



Independent Study

Sustainable Design

Teachers: Prof. Dietrich Schwarz and David Kloeg MSc Arch, Module type Individual Elective ECTS selectable 4-3-2 ECTS Taught units per semester (in units of 45 minutes) 8-6-4 Private study time (in hours) 114.0, 85.5, 57.0 Min. Frequency Twice a year Language English Assessment: Minimum 75% compulsory attendance, regular meetings with instructors, continuous assessment, portfolio and final review. The final grade is calculated according to the weighting of the following components: final submission (80%) and oral presentation (20%).

Systematic Sustainability Catalogue

The Independent Study offers a small and focused contribution to the Systematic Sustainability Catalogue (SSC) of the Unit Sustainable Design.

The SSC is a research instrument. It compares theoretical texts, sustainability frameworks, standards, certification systems and local case studies in order to understand how sustainability is defined, measured, narrowed or expanded.

Each student works on one precise question. Possible topics include a selected source, one standard or certification system, one needs-based theme, one under-addressed field, or one local case study in the Alpine Rhine Valley.

The aim is concentration: to read carefully, compare critically and make one relevant aspect of sustainability clearer. The output may take the form of an annotated source dossier, a comparative matrix, a short written reflection, a coding sheet or a visual research map.

The Independent Study may support OPS! as a studio context. The distinction remains clear: SSC is research; OPS! is the design studio informed by this research.