



## WORKSHOP: ON RESEARCH DEANE SIMPSON

We will address the potentials and limitations that urban research offers in constructing critical and productive frameworks within which to act as architects or urban designers. We will discuss whether or not this approach might open up alternative economies or sustainability.

You will be asked, in groups of five, to develop an infographic (A3/A4 landscape format) that communicates a contemporary urban phenomenon of your choosing – one local to Norway. In this setting, we will consider urbanism in broad terms – as a socio-technical construct or formed by a range of factors including the political and the economic. You will be encouraged to engage your interest and concerns in what is going on around you: from crises also urbanism, to the expanding urbanism of the Northern Sea Route; to modern villages, to semi-land urbanism in an at-risk country; to shrinking urban centres and exurbia. This research will be formulated into an argument through the medium of the infographic. With this in mind, we will briefly discuss different traditions and techniques of urban research by architects such as Yonah Waskoff and Leon Krier, Yeh Ezyek, AMO, Stage Show/Wow, Wenzhao and Eastwind.

Not traditionally a technique of architectural representation, the infographic is based upon the communication of complex information in graphic form that addresses multiple spatial and temporal scales of an event or phenomenon. Of critical importance to us is that the infographic is grounded in the logic of clarity and accessibility of information – so a result, its features may be posted on the street-views.

None of its message. Several examples of infographics will be created in participants, with the intention of providing suggestions of possible approaches and techniques. However, don't be limited to these. It is important to have fun exploring various techniques and possibilities.

Monday 25th 10:00-12:00: group up in teams of five, select your urban phenomenon of interest.

Monday 25th – Thursday 28th: Develop research and infographic independently in your groups.

Friday 29th 10:00-12:00: Each group of five to present draft infographic to overall group for critique. Followed by ongoing development. (Development will not be in Bergen during this session).

Saturday 30th 11:00-12:00: Final session on research. Each group of five to present revised infographic to overall group for critique. Followed by ongoing development and completion.

Sunday 30th 14:00-18:00: Final presentations of each workshop.

Biography: Deane Simpson is an architect and Urban Master at the Architectural Association (AA) in London. He was previously lecturer at the Royal College of Art and School of Architecture at Queen's University. He was educated at Columbia University in New York and is completing a doctoral dissertation at the ETH Zurich. He practiced with Olin + Scharoun in New York between 1982 and 1988, was taught design and theory with STU Zürich between 1994 and 2000.