



PhD in CONSERVAZIONE DEI BENI ARCHITETTONICI / PRESERVATION OF THE ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE

- 40th cycle

Number of scholarship offered	4
Department	DIPARTIMENTO DI ARCHITETTURA E STUDI URBANI

Description of the PhD Programme
<p>The Doctorate Program in Preservation of the Architectural Heritage was first held at Milan-based Politecnico back in 1983. The PhD program focuses its attention to some currently crucial themes for the preservation, conservation, management and valorization of Architectural Heritage. Starting from the fundamental topics of knowledge, preservation, design and intervention, the PhD program takes care also of the most important and urgent problems affecting the built Heritage and Cultural Landscapes: the fragility and the abandonment of historic marginal areas; the climate change and its effects on the built environment; the improper pressure of mass tourism on our historic settlements and sites of cultural interest, the needs for a wider social involvement in the field also through appropriate ICT mediums, the management and the use of architectural Heritage.</p> <p>The conservation of Architectural Heritage is, in fact, a strategic field as well as one of the main important resources for worldwide economy and for a sustainable future in different areas of the world. The team of professors, promoting and participating in the debate about these matters on a national and international scale, will thus deal with a broad range of issues requiring strong and real multi-disciplinary approach and all the many competences present in the PhD Board but also others outside it, for specific topics. On the strength of a solid, long-standing research tradition, the themes addressed and the methodologies adopted are meant to update contents and tools, the approach to the modern contemporary themes of cultural heritage protection and enhancement. Therefore, the development of pioneering themes and innovative research processes will be encouraged, such as the investigation of the territorial fragilities, in abandoned settlements, in archaeological sites, in towns and cities damaged by earthquakes or in conflict areas. The Course reflects one of the main research line carried out within the Department of Architecture and Urban Studies, regarded as excellent in research assessment by Italian Ministry of University and Research (MUR) for the quality of its research programs.</p> <p>The PhD programme is meant as the place where theorization, methodology, investigation into the most significant chapters of the protection of historic architectural heritage and historic landscapes are connected to complex, challenging operating research themes, on-site and lab experimentation of analytical and diagnostic stages.</p> <p>The PhD programme, lasting three years, calls for the acquisition of minimum 25 credits, acquired</p>



The PhD programme, lasting three years, calls for the acquisition of minimum 25 credits, acquired through the attendance of courses and the passing of the relative exams, concentrated in the first year of PhD programme.

In particular:

- 15 credits are offered and organized by the PhD programme in Preservation of the Architectural Heritage;
- 10 credits by the PhD School (soft and transferable skills courses).

Further additional credits are aimed at personal study and research for the PhD thesis.

The activities undertaken, in particular during the second and third year, also include attendance of workshops, seminars, national and international conferences related to individual research, with great attention to conferences wherein PhD candidates present the results, even partial, of their research theses. To the aim of their thesis research, PhD candidates have the opportunity to rely on facilities and laboratories, both inside and outside the University.

The breadth and width of those provides them with a crucial support to the purpose of acquiring 'competence for highly qualified research activities' in the domain of architectural heritage protection, such as advanced methods of investigation; knowledge management and preservation processes.



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OPEN SUBJECT Research Field: PRESERVATION OF THE ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE

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	
<p>Motivation and objectives of the research in this field</p>	<p>The PhD program focuses its attention to some currently crucial themes for the preservation, conservation, management and valorization of Architectural Heritage. Starting from the fundamental topics of knowledge, preservation, design and intervention, the PhD program takes care of the most important and urgent problems affecting the built Heritage and Cultural Landscapes: the fragility and the abandonment of historic marginal areas; the climate change and its effects on the built environment; the improper pressure of mass tourism on our historic settlements and sites of cultural interest, the needs for a wider social involvement in the field also through appropriate ICT mediums, the management and the use of architectural Heritage. The conservation of Architectural Heritage is, in fact, a strategic field as well as one of the main important resources for worldwide economy and for a sustainable future in different areas of the world.</p> <p>The team of professors, promoting and participating in the debate about these matters on a national and international scale, will thus deal with a broad range of issues requiring strong and real multidisciplinary approach and all the many competences present in the PhD Board but also others outside it, for specific topics. On the strength of a solid, long-standing research tradition, the themes addressed and the methodologies adopted are meant to update contents and tools, the approach to the</p>



	<p>modern contemporary themes of cultural heritage protection and enhancement.</p> <p>The PhD programme is meant as the place where theorization, methodology, investigation into the most significant chapters of the protection of historic architectural heritage and historic landscapes are connected to complex, challenging operating research themes, on-site and lab experimentation of analytical and diagnostic stages. To the aim of their thesis research, PhD candidates have the opportunity to rely on facilities and laboratories, both inside and outside the University. The breadth and width of those provides them with a crucial support to the purpose of acquiring competence for highly qualified research activities. in the domain of architectural heritage protection, such as advanced methods of investigation; knowledge management and preservation processes.</p> <p>The multidisciplinary skills of the Faculty Board coverage a series of themes, which PhD students might take up in their thesis work, not in themselves alone but as transversal topics and issues that can lead to very different research paths that should nevertheless be deeply integrated (see Regulations of the PhD Programme in Preservation of the Architectural Heritage to know the list of research topics).</p>
<p>Methods and techniques that will be developed and used to carry out the research</p>	<p>The PhD programme, lasting three years, calls for the acquisition of minimum 25 credits divided as follow: 15 credits (minimum) offered by PhD courses organized by the PhD programme in Preservation of the Architectural Heritage; 10 credits offered by the PhD School (transferable and soft skills).</p> <p>In support of research carried out for their thesis, students will benefit from several laboratories both inside and outside the University. The activities undertaken during the second and third year also include attendance of workshops, seminars, national and international conferences related to individual research, with great attention to conferences wherein PhD candidates present</p>



	<p>the results, even partial, of their research theses. Periods of study at foreign university and research centers are also strongly suggested.</p> <p>Educational activities are related to research either underway or at an early stage of development, some of which addresses major monumental structures and some of the most renowned sites of the world. To the aim of their thesis research, PhD candidates have the opportunity to rely on facilities and laboratories, both inside and outside the University, the breadth and width of which provides them with a crucial support to the aim of acquiring competence for highly qualified research activities in the domain of cultural heritage protection.</p> <p>As for the thesis research, candidates thus have the opportunity to address and investigate in-depth the wide-ranging themes connected to heritage knowledge and preservation broadly meant, such as advanced methods of investigation; knowledge management and preservation processes applied to historic traditional buildings, as the ones related to the archaeological sites and remains or to twentieth-century heritage and cultural landscapes. This aspect increases the technical characteristics, and will make PhD immediately competitive at the European level.</p> <p><i>Periodical milestones (every six months approximately), starting from the first year, will verify Ph.D. students' progress in individual research.</i></p>
<p>Educational objectives</p>	<p>Aim of PhD course is providing the PhD candidates with a unique training experience in the Italian panorama, so far unparalleled also in domains other than the preservation of the architectural heritage. The program of study leading to the doctoral degree is organized in such a way that the students can get ready to contribute to enhance knowledge in the field of Preservation of the Built Heritage and Cultural Landscapes; to enable to engage in advanced study and research; to integrate their professional education and experience with the larger problems of the research around the field.</p> <p>To reach these objectives, students in the doctoral program work closely with one or more faculty members</p>



	<p>of the school and from their related fields of study. Members of the field and invited experts will also play important roles in a students academic progress and PhD candidates will be prepared to fill faculty and researcher positions or secure positions at research institutes and centers.</p> <p>Upon successful program completion, we expect that they will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Be prepared for employment in research/faculty positions at high-level research institutions •Engage in and promote evidence-based practices through the application of rigorous methodology •Provide leadership in the field by developing an independent line of ethical and culturally responsive research •Contribute to development of the next generation of scholars.
Job opportunities	<p>Graduates of the PhD programme have often found employment in public sector and conservation institutions, as well as in professional practices and in the business world, in specific specialized fields. PhD candidates from abroad find job in their native countries at University or in Cultural Heritage Institutions.</p> <p>As regards Italy, the relationship with Italian Ministry of Cultural Heritage (Mibact), has been definitely fruitful, especially when we consider that many among the best PhDs in Preservation of Architectural Heritage have been hired as officers and executives to the above ministry: recently many PhD from this Programme won the competitive exam to become public officers in the Ministry of Cultural Heritage and most of them are now responsible in prestigious seats.</p>
Composition of the research group	<p>11 Full Professors 17 Associated Professors 0 Assistant Professors 48 PhD Students</p>
Name of the research directors	<p>All phd board members</p>

Contacts



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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

List of Universities, Companies, Agencies and/or National or International Institutions that are cooperating in the research:

1. National Technical University of Athens (N.T.U.A.), Greece
2. Departamento de Historia del Arte, Universitat de València, Spain
3. Department of Architectural Composition, Universidad de Castilla-La Mancha
4. École Nationale supérieure d'architecture de Paris-La Villette (ENSAPLV), France
5. Faculdade de Arquitectura da Universidade do Porto, Portugal
6. Université Paris I - Pantheon - Sorbonne, Parigi, France
7. Universidad de Sevilla, Departamento de Historia de América, Spain
8. ISPC-CNR Istituto di Scienza del Patrimonio Culturale (Italy)
9. ISCR Istituto Superiore per la conservazione e il restauro (già ICR), Roma

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"): **total amount: 5.300,25 euro:**

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 take part in these activities, within the limits allowed by the regulations.

Workspace:

In the CBA PHD room at Bldg. 14 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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THEMATIC Research Field: PROTECTION OF THE BUILT HERITAGE IN MUNICIPAL PLANNING. THE NUCLEI DI ANTICA FORMAZIONE (NAF) IN MILAN AS A CASE STUDY

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

Motivation and objectives of the research in this field

Recent controversies surrounding demolitions and transformations in areas within the so-called **Centres of Old Formation (NAF)** located within the current perimeter of the city of Milan call for a careful and broader reflection on the fate of the outskirts of our urban centres. It is not simply a matter of achieving a conscious recognition of these places as ancient structures, even though, in some cases, they have been profoundly transformed; instead, there is a need for an urgent and necessary update to the regulatory framework governing urban policies in Milan and beyond, turning these areas into "grey zones" that preservation laws cannot control or protect adequately and that urban planning tools fail to safeguard adequately. Some recent experiences and related debate in this field demonstrate that sometimes inadequate tools, such as the ambiguous evolving definitions of categories defined by Law No. 457 of 1978 and its subsequent updates, fail to adequately govern the transformations of historical building fabric, not necessarily aimed solely at preservation. Very often, moreover, these are areas partly privately owned or where substantial changes occur based on program agreements that also bypass the General Urban Plan (PGT); areas lacking protection tools, mostly, whose fate is decided based on a discretion that should evaluate (whether it is the landscape commission or another body) the quality of the project implemented,



	<p>even outside a broader territorial governance planning. Inappropriate measures for legal cases, appeals, and other forms of opposition burden management authorities' work without producing any positive effects, except for the loss of entire sections of the city and their replacement with buildings of not always high quality.</p> <p>The research aims to investigate these shortcomings, attempting to build a link between the inevitable transformations of widespread historical buildings, the indications of the Cultural Heritage Code, and urban planning and construction management tools. This link should be established - here lies the crucial point that the research intends to address - in the planning phase by preparing ad hoc regulations that go beyond the constraint system but simultaneously exceed the level of discretion with which one is sometimes forced to proceed. Urban planning tools at the municipal scale thus become central, starting from the role that widespread built heritage should have in these processes.</p> <p>The research also aims to investigate what qualitative contents should be introduced into planning instruments to give centrality to this theme and what professional figures should be involved in drafting such instruments.</p>
<p>Methods and techniques that will be developed and used to carry out the research</p>	<p>The research is conducted with the Soprintendenza per l'Archeologia, Belle Arti e Paesaggio per la Città Metropolitana di Milano (Archaeology, Fine Arts, and Landscape Superintendent of the Metropolitan City of Milan). Also, it involves a collaboration with the planning offices of the Municipality of Milan for the study of particularly significant cases related to the absence of specific provisions for the management of historical buildings in the NAF. At the superintendent's office, the researcher will be supported by a tutor who will guide them in analysing case studies that are particularly useful for training purposes and for identifying state, regional, and municipal protection tools, not only in Milan. The researcher will assist the tutor in liaising with the city offices responsible for managing the transformations of historical building fabrics to acquire all the necessary knowledge to develop concrete proposals for the</p>



	<p>integration of plans and their related technical implementation regulations, as well as the Building Regulations.</p> <p>The research is part of the Department of Excellence 2023-2027 project and the CRAFT/Center of Competences for Anti-Fragile Territories, with which the doctoral candidate will actively collaborate, creating significant synergy with the Superintendent. Another fundamental aspect that the research aims to address is a comparison with experiences possibly experimented by other regional contexts (such as Piedmont, Tuscany, Emilia Romagna, Lazio, and Puglia), to investigate, among other things, the outcome of positive experiences also regarding the management of any necessary replacements and transformations of parts of historical fabrics.</p> <p>The PhD program, lasting three years, requires the acquisition of a minimum of 25 credits, divided as follows: 15 credits (minimum) offered by PhD courses organized by the PhD program in Preservation of the Architectural Heritage; 10 credits offered by the PhD. School (transferable and soft skills). Periodic milestones (approximately every six months), starting from the first year, will assess the progress of PhD students in their research.</p>
<p>Educational objectives</p>	<p>The primary objective is to train a researcher capable of managing the two crucial aspects of the research theme, which are increasingly seen as antithetical: the preservation of historical fabrics and the tools for managing transformations at the urban scale. The second objective is to create, through research, a synergy that is undoubtedly useful between the offices responsible for the protection of the Metropolitan City of Milan (the Superintendent), the CRAFT, which aims to become an important reference point for issues related to territorial fragilities at various scales, and the PhD program in Conservation of Architectural Heritage, which aims to develop multidisciplinary research on the multiple areas and themes involving the built heritage.</p>



Job opportunities	The research type and the figure of the researcher trained through it can find an exit into occupations that are not limited to the contexts of the university and scientific research but are open in general to study centres, research institutes, and institutional bodies engaged in the field of the preservation project.
Composition of the research group	11 Full Professors 17 Associated Professors 0 Assistant Professors 48 PhD Students
Name of the research directors	Annunziata Maria Oteri, Maria Cristina Giambruno

Contacts	
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Research Director: Annunziata Maria Oteri e-mail: annunziatamaria.oteri@polimi.it	
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<i>Marilena Mastalli</i> e-mail: marilena.mastalli@polimi.it; tel. +39/02/2399.9395 Website: http://www.dastu.polimi.it/index.php?id=148	

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