

# Living in Grisons



Rudolf Olgiati: Haus Flims-Salums.  
Photograph by Brutarchitekt,  
2021.

For there is no such thing as a first language in the Grisons, there is not one single-family house typology in the canton either. There are Engadiner houses in plastered stone, Prättigauer houses in layered wooden beams, and Bergeller houses in exposed masonry, but a Grisons house one fails to find. Varying from village to village, these houses often have more in common with their Roman, German, and Italian neighbours found on the other sides of the mountains, than with each other. They exist at the intersection of these borrowed building cultures, and should thus be studied within its environmental relations, rather than as autonomous objects.

Wandering villages, traversing valleys, and crossing passes, during the seminar week we will document these environmental relations, and trace the development of the single-family houses throughout history. By means of drawing, we will examine relationships between building and topography, between dwelling and working, and between single units and infrastructure that connects them with its natural and/or urban environment. Specific architectural and technical elements of each house are studied in detail through historic research as well as on-site investigations, to ultimately arrive at an ecology of living in the Grisons.

**Seminarweek HS 2024  
Single-family Houses  
& their Environment**

**October 21–25, 2024  
cost category B, max. 16 students**

**Chair for Architectural Behaviorology:  
Prof. Momoyo Kaijima, Sofia Ferrari,  
Barbara Bergamaschi**

**Chair of Theory of Architecture:  
Prof. Laurent Stalder, Ludo Groen**

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