



At the Spree  
Source: Johanna Maierski

## >>> RESEARCH EXERCISE 1 . PLACESTORMING

Before anything else – you will expose yourself to the context of the river Spree! The Design Studio begins with an impulse observation of the Obere Stadtspreewald area, a deep brainstorming in situ, or a “placestorming.”

### part A : preparation

You will conduct this task individually. Equip yourself with a photo camera, a pen and a sketchbook, and an adequate outfit for your site visit.

Five focus areas are indicated as starting points for your research (please see page 2). Explore all five of the areas. Be curious! Take notes and sketches while you discover the areas and be alert when you come closer to the waterfront. It is crucial that you are a precise, unbiased observer. Take your time to explore carefully, walk slowly, stroll around. Inspect the manifold of facets that you can discover there. Which aspects are attracting your attention? Are they linked to the space itself, its nature, the atmosphere, to the buildings or maybe to social interactions? Are your observations in situ in relation with what you have perceived when approaching the site? Take special notice of the water, the border between land and water, and the interplay between these two elements.

Choose one of the given focus areas or, optional, another site between Jannowitz- and Elsenbrücke. Substantiate your selection. Your task is now to take pictures and produce a series of diagrams from the chosen area. These graphics need to demonstrate your personal discoveries and your impressions. They need to be statements of an essential characteristic of this area, though, in fact, this characteristic can be inconspicuous, and most likely of minor importance for an inattentive visitor.

Take advantage of the provided bibliography and deepen your research on a theoretical level.

Finally, assemble your first impressions (text as well as images) on 1 DIN A2 sheet, vertical, and print it. Additionally, save your poster as a PDF file with the following name “1104\_ULAB\_2\_EX-1\_yourfirstname-yourlastname.” Bring both, poster and file, on the day of the presentation.

### part B : presentation

**on Thursday, 21.04.2011 at 18.00**  
in Halle 7

We will pin up all posters, have a series of quick presentation-performances followed by discussions.

MASTER  
 MA 3 / PJ 1-3 & PIV  
 Sommersemester 11

**OBERE STADTSPREE**



Five focus themes (above)  
 Five focus areas (right)  
 Source: U-Lab WS2010/11 –  
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 Launay, Cécile Oberkampf de  
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