

Course Description (topic)

Title of the course: Critical Cartography of Technology and Power

Tutors of the course:

Vladan Joler

Lakner Antal

Code: M-KH-E-201-FS-252601-09	Related curriculum (programme/level) BA, MA	Recommended semester within the curriculum: 2025 fall Credit: 0	Number of class hours: 30 Student working hours:
Related codes: M-KH-201-FS-252601-09, B-KH-201-FS-252601-09	Type: practice	Can it be an elective course? No	In case of elective what are the specific prerequisites: -

Course connections (prerequisites, parallels):

2 Media design MA, 2 Photography MA, 2 Theory department MA students can register
10 Graphic design BA / MA students can register

The content of this course can be separated into three segments.

The first segment involves exploring different investigative and research methods as a foundation of the following process. Investigating complex socio-technological systems requires different investigation methods. Many of those methods belong to the corpus of Open Source Intelligence (OSINT) techniques. Some of those methods are technical (e.g., data collection, tracerouting, or content scraping), while others are closer to investigative journalism or traditional academic research methodologies.

In the second segment, we explore different ways of visualizing research data and representing them in the form of complex maps and diagrams. This segment explores basic concepts and methods of critical and counter cartography as a tool to represent information in spatial form as well as a tool that can help us think differently about the research and analytic process. Here we explore maps as multidimensional nonlinear storytelling devices.

In the final segment of this course, we reflect on the scientific, philosophical, and artistic meaning of the produced maps. Here we critically examine the cartographic medium itself and explore different forms of cartographic bias.