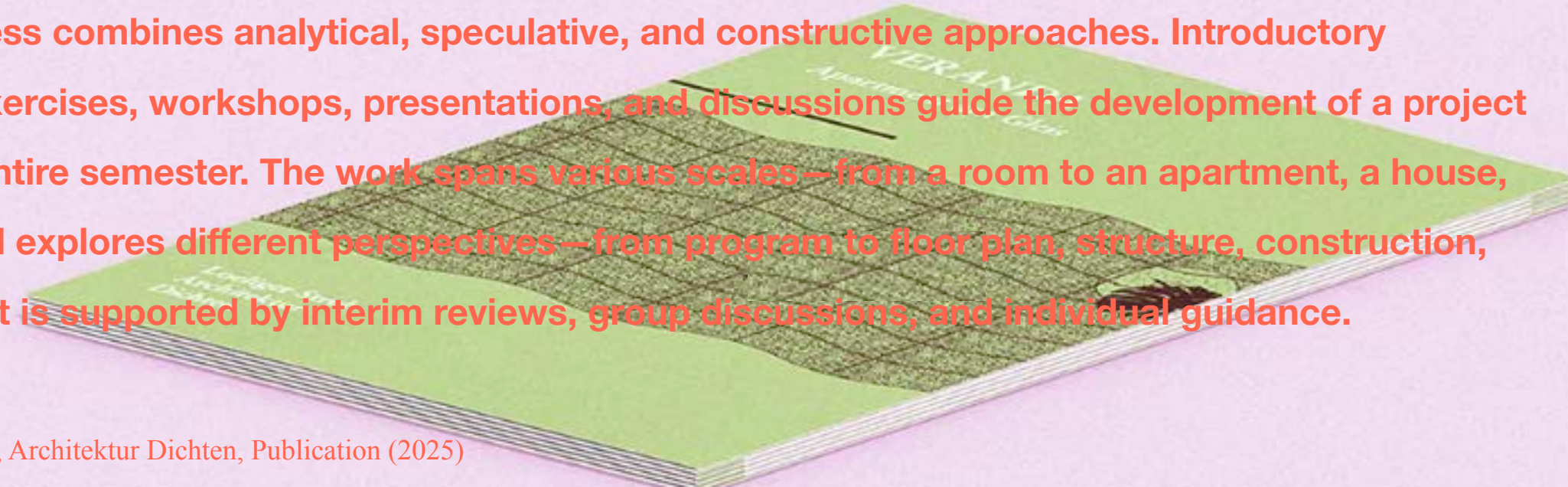
The immediacy of the structure as the basis of architectural expression

We regard the structure of the building and the way its components are joined as an inherent part of the architecture.

EXERCICES & LECTURES

A stack of several architectural books and papers. The top book has a dark blue cover with a white architectural drawing of a building. Below it, various other books with different colored covers (yellow, green, orange, red, blue) are visible, some slightly offset to show their edges. The stack is set against a light purple background.

The design process combines analytical, speculative, and constructive approaches. Introductory lectures, short exercises, workshops, presentations, and discussions guide the development of a project throughout the entire semester. The work spans various scales—from a room to an apartment, a house, and the city—and explores different perspectives—from program to floor plan, structure, construction, and expression. It is supported by interim reviews, group discussions, and individual guidance.

An open architectural book is shown at an angle. The left page is a light green cover with a dark green grid pattern. The right page is a light green cover with a dark green grid pattern. The book is set against a light purple background.

GUESTS & STUDY TRIP

A variety of guest speakers broaden the perspective and enrich the discussion throughout the two semesters. A field trip to Zurich during the fall semester to explore large-scale residential buildings and unconventional forms of housing sharpens students' perception. The trip during the spring semester focuses on the urban fabric.

Architects-Dressed-As-Their-Building, Beaux-Arts Ball New York (1931)

FRAMEWORK



Methodology: Work is conducted in pairs. Exercises, interim critiques, final presentations, models, drawings, and active participation in the studio form the basis for the final evaluation.

Language: English

Schedule: Study Trip September 26–29, 1st Review October 12, 2nd Review November 16, Final Review December 15.

Costs: Standard costs for model-making and printing; additional costs for field trips approx. CHF 300.