

Title	Walking the City
Codes	M-KF-E-301-FS-262701-09 / M-KF-301-FS-262701-09 / B-KF-401-FS-262701-09 / ER-MOME-MA-262701-09
Host	MA School
Location	Classroom / External venue

Basic info						
Course type	Credit	Contact hours	Student working hours	Unit type	Semester	Unit
Seminar	5	44	106	RDI	2026 fall	

Recommendation
This course is intended for students of any discipline interested in exploring practices of walking as a way of knowing and engaging with the city. We combine artistic research with fieldwork relying on mostly contemporary theories of cities and the philosophy of walking. There is a possibility to take an additional course connected to this one, engaging with artistic practice at AIT, taught by Ágnes Eperjesi. If students decide to take this additional course, they receive a certificate from Pomona College.

Short description
Where do Budapest's boundaries lie today, and what does the "end" of the city mean? The aim of the course is to explore Budapest's physical, mental, and social boundaries, and to examine them through critical and creative tools. Students approach the question of urban borders and peripheral areas using walking as a research and artistic method. A significant part of the course is built on fieldwork: together and individually, they traverse various boundary sections of the city, uncovering their spatial, social, and sensory layers. Getting to know and applying various methods of walking, documentation and creative practice — story maps, subjective mapping, creative writing, photo and sound-based observation — supports reflection. Alongside the practical work, students also engage with the literature on urban walking, drawn from the borderlands of cartography, art, sociology, and cultural memory.

Teachers			
Name	Contact information	Short BIO	Office hours
Daniella Huszár (22)	daniella.hu@gmail.com	expert in urban development, https://urbact.eu/expert-pool/daniella-huszar	on request

Eszter Kállay (22)	eszterkallay@gmail.com	Poet, visual artist, and researcher. PhD candidate at MOME. She holds an MA in Critical Studies from the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna. Author of two poetry volumes edited by Magvető. Her practice engages with participatory art, pedagogy, and feminist activism.	on request
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Course scheduling			
Course format		Weekly class appointments	
Seminar and fieldwork (city walks, site visits)		Friday, 8:30 – 11:20	
Details of each session’s type and schedule, showing the teacher’s role			
Week	Date	Weekly educational content	Studio/workshop
1	11 Sep	Introduction to the course. Walking and Journaling as methods. Preparation of Next Week’s Exercise (describe your favorite city walk while analyzing liminal situations). Reading: Jacobs, J. (1961). <i>The Death and Life of Great American Cities</i> (Selection: "The uses of sidewalks").	Location: Margitsziget
2	18 Sep	Walking and Writing I.: Representation of walking and the city in literature Part I. Discussion of the assignment “Your favourite city walk” Working with the descriptions of their city walks. Which cities did they choose and what did they observe? Part II. Intro to the concept of periphery in the city Reading: Péter Nádas <i>Út / Road</i> (available in English)	Location: Dob utca, Kazinczy Utca - Janikovszky Éva park
3	25 Sep	Walking and Writing II.. Discussing the Reading + Creative Writing Exercise. Reading: Ameel, L., Finch, J., & Salmela, M. (Eds.). (2015). <i>Literature and the peripheral city</i>. Palgrave Macmillan.	Location: MOME garden
4	2 Oct	Gentrification, Peripheries Discussion of Social and Historical Context, Liminal space, Physical Discovery of the space + tourist / resident - gentrification	Location: Népszínház street, II. János Pál Pápa tér, Fiumei úti sírkert

		Reading: Budapest: A Critical Guide (optional)	
5	9 Oct	Discovering a Geographical Border - Buda and Pest - Reading: Ian Sinclair London Orbital	external (due to BA Open Day on campus)
6	16 Oct	<i>COURSE WEEK, NO CLASS</i>	-
7	23 Oct	<i>NO CLASS</i>	-
8	30 Oct	Danube - nature and built environment, borders between water and land - discussion of readings + journaling check-in Reading: Frédéric Gros: A Philosophy of Walking + Magris: Danube	external (due to MA Open Day on campus) Location: Gellért Hill
9	6 Nov	The temporality of Walking, discovering the city as 'doing nothing' Reading: Jenny Odell: How to do Nothing, Saving Time - Walter Benjamin - Flaneur	Location: MOME seminar room
10	13 Nov	Feminist Aspects of Caring Infrastructures in a City + The female 'Flaneuse' Reading: Marie Laderman Ukeles - Care Manifesto - caring for the city. Lauren Elkin, Flâneuse : women walk the city in Paris, New York, Tokyo, Venice and London , av Elkin, Lauren, London :, Vintage Books, 2017., 3 - 23	Location: MOME seminar room
11	20 Nov	A History of Walking - Walking as a Methodology, Walking as a Way of Life Rebecca Solnit: Wanderlust + Frédéric Gros: The Philosophy of Walking Discussion and Individual Reflections + working on the journals	Location: MOME seminar room
12	27 Nov	Day and Night, Lightness and Dark - Walking as an Everyday Practice Michel de Certeau - The Practice of Everyday Life - Walking in the City de Certeau, M. (1984). Walking in the city. In <i>The practice of everyday life</i> (S. Rendall, Trans., pp. 91–110). University of California Press. Location: MOME seminar room https://apoemaday.tumblr.com/post/633609511757840385/night-walk	
13	4 Dec	Feedback, takeaways, mentoring of projects and journaling conclusions	Location: MOME seminar room
14	-		
15	-		

Course completion requirements, prerequisites, and evaluation				
Students' duties				
Requirements, assignments	Form of evaluation	Evaluation criteria	Deadline	% in evaluation

Requirement 1...	Completed Readings	Active Participation in the Discussions		40
Requirement 2...	Reflective Journaling (with text, photos or any other methodologies)	Completed Journal by the end of the Term	early December	60
General requirements				

Course materials and literature	
Mandatory literature	
see in slots above	
Course notes and presentations	
Recommended literature	
Thoreau walking https://www.gutenberg.org/files/1022/1022-h/1022-h.htm Georg Simmel, Metropolis and Mental Life (1903); Walter Benjamin, The Return of the Flâneur (1929);	

Learning outcomes	
Knowledge	theoretical and practical knowledge about urban walking as a tool for learning the city
Skills	methods and techniques for both documentation and reflection on practices of urban walking
Attitude	pro-active and resourceful in initiating new cultural production schemes
Autonomy and Responsibility	responsible for both the environment and the team involved in the project

Exemption
No exemption may be granted from participation in, or completion of, the course.

Curricular connections		
Unit	Parallel courses	Course proportion in unit

RDI	-	100%
Course prerequisites	Is it available as an elective?	If elective, specific prerequisites
-	No	-

Guidelines and rules for the use of artificial intelligence in the course

General regulations: According to the Moholy-Nagy University of Art and Design's Artificial Intelligence and Plagiarism Policy.

Equipment and materials needed from TechPark	Does TechPark provide this?
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Other information, comments

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