

Core Program Master-Thesis FS 2024: Zürich Oerlikon - Regensbergbrücke

Prof. Christian Kerez – Architecture

Axel Paulus – Architecture and the Building Process



Zürich Oerlikon - Regensbergbrücke

Competitions represent one of the core disciplines of architectural design. In preparation to professional challenges, we propose to simulate an on-going competition and elaborate a project with the special focus on a critical understanding of competition briefs³ as a public responsibility - how to understand a given task and what could be the contribution of a building, in much wider sense?

Students will elaborate a proposal within the framework of the international design competition for the **high-rise in Zürich Oerlikon – Regensbergbrücke**.

Program: Public oriented functions, office, education, healthcare and qualitative outdoor space
Site: Corner of Hofwiesenstrasse and Regensbergbrücke, Oerlikon ZH
Plot: 3'200 m²
Size: ca. 6'100 m² GF

During research and design phase, students will be investigating questions such as:

- *What is a high-rise in Switzerland and more specifically in such a prominent area as a train station?*
- *What functions make sense in a vertical structure and in proximity to public infrastructure?*
- *What is the core meaning of “Long-Lasting” in the light of ongoing developments and which structures could respond to these needs?*
- *What is the role and responsibility of public institutions and developers on our built environment? How have they acted in the last years and what were the socio-economic impacts?*
- *How can one look at the development of land adjacent to the Swiss public railway?*
- *Organizational Form: How do we act in the Design and Building Process? Is it tricky or complex?*
- *What is a Professional: Which services and responsibilities do we provide?*

More about the ongoing competition:

<https://competitions.espazium.ch/de/wettbewerbe/home/zurich-oerlikon-hochhaus-regensbergbruecke>

Description of preparation and elaboration phase in key-words:

Preparation phase:

- Analysis of the design brief, analysis of the geographic, socio-political and cultural dimensions
- Research on the correlation between typological specificities of the program and structural principles
- Collection of case-studies of comparable objects
- Concept study: development of an organization and structural principle

Elaboration phase:

- Specific design according to the emerging topics from preparation phase.

Teaching format:

The preparation phase aims at defining the design criteria for the elaboration phase. This phase consists of a research part, that can be done in the format of group work and a concept study part that will be done in form of individual work. Both phases will be assisted weekly in the form of collective or individual feedbacks and will be concluded with a review with Professor for Architecture and Design Christian Kerez and Senior Scientist Axel Paulus, Chair of Architecture and the Building Process.

Ratio of grading by cooperation partners for preparation and elaboration phase:

The grade will be defined in accordance by both cooperation partners since the architectural and structural design are not conceived to be separable from one another.

Preparation phase:

Percentage designer(s): 80%

Percentage non-designer: 20%

Elaboration phase:

Percentage designer(s): 80%

Percentage non-designer: 20%