

Space, Place and Society is a Group of PhD students at EGIS, Heriot Watt University. The group was created in 2014 with the intention of sharing research knowledge, ideas and problems among PhD students who have got space, place and people at the core of their research.

We set up monthly topics (from general common interests such as Methodology, Publication, Communication to more specific themes such as Place-making, Wellbeing or Social Exclusion). We meet weekly to discuss those topics in an informal-relaxing way over lunch. Every month we also invite external speakers, watch films and present our own work in order to foster further debate. We share links, news, conferences and call of papers through our blog.

Our weekly Wednesday meetings have been open to all PhD students. Students have shared their ideas for monthly topics, events or activities. We have also created a blog <http://spacegroup.passle.net>.

Space Group course 3- 2016/17

When?	What?	Why?
19 th April 2017	Open Talk Series: "A place for pedagogy and play" Speaker: Matluba Khan	Matluba's talk will focus on the 'affordances' of the designed school ground for children's formal and informal learning activities. It will also highlight how the teachers discovered affordances in different landscape elements that influenced their teaching practices.
26 th April 2017	Space+Place+Society welcome to new students.	
03 rd May 2017	Open Talk Series: "Commodifying urban space. The clash of promises and everyday life." Speaker: Bilge Serin	The talk focuses on the case of branded housing projects in Istanbul, Turkey as a particular version of housing enclaves and discusses their recent emergence in this locality regarding the projects' development processes, discursive formation and spatial practices.
17 th May 2017	Film Session: "Equal by Design" By Peg Rawes and Beth Lord	A documentary film about equality, wellbeing and the UK housing crisis. The film shows how seventeenth-century Dutch philosopher Baruch Spinoza's theories of wellbeing and equality can be used to

		analyse housing and income inequalities, and how his ideas relate to post-war and current social housing design. It features contributors from the architectural profession, national charities, journalism and academia.
24 th May 2017	Round-table Series: "The Power Struggle over Urban Space: Spatial Violence and (In)Justice"	This session aims to discuss the contemporary power struggle over geography through practices of the spatial (symbolic or physical) violence and spatial (in)justices. The tensions created by attempts of controlling over urban space and its production practices will particularly be focused.

Space Group course 2- 2015/16

When?	What?	Why?
16 th September 2015	Inaugural Space Group Cinema Night	Documentary Film " <i>The Price We Pay</i> " about the dark history of big-business tax avoidance, which has seen multinationals depriving governments of trillions of dollars in tax revenues by harboring profits in offshore havens.
07 th October 2015	Welcome to new members	Provisional calendar of activities and topics.
22 th October 2015	Social gathering	
NOVEMBER: Month of SOCIAL EXCLUSION		
18 th November 2015	Documentary film session	Film " <i>Cathy Come Home</i> ", 1966, directed by Ken Loach, about homelessness.
25 th November 2015	Seminar by Tim Packer	Seminar on his experience as council officer for Children and Families, and the work done at Craygroyston High School.
DECEMBER: Month of HOUSING CRISIS IN THE UK		
02 nd December 2015	Seminar by Adam Stephenson	Adam presented his PhD Research.
03 rd December 2015	Space group Christmas Social	
15 th December 2015	Space group programme discussion	
FEBRUARY: Month of PLANNING, PLACE MAKING AND WELLBEING		

03 rd February 2016	Documentary film session	Documentary film " <i>Si se puede</i> " about anti-eviction platform in Spain.
10 th February 2016	Seminar by Ian Wight PhD MCIP (Ret'd) Senior Scholar, City Planning, Faculty of Architecture, University of Manitoba,	A conversation around ' <i>place, place-making and planning.</i> ' Exploring space-place transformation and great place-making.
17 th February 2016	Seminar by Jenny Wood	Breakdown of the planning system in Scotland.
24 th February 2016	Seminar at ESALA	"Where does design begin?"
2 nd March 2016	Seminar by Natasa Colic	An overview of her PhD ' <i>Examining the changing role of the public interest in planning practice in Belgrade, Serbia</i> ' .
JUNE: Month of COMMUNICATION in RESEARCH		
07 th June 2016	Space group attend EGIS quiz	
08 th June 2016	Seminar by Belén Butragueño Díaz-Guerra PhD, M.Arch . Lecturer in Graphic Arch. Ideation at ETS Architecture Madrid, UPM since 2007.	<i>Communication skills for researchers: "In an increasingly competitive and global market, researchers need to communicate their work effectively to an international audience. It is important to consider that any communicative act influence both speaker and receiver to the same extent. We need to catch the attention of the audience by creating a performative experience in which many agents are of vital importance: from the speaker attitude, to the graphic strategies of a presentation. A successful communication of a research might imply a significant progress in it."</i>

Space Group course 1- 2014/15

The Space Group explore contemporary issues of urbanism, architecture, urban social policy, socio-spatial exclusion, wellbeing and third-space. Explorations are arranged by theme or strand. Current themes include 'writing' and dissemination'

When?	What?	Why?
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12 November 2014	Inaugural meeting of the fledgling Space group	Space group convene to establish network of like-minded scholars
14 th November 2014	Urban Age Governing Urban Futures	No sure if you managed to watch it?
17 th November 2014	Launched of Space Group blog	An open platform inside Passle aimed to share knowledge regarding our common research interests.
26 th November 2014	Presentation session	5 min. informal presentation of our research to the group
November or December?	Discussion of Research	Mandy Nioi presents her research so far to the group. Penni Collings discusses her research with the group
14 th January 2015	Discussion of the plan for the semester	First meeting after Christmas break
23 January 2015	Space group programme emerges	Space group agree to explore themes relating to methodology, writing and dissemination
28 January 2015	Methodology strand opened	Something else was discussed first- was this Bilge's presentation? Jenny Wood gives talk on her experience of mapping exercises with children
4 th February 2015	Methods Discussion	Luca Brunelli discusses his proposed fieldwork strategy with the group for feedback.
MARCH: MONTH OF DISSEMINATION		
4 March 2015	Launch of Space group round table series with Dr Harry Smith.	Harry Smith in conversation with PhD researchers. – “how to get published”. Part of dissemination theme .
11 th March 2015	Dissemination Discussion	Bilge presents her research in Pecha Kucha format
18 th March 2015	Dissemination: Publishing a paper	Jenny talked us about her experience while publishing a paper
25 March 2015	Documentary film Session	Ecumenopolis-City Without Limits. Documentary film about urbanization in Istanbul, Turkey
April: Easter break		
29 April 2015	Discussion about Writing	Organizing May agenda

29 April	First Space group debut film club	Film club launches with drinks followed by Blade Runner at Edinburgh's FilmHouse cinema
May: month of Writing		
5 May 2015	Space group attend EGIS quiz	Space claim second place in annual pub quiz
6 May 2015	Discussion Limitations while Writing	Open discussion
13 May 2015	Space Group presents: Dark Days	As part of dissemination strand, Space group screen 'Dark Days' – "A cinematic portrait of the homeless population who live permanently in the underground tunnels of New York City"
20 May 2015	Within the 'writing' strand , Jenny Wood launches the Space group writing session pilot series	The writing session aims to create a mutually supportive time and space in which participants set a specific goal of writing.
27 May 2015	Continuation of Space group's writing session pilot	Second event of writing session pilot series
27 May 2015	Space group round table: with Dr Beth Watts. Second event in round table series	To explore the dissemination theme , Dr Watts lead a discussion on research blogs
3 June 2015	Third instalment of the Space group's writing session pilot	
3 June 2015	Space group propose 'summer session' at the Meadows	