

# Interiors Buildings Cities

## MSc2 Salon



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Spring semester 2022

Course Coordinator  
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Tutors

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Code	AR2AI011
Credits	15 ECTS
Location	Brussels
Excursion	Yes*
Costs	€150-200

Project type	Practice related
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Approved Master 2 Yes  
Architecture design  
project

\* only in the EU, green/yellow zones are allowed.

The Salon of the MSc2 project refers to the tradition of the large public room, which receives and shapes the society of people that it gathers. Originally the salon was both a cultural phenomenon and a specific space within the European aristocratic home during the 17th and 18th centuries. They were social gatherings in which participants engaged in the art of conversation, dedicated to the exchange of ideas and the pursuit of knowledge. Salons were mostly initiated by women (salonnières), and offered a way for those without formal power to influence discourse. This course considers the relevance of such a notion in a contemporary setting.

You will design the structure and fabric of a contemporary salon, in response to an existing building and a specific community and site. The room's scale and elaborated interior structures the orders and arrangements of the building

in which it is set. It offers opportunities for both intimacy and publicness and, whether through its physical relationship with the outside, or as a consequence of the conversations or events that it hosts, it engages the city.

In the spring semester of 2021 the salon is reinterpreted within the context of the city of Brussels. Through a process of iterative drawing and large-scale physical modelling, supported by lectures and seminars, you will design the structure and fabric of a contemporary salon, in response to an existing building and including consideration of its furnishing, material finishes and the possibilities for its inhabitation. In doing so, it brings together the idea of the building and its interiors as cultural artefacts, and the necessary technical components it needs to accommodate to operate within 21st century demands on comfort and sustainability.