

PhD in ARCHITECTURAL URBAN INTERIOR DESIGN - 40th cycle

INTERDISCIPLINARY Research Field: BEYOND THE CLASSROOM. TOWARD NEW FORMS OF HYBRIDIZATION AND INCLUSIVENESS FOR CONTEMPORARY LEARNING SPACES.

Monthly net income of PhDscholarship (max 36 months)

€ 1300.0

In case of a change of the welfare rates during the three-year period, the amount could be modified.

Context of the research activity

Interdisciplinary PhD Grant.

The PhD research will be carried out in collaboration with research groups of the PhD program in DESIGN.

The research aims to contribute to achieving SDG 4|
Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all. The proposal will interpret the SDGoal by linking to three themes - Learning, Training and Practice - fundamental in the Agenda 2030 perspective and the Milano Politecnico's Strategic Sustainability Plan 2023-2025 action.

Motivation and objectives of the research in this field

In recent years, due to the 2020 health emergency, there has been a renewed focus on the relationship between the different ways of education and learning and the spaces in which it occurs, both by architects, pedagogues, and educators. The research moves from the assumption that space constitutes 'the third teacher' and that architecture should be considered part of a complex system of strategies and tools conceived and developed to support and optimize the individual's education. Physical spaces are a fundamental part of learning processes. However, the nexus between specific function and architectural type has broken down in the fluid, media-driven society of hyper-learning. The research intends to explore the progressive hybridization of the classroom in space, time, and architectural elements as a de-facto consequence of a continuous and extended need for learning according to contemporary society. The



difficulty of conceptualizing heterogeneous learning spaces as a rigid architectural typology and classifying them univocally suggests addressing them through a research-driven process by design for the setting up of flexible guidelines and the experimentation of innovative didactic prototypes. The research finds a critical tool in interdisciplinary connections, not only as a strategy for working out specific design solutions but as an implicit way of analyzing and counter-deducing the contemporary criteria prevailing in the learning spaces research by design. Research on learning spaces as a tool for testing a design process that can support an increasingly future-oriented education open to unknown and uncertain developments (lifelong learning).

Methods and techniques that will be developed and used to carry out the research

Interdisciplinary methods and techniques used in the research: The research will be guided by the AUID PhD in cooperation with the Design PhD; this synergy will allow the candidate to integrate her/his necessary and priority knowledge related to architectural and urban design with the specific competence in product design.

The applied research will be driven by the following:

- 1) exploring architectural structures, forms, and interior design of contemporary learning spaces, national and international
- 2) analyzing hybrid solutions and innovative processes for the definition of design guidelines
- 3) Experimentation with innovative educational prototypes, not only as common learning spaces but also places '[...] to promote moments of meeting, to create and sharing ideas'. (Agenda 2030).

The two doctorates will promote joint activities (seminars, workshops) to verify and advance research.

The AUID PhD will guide the research in cooperation with the Design PhD; this synergy will allow the candidate to



integrate her/his necessary and priority knowledge related to architectural and urban design with the specific competence in product design.

The candidate will develop a research methodology starting from the lectures and assignments of the AUID courses and the Polimi Ph.D. School courses.

For the general frame of the research activity, AUID refers to the "Charter on Architectural Research" (2012, updated in 2022) elaborated by the European Association of Architectural Education (EAAE), to the "Principles for Innovative Doctoral Training" by the Directorate-General for Research &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 a personal methodology considering the specificity of the selected topic, the target, and the attended results. The program considers design to be a necessary component of any research. With the AUID Faculty and the Supervisor(s), each candidate will find a specific position in the field bordered by research, design, theory, and practice.

Educational objectives

The training 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 that match the requested character of scientific research: originality, relevance, and rigor, as defined in the "Charter on Architectural Research" by EAAE.

The faculty's primary educational goal is to drive the candidate to develop research using a well-organized method by conducting a comprehensive survey of the chosen question, which leads to an original track and output.

The candidate is helped to acquire the skills to organize a consistent analysis of case studies, formulate a clear proposal for an original approach to a question, and elaborate innovative strategies and research methods. The candidate will be supported in delivering autonomous and innovative scientific products disseminated through



	seminars, publications, and conferences.
Job opportunities	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: - University researchers and lecturers in the scientific fields of the Ph.D. Program Researchers with an excellent scientific profile in complex architectural developments and interventions for recovery and transformation Independent professionals qualified to manage highly complex design processes 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.
Composition of the research group	O Full Professors Associated Professors O Assistant Professors 1 PhD Students
Name of the research directors	Filippo Orsini, Giulia Gerosa

Contacts

Research Director

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AUID Program Head

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Further information is available at: http://www.auid.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	650.0 €	
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
- Aarhus School of Architecture
- TU Delft, School of Architecture
- TU Berlin, Institute for Architecture
- University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Architecture

Personal budget

Every PhD student has a budget to fund research activities (funding for participation in courses, summer schools, workshops, conferences, and the purchase of study books and materials). The total amount is 5.300,25 euros:

1st year: max **1.766,75 euro** 2nd year: max **1.766,75 euro** 3rd year: max **1.766,75 euro**

Teaching assistantship (availability of funding in recognition of supporting teaching activities by the PhD student)

There are various forms of financial aid supporting the teaching practice.

The PhD candidate is encouraged to participate in these activities within the regulations' limits.

Workspace:

In the AUID hall, on the 4th 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.



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