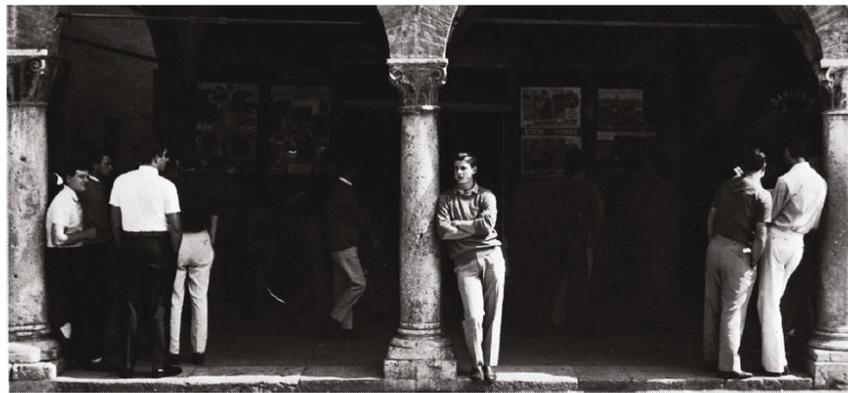
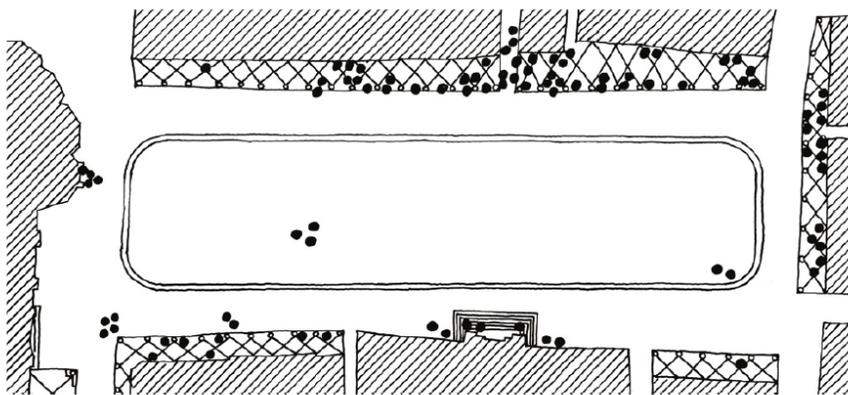


Cities fail and succeed at the level of human interaction.

Ethan Kent

PREMISE: The success of a public space can be judged by the number of people who use it. Whether in the walls of a museum, historic house, or the expanse of a public square, creative activation is what makes a space a place, gives meaning, and builds personal attachment. This never-ending design process, known as *Placemaking* seeks to engage diverse audiences in the life of a city by acknowledging the ever-changing social, political and technical landscape. Our hypothesis is that these spaces fail, at least in part, by their inability to accommodate the real life, quirky, and emotional experiences of everyday life.

Good Places to Stand Study, How to Study Public Life, page 88.



CONTENT: This observational research-oriented course will focus on discovering the architectural and urban framework that support experience. Students will undertake an analysis and design process that combines rigorous, methodical, and critical thinking with ideas that are speculative, subjective and anecdotal. Their research will expand on the concepts for activation introduced in the Anarchist's Guide to Historic House Museums to urban spaces.

METHOD: After a literature review of public life studies, each student will develop an individual methodology for studying the interaction between public life and public space within the observational framework of Counting, Tracing, Test walks, Mapping, Tracking, Photographing, Looking for traces and Keeping a diary.¹ Over the course of their two-week summer study, they will produce a publishable quality, comparative mapping study of at least six different public spaces in either Hamburg, Copenhagen or Malmo, Sweden.

EVALUATION & GRADING: Study methodologies will be due June 11, with first and second drafts due on the Friday of each study week. Final studies will be due online on July 5, 2018. Grades will be based upon each student's ability to articulate their methodology within the historical context of public life studies, the quality and analysis of the data gathered onsite and conveyed in their first and second drafts, and the written and graphic quality of the final study.

CLASS READINGS excerpted from:

Deborah Ryan and Franklin Vagnone, Anarchist's Guide to Historic House Museums. Left Coast Press, 2015

Jan Gehl and Birgitte Svarre, How to Study Public Life, Island Press 2013. See also <https://vimeo.com/86151838> for a book talk.

SCHEDULE: The class will be held every day except Sundays between June 11- June 22 from 10:00am to 5:00pm. In addition, there will be at least two evenings with scheduled activities. Students will meet in Hafen City in Hamburg, Germany at 10:00am on Monday, June 11

¹ Excerpted from *How to Study Public Life*, page 24.

