

Situating Research: Approaches, Ethics, Collaborations, Writing.

Call for Expressions of Interest (17 May 2022)

This doctoral course is coordinated by the Department of Architecture and Civil Engineering at Chalmers University of Technology as part of the Swedish Research School ResArc. The course is open to PhD students at both ResArc partners universities (Chalmers, Lund and KTH) and other universities.

PhD students in architecture and other fields connected to the built environment, are often working in collaborative settings, and situated manners. They may engage with research participants (through interviews, focus groups, ethnographic observations and so on), and write about these engagements thus entering relationships with professionals, decision-makers, archives, cultural institutions, and members of the public that demand solid practices of ethical care. In the context of archival studies and critical-conceptual readings, one also writes not just about, but also with the concepts, historical traces, and narratives of others. On some occasions, PhD students are part of a funded research project involving non-academic partners, including funders. This course will address questions regarding how to position oneself within such relational and collaborative setup as ‘situated researchers’; how to situate and re-situate knowledge within an extended field; and approaches to writing. The course will have a strong focus on writing, combining taught seminars and writing workshops; and is relevant for PhD students in architecture, urban planning, landscape design, and other fields related to the built environment.

Module 1 (2.5 ECTS): Situating research: This module focuses on approaches to research and writing that emphasise the position of the research(er) within networks and partnerships and within knowledge fields and empirical terrains.

Module 2 (2.5 ECTS): Collaboration / writing: This module addresses questions of authorial voice and ethics in terms of (collaborative) writing practices and research outputs e.g., papers, exhibitions, design solutions, policy recommendations.

Module 3 (2.5 ECTS): Re-situating knowledge: Building on modules 1 and 2, this module will focus on a written assignment through reading and writing workshops.

Course assignment: written paper that can support the introductory sections of a doctoral thesis focusing on the positioning of the research within broader networks of collaboration.

Course seminar days

(Format: Mainly via Zoom with also some on-site components)

Thursday-Friday 24-25 November 2022 (Module 1)

Thursday-Friday 15-16 December 2022 (Module 2)

Thursday-Friday 19-20 January 2023 (Module 3)

More details about the course and instructions about the application process, will follow.

Application deadline: 31 October 2022 (Further instructions will follow).

Expressions of interest: At this point, we welcome expressions of interest by contacting:

Professor Isabelle Doucet isabelle.doucet@chalmers.se (course coordinator)

Professor Monica Billger monica.billger@chalmers.se (Vice head of Dept. PhD Education).