



semester:
5

COMMUNITY CENTER + LIBRARY

Liczba
punktów
ECTS

level:
1

DESIGN THROUGH REUSE

Rok akad.:
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Katedra prowadząca przedmiot
Katedra Architektury Miejskiej i Przestrzeni Nadwodnych

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Project Overview:

The Community Center with Library studio asks students to design an open civic building that combines neighbourhood meeting spaces with a contemporary public library. The project should create an inclusive place for learning, culture, everyday encounters and intergenerational exchange, while maintaining a strong relationship with the surrounding public greenery.

Core Design Idea — Reuse:

The central premise of the studio is design through reuse. Students will begin with the availability and properties of recovered resources rather than an unrestricted material palette. Reclaimed structural elements, reused façade components, salvaged timber, brick, glass and metal, as well as products with recycled content, should become active generators of form, space and architectural expression. The proposal must address sourcing, modular coordination, reversible joints, repair, adaptation and future disassembly.

Location:

The project site is Park Anny Walentynowicz in Gdańsk-Wrzeszcz, located between Aleja Grunwaldzka and Waryńskiego Street. It is a compact civic green space with pedestrian routes, seating, a children's play area and established planting. The design should preserve the continuity of the park, protect valuable greenery and respond sensitively to the site's commemorative character. Its position between a major urban avenue and residential fabric creates an opportunity for a visible yet welcoming neighbourhood institution.

Project Objectives:

- Design a coherent community center and public library as one inclusive civic institution.
- Create a clear sequence of open, quiet and flexible spaces for different ages and patterns of use.
- Maintain the public and green character of the site while strengthening connections with the surrounding district.
- Make recovered, reused and recycled materials the primary constructional and aesthetic logic of the project.
- Apply universal design, functional flexibility and solutions that support long-term adaptation.
- Demonstrate environmental responsibility from urban concept through building systems to architectural detail.

Project Scope:

Library Programme:

- Welcome, information and lending zone with clear orientation and an accessible service point.
- Open collections, individual and group reading areas, periodicals and multimedia resources.
- Children's library, storytelling area and spaces for learning through play.
- Quiet study room, digital workstations and a small local-history / community archive.
- Staff, storage, processing and technical support spaces appropriate to the proposed scale.

Community Programme:

- Flexible multipurpose hall for meetings, lectures, exhibitions, performances and local events.
- Workshop rooms for art, making, repair, education and skills exchange.
- Community kitchen and café integrated with the foyer and outdoor public space.
- Rooms for youth, seniors, neighbourhood organisations and informal social activity.

Shared Spatial Framework:

- Create a generous common foyer or indoor civic room linking the library and community functions.
- Provide adaptable rooms, shared sanitary facilities, administration, storage and service access.
- Use courtyards, terraces or covered thresholds to extend activities into the park throughout the year.

Circular Material Strategy:

- Prepare a material inventory and sourcing map for reclaimed elements available locally or regionally.
- Apply a reuse hierarchy: retain and reuse first, then reclaimed components, recycled-content products and responsibly sourced renewable materials.
- Develop at least three principal building or finish systems based on recovered components.
- Use dry, reversible connections, dimensional coordination and design for disassembly; document key components through material passports.

Environmental and Landscape Integration:

- Prioritise passive design, daylight, natural ventilation, solar control and low operational energy demand.
- Protect mature greenery and root zones, minimise sealed surfaces and limit disturbance of the existing park.
- Integrate rainwater retention, permeable surfaces, biodiversity-supporting planting and an appropriate roof landscape.
- Create outdoor reading, play and event areas while ensuring universal accessibility, bicycle access and discreet servicing.

Required Design Approach:

- Site and context analysis, functional brief, circulation diagrams and a landscape strategy.
- Material stock study, reuse concept and explanation of the proposed circular design process.
- Masterplan, plans, sections and elevations at scales appropriate to the studio stage.
- Key interior and exterior visualisations, building model and selected technical details.

Timeline:

The project will span one semester. Detailed milestones, consultation dates and submission requirements will be provided at the beginning of the studio.

Evaluation:

Students will be assessed on the clarity and quality of the proposal, functional and spatial feasibility, environmental responsibility and architectural communication. Particular emphasis will be placed on consistent use of reclaimed and recycled materials, credible sourcing and assembly strategies, adaptability and design for disassembly.