



# PhD in ARCHITECTURAL URBAN INTERIOR DESIGN - 39th cycle

Number of scholarship offered	3
Department	DIPARTIMENTO DI ARCHITETTURA E STUDI URBANI

Description of the PhD Programme
<p>The Architectural Urban Interior Design (AUID) Ph.D. program promotes research on architectural design, with studies and projects aiming at different scales, contexts, and finalities. Research activities are based on the critical analysis and development of design processes and techniques in dynamic relationships with the urgent questions related to the urban and rural environment and the green, blue, and grey infrastructure. Research is supported by acquiring and elaborating insights and skills linked to contemporary architecture's theoretical and critical horizon.</p> <p>The Program foresees a constant elaboration and discussion of theoretical and operational tools. This dialectic process aims to foster the development of a critical and creative reflection on architectural design, exploring and testing experimental approaches, and delivering autonomous and innovative scientific products to be disseminated through seminars, publications, and conferences.</p> <p>A relevant point at the center of the cultural scenario of the Program is the relationship with the design activity. In particular, the Program aims to investigate the potentiality of research by design or design-driven research (DDR).</p> <p>Research by design is a broader concept that includes "practice-based research" and "practice-led research," meaning that we focus on two kinds of research methodologies: research through practice and the other involves research about practice.</p> <p>The Program refers to the declaration reported in the EAAE Research Charter (2012): "Architectural research is an original investigation undertaken to generate knowledge, insights, and understanding based on competencies, methods, and tools proper to the discipline of architecture. It has its own knowledge base, mode, scope, tactics, and strategies." research by design is defined as "any kind of inquiry in which (...) the architectural design process forms the pathway through which new insights, knowledge, practices, or products come into being. It generates critical inquiry through design work."</p> <p>The Program offers an intense sharing of knowledge, information, and practices and supports international exchanges, conferences, exhibitions, and research networks.</p> <p>The Program provides opportunities for teaching and tutoring activities, thanks to the close connection with the Polimi School of Architecture, Urban Design, and Building Construction. The Program is part of the Polimi Ph.D. School, which provides the candidates with many interdisciplinary courses, keeping them in contact with the larger Polimi doctoral community.</p>



The Program aims to train and prepare highly qualified researchers and professionals in academic institutions, research centers, public administrations, and the private sector in architectural, urban, and interior design.

Eligible students hold a master's degree in architecture or close disciplines and can read, write, and speak English fluently. A background in Architecture is most appreciated, but a curriculum based in Design, Media, History, and other programs related to Art and Humanities is accepted. The Program is run by a Head, who coordinates all activities. Then, different actors cooperate in the program development. Deputy Heads have specific areas of interest in foreign relations, interior relations, and departmental research assignments. The Faculty Board has the scientific responsibility of all researchers, with a Board of Experts composed of professors and lecturers with bold academic research experience.

An international Advisory Board connects AUID with an extensive global network.



# PhD in ARCHITECTURAL URBAN INTERIOR DESIGN - 39th cycle

**OPEN SUBJECT Research Field: ARCHITECTURAL URBAN INTERIOR DESIGN**

Monthly net income of PhDscholarship (max 36 months)
<b>€ 1195.5</b>
In case of a change of the welfare rates during the three-year period, the amount could be modified.

Context of the research activity	
<p><b>Motivation and objectives of the research in this field</b></p>	<p>The Architectural Urban Interior Design (AUID) Ph.D. program promotes research on architectural design, with studies and projects aiming at different scales, contexts, and finalities.</p> <p>In AUID, research is based on the theories and practices nourishing contemporary architecture's cultural and technical debate on an international scale.</p> <p>Research activities highlight the critical analysis and development of design processes and techniques. Constant attention is given to the dynamic relationships with the urgent questions related to the environment and the design of green, blue, and grey infrastructure.</p> <p>Every year, the Program focuses on specific themes to be explored theoretically and through design regarding its general directions.</p> <p>Within the 39th Cycle, starting in the 2023-24 academic year, the preferential research lines follow these topics, which be pursued by choosing various viewpoints and fields:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Critical approaches to architecture and architectural design theories: reframing premises and goals, with case studies from the past and present times.</li> <li>•Architecture, society, and mass media: how architectural design interacts with political and social issues.</li> <li>•Architecture as a contemporary narrative: studying as research, criticism, and education produce ideas, ideologies, fetishism, and critical thought.</li> </ul>



	<p>Research by design: exploring potentialities and applications on specific topics of the design-driven research methodology, testing the implications and the outcomes of research on/through/by design.</p>
<p><b>Methods and techniques that will be developed and used to carry out the research</b></p>	<p>The Candidate will develop a research methodology starting from the lectures and assignments of the AUID courses and the courses of the Polimi Ph.D. School. For the general frame of the research activity, AUID refers to the "Charter on Architectural Research" elaborated by the European Association of Architectural Education (EAAE), updated in 2022, to the "Principles for Innovative Doctoral Training" by the Directorate-General for Research &amp; Innovation of the European Commission (2011) and the Regulations of the Polimi Doctoral School. Studying the different formats, methods, and expressions of research in architectural design, the Candidate will profile an original methodology considering the specificity of the selected topic, the target, and the attended results. The Program considers designing a relevant and necessary component of any research. With the AUID Faculty and the Supervisor(s), each Candidate will find a specific position in the field, elaborating a special relationship among research, design, theory, and practice.</p>
<p><b>Educational objectives</b></p>	<p>The education of the Candidates aims to give a strong capacity of orientation, in the field of architecture, of choosing and elaborating a selected theme, of organizing appropriate methodologies of investigation and dissemination, of producing texts, drawings, and artifacts which match the requested character of scientific research: originality, relevance, and rigor, as defined in the "Charter on Architectural Research" by EAAE. The main educational goal of the Faculty is to drive the Candidate to develop research in a well-organized method through making a comprehensive survey of the chosen question, which leads to an original track and output. The Candidate is helped to acquire the skill to organize a consistent analysis of case studies, formulate a clear</p>



	<p>proposal for an original approach to a question, and elaborate innovative strategies and research methods. The Candidate will be supported to deliver autonomous and innovative scientific products disseminated through seminars, publications, and conferences.</p>
<p><b>Job opportunities</b></p>	<p>The Program aims to train highly qualified researchers and professionals who will work in academic institutions, research centers, and public administration, as well as in the private sector, in the fields of architectural, urban, and interior design:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• University researchers and lecturers in the scientific fields of Ph.D. Program.</li> <li>• Researchers with an excellent scientific profile in complex architectural developments and interventions of recovering and transformation.</li> <li>• Independent professionals qualified in the management of highly complex design processes.</li> <li>• - Designers with tasks of high responsibility in institutions and professional structures and leading manufacturers engaged in traditional residential and special utilities, cultural institutions (museums, libraries, universities, schools, cultural centers), public and private services, commercial networks, accommodation, and leisure.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Composition of the research group</b></p>	<p>12 Full Professors 27 Associated Professors 5 Assistant Professors 85 PhD Students</p>
<p><b>Name of the research directors</b></p>	<p>Alessandro Rocca</p>

<b>Contacts</b>	
<p><b>phd-AUID@polimi.it</b></p> <p><b>Ph. D. Management Office</b> Ms. Marina Bonaventura marina.bonaventura@polimi.it phone +39/02/2399.5165 Ms. Marilena Mastalli</p>	



marilena.mastalli@polimi.it  
 Phone +39/02/2399.9395

**AUID Ph.D. Head**

Prof. Alessandro Rocca  
 Alessandro.Rocca@polimi.it

Additional support - Financial aid per PhD student per year (gross amount)	
Housing - Foreign Students	--
Housing - Out-of-town residents (more than 80Km out of Milano)	--

Scholarship Increase for a period abroad	
Amount monthly	597.76 €
By number of months	6

**Additional information: educational activity, teaching assistantship, computer availability, desk availability, any other information**

**Some of the Universities that are cooperating in the research:**

- Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Campus Sint-Lucas, Ghent
- HafenCity Universitaet Hamburg
- TU Delft, School of Architecture
- TU Berlin, Institute for Architecture
- University of Ljubljana
- Aarus School of Architecture

**Educational activities** (purchase of study books and material, funding for participation in courses, summer schools, workshops and conferences):financial aid per PhD student per year ("DOTE"):

1st year: max **1.624,30 euro**  
 2nd year: max **1.624,30 euro**  
 3rd year: max **1.624,30 euro**

**Workspace:** In the AUID hall, on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor of Bldg 12 in Leonardo Campus, are available workstations for shared use. All the Ph.D. students can use their laptops with a wireless connection.

Workstations and other equipment are available in the various departmental laboratories (Dastu) linked with the doctoral Program.