



ANNUAL REPORT

September 2024 – August 2025



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Organization & Management

Introduction

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Edmond Manahasa

Head of Department

General

The Department of Architecture offers undergraduate and graduate programs in Architecture.

The undergraduate program is based on a fifth-year study leading to the bachelor's degree with emphasis on architectural design studios.

Prepares students for critical engagement with practice and ensures readiness for professional responsibilities. Our department's vision is to offer a leading Architecture program in Albania and the Balkan region. We teach sustained evaluation of principles, traditions, and requirements of building in all its aspects. Our goal is to advance the profession of architecture by combining artistic talent, technical proficiency, and social engagement in pursuit of excellence.

Our programs seek to multiply insights and abilities of students, including sensitivity to the aesthetic and social responsibilities of environmental design; the cultivation of a broad, humanistic, world view; commitment to research; respect of innovation; an advanced understanding of the culture of practice; and sophisticated graphic skills and technical vocabulary. The education of students in sustainability is a major focus of the curriculum. Our programs are interdisciplinary and taught in English.

Mission

Our institutional vision is to be in an association that develops the architectural consciousness in society, to play a facilitating role to increase the quality of life, become a leading institution at the national and international architectural arena, and a reference and preferred institution in terms of academic activities.

Our programs seek to multiply insights and abilities of students, including sensitivity to the aesthetic and social responsibilities of environmental design; the cultivation of a broad, humanistic, world view; commitment to research; respect of innovation; an advanced understanding of the culture of practice; and sophisticated graphic skills and technical vocabulary. The education of students in sustainability is a major focus of the curriculum. Our programs are interdisciplinary and taught in English.

Vision

To train professionals those are equal in national and international criteria of education; qualified in theory and practice areas; design environments which meet esthetic, technique, ecologic, economic, cultural, historical, social, environmental and other necessary requirements; and train intellectual and expert architects who are innovative, creative, ethical, have the ability to work in interdisciplinary projects.

Architecture Department at Epoka University has about a decade that prepares students to address complex design, cultural, social, environmental issues through conceptual, thoughtful, and creative inquiry.

Our department continues to grow with the number of undergraduate intakes as well as graduates. We have more than 200 students in the department and about 20 staff members, composed of full time and part time staff from highly successful schools of Europe. The Architecture Department cultivates design education through a variety of experiences which include learning through doing, acting as a team and community collaborations.

Department provides rigorous design education that trains students as professionals in art, science and built environment. We have many graduates who work in important national and international institutions, as well as graduates that continue their studies in well-known European and American Universities.

Study programs offered by the Department.

The Department of Architecture offers three study programs:

- PICD ARCH – integrated second cycle study program in Architecture, which is a five-year Second Level Integrated Diploma (Master + Bachelor) in Architecture program.
- MSc ARCH – two years Master of Science in Architecture program
-

Epoka University Integrated second cycle study program in Architecture (PICD ARCH Program) is the second level study program offered by the Department of Architecture. PICD ARCH prepares students for critical engagement with theory and practice and ensures readiness for professional responsibilities. The program duration is 5 academic years or 10 semesters. Students

are required to complete 44 courses (270 ECTS in total or 30 ECTS per semester) during the first nine semesters and work on the Master Thesis (30 ECTS) during the last semester, which makes in total 300 ECTS.

A. Resources

Department Staff

Full time Academic Staff

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Edmond Manahasa

Edmond holds the PhD degree in Architectural Design from Istanbul Technical University, Turkey. He has been awarded the 3rd Best Foreign Student Prize in Graduation Year 2002 for Bachelor Level at Istanbul Technical University. From 1 August 2002-1 March 2007 he has been part of Zambak Architects where the main activities and responsibilities consisted in: Team

Manager for Construction Projects, Preliminary Project Proposal Design, 3d Works Drawing Construction Project and Supervision of Architectural Projects as:

Turgut Ozal Educational Complex-Tirana/Albania September 2002- March 2002

Petkim Siteler Mosque and Landscape Requalification in Körfez/Kocaeli/Turkey November 2002- January 2003

Gaziantep Cargo Transfer Center-Şehit Kamil/Gaziantep/Turkey March-June 2003

HA-Korça High School Project and Supervision in Kavaja/Albania January-February 2004 A+B Block, C Block January-February 2007

Akbulut Textile Factory in Malatya/Turkey September 2004-January 2005 Baku High School – Azerbaijan September December 2005

YK Educational Complex in Struga/Macedonia March 2006-June 2006 Karahan Quarter Dormitory in Bursa/Turkey July 2006

Private University Preparatory School Interior Design and Courtyard Landscape Design Istanbul/Turkey August – September 2006

Liria-High School Project Proposal in Elbasan/Albania October 2006

Küçük Yalı Mosque and Annexes Architectural Project Proposal in Küçükyalı/Istanbul Turkey, November 2006

Hotel Building in Spille Kavaja/Albania March 2007-May 2007 Apartment Block in Lushnja/Albania Summer 2009

Apartment Block in Durres/Albania Summer 2011

He has four years of teaching experience as Senior Instructor in the following Courses:

Basic Design Course, Architectural Application Project, History of Architecture I, History of Architecture II, History of Architecture III.

On March 27, 2023, he has been conferred the Academic Title Assoc. Prof. Dr. by the Commission on the Promotion of Academic Personnel of the Polytechnic University of Tirana, Albania.

Currently he holds the position of Head of the Architecture Department and at the same time is a full-time lecturer.

Prof. Dr. Sokol Dervishi

Mr. Sokol has been graduated from Faculty of Architecture, Istanbul Technical University, Istanbul, Turkey.

2004-2006 (MSc) Postgraduate studies at Faculty of Architecture and Spatial Planning, Vienna University of Technology, Vienna, Austria. 2006-2010 (Dr. technicae) Doctoral studies at Building Physics and Building Ecology Department, Faculty of Architecture and Spatial Planning, Vienna University of Technology, Vienna, Austria

2010-2014 Venia Docendi – Habilitation, Vienna University of Technology, Vienna, Austria, (“Priv. dozent” / Associated Professor)

2014 – present Habilitation (venia docendi) – A.o Prof. Dr. at Vienna University of Technology (Building Physics)

2011 – present Professor of Epoka University, Tirana Albania

2013 – 2014 Professor of Polytechnic University of Tirana, Tirana Allbania 2007 – 2014 Lecturer at Vienna University of Technology,

(Courses – Visual and Acoustic Performance, Advance Studies in Building Science)

2007 – 2014 Senior Scientific Researcher at Vienna University of Technology,

Scientific Research / Faculty

- Epoka University, Tirana-Albania

- Vienna University of Technology, Vienna-Austria

- Polytechnic University of Tirana, Tirana-Albania

- Ozeyegin University, Istanbul-Turkey

Honours, Prizes and Awards

1 . “University Award for Excellent Students”, Istanbul Technical University, May 2004, Istanbul, Turkey

2 . Diploma with High Honour Award for Academic Achievement, June 2004, Istanbul, Turkey (published in Sabah Daily Turkish Magazine)

3 . “University Award for Best Foreign Student”, Istanbul Technical University, May 2004,

Istanbul, Turkey

- 4 . “Istanbul Educational Institute Award for Best Foreign Student in all universities in Istanbul”, Istanbul Technical University, May 2004, Istanbul, Turkey
- 5 . Best Master of Science Diploma Thesis Award, Building Science and Technology Postgraduate MSc program, June 2006, Vienna University of Technology, Vienna, Austria
- 6 . Doctor of Science Thesis with Excellence Award, November 2011, Vienna University of Technology, Vienna, Austria

Important Industrial Projects I EU projects

Multifunctional Plug & Play Facade "MPPF" at the COMET program (Competence Centers for Excellent Technologies).

Funding: Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG),

Project: "Naturally Cool" Project-Nr: 817575).

Period: 2008 – 2010

Funding: Österreichischer Klima- und Energie-Fonds

Self-updating models for sentient buildings

Funding: Austrian Science Foundation (FWF), project numbers P15998-N07 and L219- N07.

Period: 2006-2008

People as Powerplant

Period:

2005 - 2008

Funding:

BMVIT (Initiative: "Energiesysteme der Zukunft")

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Odeta Manahasa

Mrs. Odeta Manahasa graduated with bachelor and master's degree from Middle East Technical University in 2005 and 2008 respectively. She graduated with a PhD degree in Architecture from Istanbul Technical University in 2017. She is a senior lecturer at Epoka University, teaching Basic Design course since 2008.

In her dissertation, "Children Participation and Post Occupancy Evaluation in Developing a Communicative Language to (Re)Design Educational Environments", she uses the children space experience as a tool for participation, to offer a new perspective to the participatory design discourse on the levels of participation.

In addition, she has a long-standing interest in understanding environmental psychology in its larger context, particularly in relation to child and child space perception. She is developing this interest as two lines of inquiry: (i) child space perception knowledge, with a focus on a systematic structure for thinking on environmental behavior phenomena from different methodological perspectives, and (ii) improve the quality of learning environments.

Thus, her areas of expertise and research interest include Architectural Education, Children and Architecture (e.g. Children's participation in architectural design), Participatory Design, and School Design., environmental psychology, post occupancy evaluation, environmental behavior and design. On March 27, 2023, she has been conferred the Academic Title Assoc. Prof. Dr. by the Commission on the Promotion of Academic Personnel of the Polytechnic University of Tirana, Albania.

Dr. Valerio Perna

Valerio Perna holds a research doctorate cum laude in Architecture - Theories and De-sign from the Department of Architecture and Design DIAP at the Faculty of Architecture of the University of Rome La Sapienza, where he conducted research and provided teaching assistance in architectural and urban design courses under Professor Antonino Saggio. As the author of the research project "Ludic Activity as a Design Strategy: Rules and Freedom for a Grammar of

Games in Architecture,” he has curated volumes, articles, and essays on the topic of architectural design, particularly focusing on playful design strategies that not only explore syntactic variations in project development but also emphasize participatory practices “from below” in marginal and peripheral territories. During his doctoral studies, he served as a Visiting Scholar at the Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences (AUAS), actively collaborating on projects, courses, and publications within the department led by Professor BenSchouten. Since 2018, he has been a full-time Lecturer at POLIS University in Tirana, where, in addition to teaching, he serves as part of the Managerial Staff of the INNOVATION_Factory – the institution’s unit dedicated to innovation and research. He also holds the position of Head of the Research Department in Information and Resources, as well as being the Coordinator of the Professional Master’s Program in “Digital Architecture.” He has been the winner and project leader of international research projects, including the Creative Europe project - SPORES(Grant Number: 101098584) and the Innovation Challenge (organized by the German international cooperation agency GIZ and the Swedish agency SIDA), through which he established the first Makerspace/FabLab in Albania.

Among his notable publications are the monograph “Ludic Activity as a Design Strategy: Rules and Freedom for a Grammar of Games in Architecture” (Quodlibet 2020) and the editorship of various issues of the SCOPUS-Indexed ArchiDOCT journal, an open-access (Q2) journal for disseminating doctoral research in architecture. He collaborates with Italian magazines L’industria delle costruzioni and Antitesi, for which he has authored numerous articles and contributions. He is also a member of the editorial and scientific committees of various journals and series, including ArchiDOCT - an open-access journal of doctoral research in architecture, FORUM A+P – Interdisciplinary Journal of Architecture and Scientific Environment, and the series Gli Strumenti (edited by Antonino Saggio) and Tracce (edited by Domizia Mandolesi and Nicoletta Trasi - DiAP). He has served as the scientific curator for four editions (2019/2020/2021/2023) of the Tirana Architecture Week (TAW) and Tirana Design Week (TDW), the main event dedicated to architecture and design in Albania, organized by POLIS University. He has participated as a speaker and moderator in national and international conferences and symposiums in countries such as Sweden, Iran,

Kosovo, etc. Additionally, he has given lectures in university courses, seminars, and workshops in Italy and abroad. In addition to his teaching activities, he also pursues a professional career in both Italy and Albania. In 2018, he worked as an architect for the Albanian government on the Akademia 100+ Fshatrat project, focused on the enhancement and regeneration of some of the 100 poorest villages in peripheral Albania. He also serves as a consultant for the Metropolis studio, which handles projects ranging from interior design to building scale, temporary exhibitions and installations, as well as urban and landscape planning. Since 2023, he has been a member of the Albanian Union of Architects (AUA).

Dr. Joana Dhiamandi

Joana Dhiamandi is an Architect, Glass Artist, and lecturer of Architecture and Design, with a Ph.D. in Architecture and Urban Planning. During her studies in architecture, she showed a particular interest in the paradigm of Information Architecture. She has been involved in architecture and interior architecture projects as founder of DHIAMANDI STUDIO and she is interested in creating glass artworks in the studio “DHIAMANDI GLASS”. Currently part-time lecturer at Politechnic University of Tirana, Faculty of Architecture and Urban Planning.

Besides being a full-time lecturer in the Department of Design, she has conducted her Ph.D. studies focusing on “Sacred Architecture. Analysis of the Bektashi Tekke in Albania”. During the last decade, she has been involved in academia in a rather complex and multi-stakeholder environment, as Vice Dean of the Faculty of Research and Development and further on as the Deputy Head of the Department of Art & Design at POLIS University, having under her responsibility the coordination of several activities, projects, and tasks with academic and administrative character. Joana has been actively involved as a member of civil society in Albania, also working to engage communities and develop a common platform for discussion in architecture and design. Previously as a co-curator of Tirana Design Week editions of 2015 (Design now!) and 2017 (Design for an Inclusive future) in order to promote a sustainable ecosystem in the development of a proactive and inclusive discourse for young professionals and students in Albania.

Joana is also co-founder of ‘‘WeWomen’’, an initiative to establish a platform for inspiration, support, networking, and empowerment of girls and women. In recent years she has been part of several scientific and academic conferences. And at the same time, an element that she considers vital in terms of architecture and design is creating a unique human experience in time and space.

Dr. Egin Zeka

Egin Zeka is a lecturer and researcher in the Department of Architecture and the director of Center of Research and Design in Applied Sciences [CoRDA] at Epoka University, Albania. He teaches courses in ‘‘Urban Design’’ and ‘‘Advanced Design Studios’’. Furthermore, he does research with master students in the field of urbanism. Zeka received his bachelor’s degree in urban and Regional Planning [2009], master’s degree in urban design [2012], and PhD degree in Urban and Regional Planning [2020] at Istanbul Technical University, Turkey. His research interests are in urban design, generative design, urban morphology, traditional settlements and urban revitalization. Projects: ‘DURANA, International Urban Design Competition, 2nd prize (teamwork), 2014; National Design Competition: ‘‘Tourism into Tradition, B&B project, 1st Prize (teamwork); La Biennale di Venezia, part of the team representing Albanian pavilion in Biennale Architettura [2018]; Team leader in ‘‘100+ Villages Academy’’, Lot 10 [2018].

Dr. Ina Dervishi

Mrs. Ina Osmani graduated with a bachelor’s degree from Middle East Technical University in 2012 and and master’s degree from Epoka University in 2014. From that time, she has been teaching at Epoka University Basic Design course. Her areas of interest are sustainable urban development, environmental design of cities, urban heat islands. Dr. Ina Dervishi has been conferred the PhD degree in Architecture from Sapienza University at the PhD Programme in Ingegneria dell'Architettura e Dell'Urbanistica, in Rome, Italy.

MSc. Kreshnik Merxhani

Graduated in Architecture at the Polytechnic University of Tirana. He is generally focused on Traditional Architecture and is distinguished for his writings, artistic photos and for restoration and re-implementation projects. Since 2008, he has been committed as a co-author in restoration projects of several monuments of Ottoman and Communist period mainly in the City of Gjirokastrë. In 2014- 2016 (March) he was the Head of the Technical Sector of DRKK (Regional Directory of National Culture) - Gjirokastrë, a terrain office at the Ministry of Culture. In addition, some projects that he was co-author and some activities of former organization that Merxhani was part of, are nominated and be shortlisted for Aga Khan award (GCDO) the 2010 Cycle and are winner of Europa Nostra Price (CHwB). His work as a co-author has been part in Biennale in Venice “Common Ground”, in the Albanian Pavilion. He has visited various Universities in Albania such as the Faculty of Architecture and City Planning, UT, and Epoka University. He has been part of different exhibitions and online illustration with his photography and graphic art like “Martin Parr” (2010), EVOCED (2016), Photos from Spaç (World Monument Fund – 2015), CHwB publications etc. Some of the articles are being published at different scientific journals and are presented at some conferences inside and outside Albania.

MSc. Nerina Baçi

Ms. Nerina Baçi was awarded a Master of Science degree in Architecture from Epoka University in 2021. From that time onward, she has been teaching at Epoka University Architectural Design course. Her areas of interest involve performance-based architectural design, environmental design, and building construction technology.

MSc. Anisa Cenaj

Ms. Anisa Cenaj was awarded a Master of Science degree in Architecture from Epoka University in 2023. From that time onward, she has been teaching at Epoka University Architectural Design and Graphic Communication courses. She has been part of many conferences during her student journey, but also after she started to work to EPOKA University.

MSc. Katjana Boriçi

Ms. Katjana Boriçi was awarded a Master of Science degree in Architecture from Epoka University in 2023. From that time onward, she has been teaching at Epoka University Architectural Design and other courses. Throughout her university journey, she engaged in numerous group projects, which deepened her understanding of teamwork and improved the interpersonal skills through enjoyable social interactions. Additionally, she had the opportunity to undertake two internships at architectural studios, granting insights into the real-world working dynamics of the industry.

MSc. Manjola Logli

Manjola Logli is an architect and assistant lecturer based in Tirana, Albania. With a background in both professional practice and academia, Logli's areas of interest extend to the environment and user behaviors, user well-being and the interaction between sustainability and design regarding socio-cultural dimension, spanning the latter one on a larger scale, in that of livable communities. Recently, she has participated in a research on the well-being and cognitive functions of senior residents focused on retirement homes in Tirana, Albania.

Part time Academic Staff

Dr. Amanda Tërpo

As an urban planner with complex experience involved in many national projects such as the drafting process for the LDP operating in more than 4 municipalities. The delivery of the SDP for the urban-rural localities of Albania, and part of the team for Tirana's first SUMP plan. Her experience in being involved in dynamic processes such as project writing, curricula drafting, active management, and Research projects are among my skill set. As a program coordinator and Vice-dean of the FUPEM overseeing more than 25 professionals and guiding important processes for more than three years have continuously increased my management abilities. Finally, her continued pursuit of knowledge was finalized in my Doctorate studies in ST and mobility.

MSc. Teuta Kodra

Teuta Kodra holds a degree of Master of Science from Polytechnic University of Tirana and has been part of different trainings regarding her field of study. She has been part of different projects as: Project Design for the Reconstruction of Librazhd Hospital - Funding/Client: Librazhd Municipality. Project Design for the Reconstruction of Burrel Maternity Hospital - Funding/Client: Burrel Municipality, Reconstruction of Bulqiza Health Center - Funding/Client: Bulqiza Municipality. Bulqiza Hospital Rehabilitation Project- Funding/Client: Bulqiza Municipality. Laç Kindergarten. Rehabilitation Project- Funding/Client: Ministry of Education and Sports. Project Design for the Reconstruction of Strikcan Primary School - Funding/Client: Strikcan Commune. Project Design for the Reconstruction of Radomire Primary School - Funding/Client: Radomire Commune. Currently she teaches Digital Visualization & Presentation Course in Epoka University and at the same time is part of the "Accademia"- Autodesk Training Center Albania and Kosovo.

MSc. Redion Spaho

Mr. Redion Spaho was awarded was awarded a Master of Science degree in Architecture from Epoka University in 2018. From that time onward, he has been engaged as an architect and project manager in different institutions. He also participated in many trainings during the time he studied at Epoka University, and exhibitions outside the university.

MSc. Dritan Bratko

Mr. Dritan Bratko is a highly qualified engineer who graduated from the Faculty of Civil Engineering, Hydro-Technical branch with 11 years of experience in the relevant field. In 2010 Mr. Bratko has attended a B.E. Degree and in 2015 have completed the – M.Sc. Degree in Hydro-technical Engineering, in 2018 - 2019 has completed a Professional Master in Disaster Risk Management and Fire Safety in civil Engineering and in 2019-2021 has completed a M.Sc. in construction Management. Hydro-technical engineer and project coordinator with 11 years of local and international experience in the fields of hydrology, hydraulic modeling, highway drainage, water supply, sewerage water, wastewater treatment plant, hydropower project implementation and optimizing solutions. He has been mandated by the Ministry of infrastructure and Energy as the Team Leader for drafting the new law

“For Water Supply and Disposal Sector, Wastewater Collection and Treatment”.He is the author of two studies regarding the Water intake structure for hydropower and Peak flow transposition of Ishmi and Erzeni River Basins. Mr. Bratko has been part of various and multidimensional.

MSc. Aleks Shtjefni

Aleks Shtjefni is an architect, with over 15 years of experience in architectural design, and urban planning. He earned his Master degree in Architecture in 2011 from Albanian University. In 2020, he completed a Bachelor’s Degree in Environmental Engineering at the Polytechnic University of Tirana, focusing on ventilated facades. From 2009 to 2017, he held roles at architecture firms and NGOs, contributing to the design of urban plans, cultural facilities, and residential spaces. Since 2017, Aleks has founded his architecture practice Tharm Architects, leading projects across residential, industrial, tourist, and urban sectors, including adaptive reuse and interior design. Involved in several national and international competitions, exhibitions and awards, he is a two-time winner of the Balkan Architectural Biennale, 3rd Prize in 2021 and 2nd Prize in 2023, Iconic Awards: Innovative Architecture '23, BIG SEE '21, SHARE Future Projects Awards 2020 Finalist,Golden Trezzini '21, Art in Public Spaces '22. Parallel to his professional practice, Aleks has been an assistant lecturer at Epoka University since 2023, teaching Architectural Design III and IV, and adjunct professor at the Polytechnic University of Tirana since 2024, focusing on Studio Design IV. Also, he has held open lectures at several universities.

MSc. Efris Filipi

Mr. Filipi is a skilled architect and urban planner with a robust educational background and extensive professional experience. He graduated with a degree in architecture in 2016 from Epoka University in Albania and earned a Master of Science in Urban Management and Development from Erasmus University, Rotterdam, one of the top 3% universities worldwide. He brings over three years of strategic planning expertise in city development and currently serves as an Urban Planner at the Municipality of Tirana for more than 3 years at one of Europe's fastest-developing cities, where he focuses on city zoning and development permits. Additionally, Mr. Filipi owns a series of accredited specializations from prestigious institutions such as

Harvard University and Lund University. Beyond his professional roles, he is engaged in academia as a lecturer and provides architectural consulting services, with a particular focus on residential and hospitality projects.

MSc. Marenglen Zyko

ARB registered Architect (2018), with overall 17 years architectural experience on UK based proposals and developments including residential, mixed use, student accommodation, apart-hotels, education, co-living. Involved with projects at different scales varying from master-planning to smaller size schemes, covering RIBA design work stages 0-4. Keen and flexible to take on more responsibility and advance further my professional development, subject to involvement and training provided.

MSc. Orjana Balla

Orjana Balla an architect with 10 years of experience, with 6 years of international experience, working in complex, medium/large-scale projects, including mixed-use, residential, educational building, civic projects, and general local plans. Currently employed as a junior architect in an international architecture studio, having responsibilities in delivering projects from the tendering phase, concept idea to executive detailed design phase. Part of the artistic direction head team. On-site supervision, is another responsibility given to her directing some of the most important projects the studio is developing in Tirana city. She is highly versatile and accustomed to working independently and remotely, and she has successfully coordinated and completed multiple submission packages and coordinated consultants/site engineers on a regular basis. She is accustomed on working intensively, delivering materials in a rapid project schedule. Communication, group work, ability to adapt into multi-cultural environments is another strong suit. She has been mentioned in many international architectural websites while being part of the design team on many projects from the research, design, detailing and publication phase. She is always eager to explore and find new opportunities that help me develop myself professionally. She is open to new alternatives and challenges, as am always diligent to learn, develop, improve new skills.

MSc. Gerti Shametaj

Gerti Shametaj, based in Tirana, AL, is currently a Part-time Lecturer at Epoka University. Gerti Shametaj brings experience from previous roles at Gener 2. Gerti Shametaj holds a 1997 - 2002 Universiteti Politeknik i Tiranës. Gerti Shametaj has 2 emails on RocketReach.

MSc. Sindi Balla

Sindi Balla holds a Master's degree in Architecture from Epoka University (2019), where she developed a strong foundation in design thinking and building systems. Following her graduation, she joined a design practice, where she has since built a diverse portfolio spanning residential, commercial, and educational facilities. Over the years, her practice has grown beyond design into the broader coordination of complex projects — developing a keen interest in project management, workflow optimization, and the integration of multiple disciplines within the design process. She has taken an active role in leading project phases from concept through delivery, navigating the intersection of design intent, technical precision, and team collaboration. A dedicated BIM and informatics enthusiast, Sindi believes in the transformative potential of digital tools in architecture — both for design quality and process efficiency. She continues to engage with academic developments in the field, staying closely connected to research and emerging methodologies that bridge theory and practice.

Academic Visitors (2024-2025)

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mariateresa Giammetti

Mariateresa Giammetti is Associate Professor at Department of Architecture of Federico II University, where she teaches Architectural Design and Theory and Technique of Architecture at the Bachelor of Science in Architecture. Her academic studies cover a field of knowledge on architectural design, particularly the study of the sacred spaces of the three Abrahamic religions, due to the multicultural character of European cities and the transformation of the liturgical space after the Second

Vatican Council. She pursues a line of research related to urban design issues with special reference to the revitalization project of drosscape, including brownfield sites with soil contamination problems, from the major themes promoted by the New European Green Deal.

Administrative Staff

MSc. Edona Gerbeti

Edona Gerbeti is the Coordinator of the Department. She holds a Bachelor and a Master of Science Degree in English Language and Literature. Since October 2021, she has been working as Coordinator of the Architecture Department. She exercises her duties in coordination with the Faculty Administrator and Head of Department. The Coordinator of the Department is responsible for management of the department activities with administrative character and incoming and outgoing correspondences.

Finance

Income and Expenditure Summary

Income and Expenditure Summary

- ***Integrated Second Cycle Study Program in Architecture/ Master of Science in Architecture***
-

-Income and various financing for **Integrated Second Cycle Study Program in Architecture** during the 2024-2025 academic year:

Income (in Euro)	2024-2025
Tuition fees for and during studies	761,390 Euro
<i>TOTAL</i>	761,390 Euro

- Expenditures for **Integrated Second Cycle Study Program in Architecture/ Master of Science in Architecture** during the 2024-2025 academic year:

		2024-2025	
Expenditures (in EURO)	Salaries	Expenditures	Investments
Tuition and other	437,58 2 Euro	134,26 8 Euro	80,562 Euro

student fees			
Total	437,58 2 Euro	134,26 8 Euro	80,562 Euro

IT Resources, Physical Infrastructure and Library Resources

1. Infrastructure in Service to Study Programs, Logistics and other Services towards the Community

ICTC Office Services:

The Information and Communication Technologies Coordinating Office (ICTCO) provides informatics services needed in the University. It plans the informatics infrastructure of the University, provides its security and ensures the continuation of its functions. ICTCO works on the project for effective, legal and extensive usage of the informatics services for students and personnel and provides the following services:

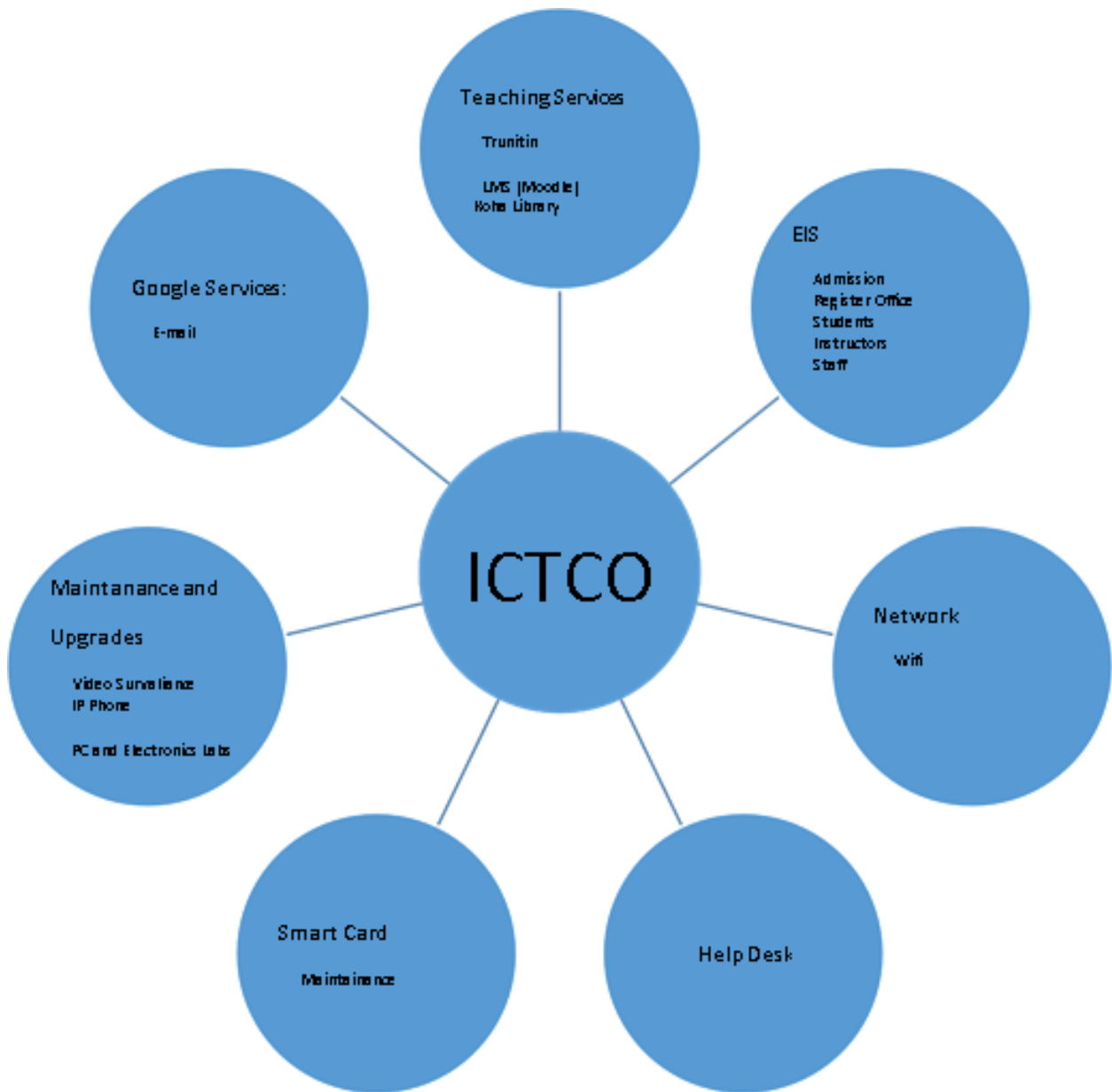


Chart 2: ICTCO Services

Teaching Services:

- **Turnitin** software helps users to understand and avoid plagiarism and develop their understanding of how to cite sources as part of an academic argument. ICTC office manages the users and trains the staff about how to use Turnitin.

- **Learning Management System (LMS)** – A service based on Moodle offered for students and instructors in order to access, coordinate and organize course materials online. Students and instructors can login to LMS using the provided official email account.
- **Library Automation System (Koha)** - Koha is an open-source Integrated Library System in use today by hundreds of libraries worldwide. Koha is web based, so there is no software to install on desktop computers. Users can check the books online and reserve them via web. Its features are more than enough to manage the Epoka Library effectively and efficiently.
- **DSpace**– The institutional repository of Epoka University: DSpace is an open source repository software package typically used for creating open access repositories for scholarly and/or published digital content. The proceedings of the conferences which are organized by Epoka University can be accessed from this repository. Epoka University is the only university who has digital repository in Albania (<http://repositories.webometrics.info/en/Europe/Albania>). We also give services to other international journals to publish their publications (<http://dspace.epoka.edu.al/handle/1/1378>) in our digital repository.

Google Services:

- **Webmail (Google account)** –Epoka University is using Google Apps for Education services and all students and academic and administrative staff are provided with an email address under epoka.edu.al domain which is a Google account. Beside official communication, which is done through this email address, this account can be used for authentication to other online systems offered by university.
- **Google Classroom** – A more interactive service offered by Google as part of Google Apps for education in order to access, coordinate and organize course materials on cloud. By using Google Classroom, course materials can be integrated with other Google services where assigned users can collaborate. Students and instructors can access this service using the provided account.

Education Information System (Curriculum) – a website containing information related to study programs, curriculum and course syllabuses.

Smart Card: All students and staff are provided with Smart Card identification cards. The Smart Card is put as an e-ID application at three buildings, two PC labs, one Electronics Lab, and campus gate entry turnstiles and barriers. The e-wallet application is active for staff but has not started yet for students.

Help Desk: ICTCO is also responsible for the maintenance of personnel and PC Lab computers in respect to software and hardware. Its staff monitors the personal computers within the frame of distribution of duty and authority and brings the issues to a conclusion. At the same time, ICTCO plans servers and cabling services of the University. Staff can open ticket via help.epoka.edu.al for their ICTCO related problems and follow the process from here. You can share your opinions on every subject related to information technologies and informatics with help@epoka.edu.al and you can also write your complaints and suggestions for a better campus life.

Software Opportunities

Epoka University has a subscription to the Microsoft Program which is called Dream Spark. It supports technical education by providing access to Microsoft software for learning, teaching and research purposes. Epoka University also provides Office 365 accounts to all staffs and students which includes all office applications for free.

Network:

- **Wireless:** Epoka University provides wireless internet connection to all Epoka members on the campus. As ICTCO, we ensure that the wireless signal is strong and covers everywhere on campus.
- **Wired:** Besides wireless, there are three PC labs, one Civil Engineering lab, one Electronics lab, one PhD study room and a library where PCs serve students and staff with wired internet. In the

Epoka Library and one of the classrooms, there are plug and use stations next to each table where students and staff can use wired internet and electricity for their laptops.

- **Digital Signage:** There are four TVs on campus, which are used to inform Epoka members about latest news and announcements.

Epoka Interactive Systems (EIS)



Recognizing the needs of campus community, Epoka has made a strategic decision to replace its aging, cumbersome, and vendor-supported student, instructors, and staff systems with a modern, nimble and effective internally built system that includes admissions, enrolment, registration, financial aid, student, instructor, and staff accounts, and advising in one platform.

EIS is developed by ICTCO at Epoka University. From the user interface, EIS is an online interactive system where users can log in using the provided official email account. It is a modular system organized by roles and respective units at the university and the information is stored in a centralized database. All users have access to their personal information, can update general details and CV and they can manage job related tasks and activities according to their role and job position.

Students: Students in their profile can access their personal information and information related to their study program. Course registration is done through the system and after that, students can view the ongoing academic activity of the registered courses during the semester. They can check attendance, exam dates, interim grades and final grades. Also, in the system, they can access the program curriculum, transcript, grade calculation, weekly schedule, requests and notifications. The EIS prompts students when they are in the “warning zone” for financial or academic issues. It empowers students to create course plans to ensure timely graduation.

Instructors: Academic staff, including full-time and part-time lecturers can have access to their courses assigned in the current semester and can also view previously assigned courses. Lecturers can update the syllabus, complete student attendance, assign and finalize grades. Advisor lecturers can have access to academic information of the students assigned for advisory and they can approve student course registration.

Coordinators: The opening of courses according to course appointment in each semester is done by department coordinators and approved by faculty coordinators. Coordinators can monitor the academic activity of the lecturers under the respective department.

Admissions and Registrar’s Office: Admissions Office enters all pre-registered student information and assigns scholarships. After the student has completed the registration, all the related information entered by the Admissions office is managed by Registrar’s office.

Finance: Finance office can manage and follow up all student financial information related to tuition fees and scholarship.

Human Resources: Human resources office can manage all staff information data and assigns roles and job position for each staff.

Curriculum: a website containing information related to study programs, curriculum and course syllabus.

All users have access to their personalized reports according to their roles and respective units. Faculties and units are liberated from tedious manual tasks. EIS supplies them with new and most updated information that will empower them to make informed decisions based on data.

EIS can be continuously updated with new modules according to the university’s needs. EIS can be accessed via: <https://eis.epoka.edu.al> and users can log-in by their Epoka Mail account credentials.

Measurable indicators:

Number of PCs for students	217
Number of PC furnished labs for students	9
Number of PCs for academic staff	88
Number of PCs for administration	53
Number of printers	19
Number of photocopying machines	19
Number of head projectors	1
Number of video-projectors	30
Number of scanners	19
Number of TV Screen	10

PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

EPOKA University is located on the Tirana-Rinas Road, on the 12th kilometer. The campus extends over a total area of 67,000 m2. The 2017-2018 academic year is being conducted regularly in the premises of two buildings with a total area of 14352 m2.

The E-building has a modern infrastructure and a central heating and cooling system. The classrooms are equipped with video projectors and smart boards that enable the normal conduct of the learning process.

On September 2013, the construction of A-Building the “Cultural Social Object of EPOKA University” was completed. In addition to classes, there are plenty of recreational facilities for students such as cafeterias, libraries, Wi-Fi, facilities for the Student Council and student clubs, sports facilities, etc. Below are shown current picture of the building.

Measurable indicators:

Premises of the Faculty

Premises for the Faculties_FEAS	Quantity	Surface (m²)
Auditoria/Classrooms for lectures	7	955.9
Classrooms for seminars	9	871.6
Premises for promotion activities	1	128
Classrooms for course/professional practice	5	496.6
Laboratories for courses	5	496.6
Informatics laboratories	4	218.7
Internet Room	4	218.7
Library Hall	1	400
Premises for photocopying, bookshop etc.	1	33.6
Student information office	2	71
Corridors/halls	12	1426.4
Sports premises	4	2100

Premises for service to third parties	1	56
Restrooms (WC) for students	20	138.5
Total Surface		7611.6
Ratio m²/students	7611.6 m² / 1384 std = 5.5 m²/std	
Premises for personnel:	Quantity	Surface
Offices for the Dean/Vice-Dean	1	32
Office for the Administrator	1	22.5
Office for Vice Rector	1	31.5
Offices for the Department Coordinators	1	60.8
Offices for departments/research centres	4	36.2
Offices for the academic personnel	14	347.2
Office for the Finance Office	2	37

Office for the Internal Quality Assurance Unit	1	13
Meeting rooms	2	27.5
Premises for service personnel	8	143
Premises for the activities of the Student Council	1	30
Recreation premises:cafeteria/fast food/ restaurant	2	537
Restrooms (WC) for academic personnel	11	64.7
Total Surface		1382.4
Ratio m² per person	1382.4 m² / 89 pers = 15.53	

Nr of Student for FAE = 1384

Administrative and FAE-Academic Personnel = 89

During the academic year 2023-2024, in the EPOKA University Campus, are in use:

24 classes: (E-B31, E-B32, E-B33, E-211, E-311, E-312, A-118, A-119, A-120, A-127, A-128, A-129, A-130, A-131, D-101, D-102, D-103, D-104, D-201, D-202, D-203, D-204, D-301, D-302).

10 Auditories: E-012, E-110, E-212, E-213, E-214, E-313, E-314, A-005, A-117, A-212) and one conference room (E-B01).

5 Computer laboratories (E-011, E-015, E-B30, D005 and A-126).

5-Laboratory for courses: Electronic laboratory (E-010), Architecture laboratory (A-120/1), Projects laboratory (A-027), Panbiora laboratory (E-B02) and Civil Engineering Laboratory (I-001).

There are 2 internet rooms as it is reflected in the table above, but the University offers wireless internet all over its space. The capacities used are given in the table below.

Classes used during the 2023-2024 academic year.

No.	Name of the Class	Surface (m2)	Capacity
1	E-B31	75	40
2	E-B32	75	40
3	E-B33	75	40
4	E-211	64	36
5	E-311	63.46	35
6	E-312	81.32	60
7	A-118 Studio II	138	35
8	A-119 Studio III	138	35
9	A-120 Studio IV	138	35
10	A-127	72.41	56

11	A-128	73.53	56
12	A-129	73.71	56
13	A-130	72.02	56
14	A-131	72.02	56
15	D-101	72	47
16	D-102	66	40
17	D-103	50	33
18	D-104	52	24
19	D-201	72	47
20	D-202	66	41
21	D-203	50	26
22	D-204	52	27
23	D-301	94	67
24	D-302	66	45
total	24	1851.47	1033

Auditoriums used during the 2023-2024 academic year

No.	Name of Auditorium	Surface (m2)	Capacity
1	E 012	131.54	70

2	E 110	130.82	136
3	E-212	51.32	72
4	E-213	81.72	72
5	E 214	154.32	150
6	E-313	81.72	70
7	E 314	154.32	134
8	A-005	145.2	70
9	A-117 Studio I	138	35
10	A-212	85	72
total	10	1153.96	881

The facilities are equipped with heating-cooling system and video projectors. The construction materials and laboratory tools found in the Civil Engineering Laboratory are also being used in the teaching and research process.

The capacity of the laboratories used is given in the table below.

Laboratories used during the 2023-2024 academic year

Name	Laboratories	Surface (m2)	Capacity
E 015	Computer Laboratory 1	77.9	40
E 011	Computer Laboratory 2	96.6	42
E B30	Computer Laboratory 3	123.7	47

A-126	Computer Laboratory 4	72.4	42
D-005	Computer Laboratory 5	95.0	36
E 010	Electronic Laboratory	132.0	50
A 120/1	Architecture Laboratory	27.6	12
I 001	Civil Engineering Laboratory	283.0	40
A-027	Projects Laboratory	39.0	25
D-104	Courtroom (salla e gjyqit)	52	25
E-B02	Panbiora Laboratory	15.0	12
Total	11	1014.3	371

The facilities are equipped with heating-cooling systems and video projectors. The construction materials and laboratory tools found in the Civil Engineering Laboratory are also being used in the teaching and research process.

The capacity of the laboratories used is given in the table below.

EPOKA University has a conference hall with a surface of 128 m² and a capacity of 99 persons. The conference hall is used more for social, cultural and various national and international conferences. The hall is equipped with central heating-cooling system, video projector, sound system and two cabins for simultaneous translation. Also in the premises of the “Cultural Social Object” building is a conference hall with a surface of about 400 m² and a capacity of 300 persons.

LIBRARY

The Epoka University Library, which is located on the first floor of A-Building in the Rinas Campus, was founded to support the education and research activities of the university by providing and organizing the needed documents.

With its 100-seating capacity, our library has a 400 square meters area of use. Our University Library is composed of the entrance, Library and reading hall. In the entrance, there is a check

out desk and research center. The periodicals, including the exhibition of new arrivals, are also shelved in this section. The reading hall is equipped for students to study and to do research.

We collaborate with academic staff to help students and faculties with vital content by reducing costs and increasing opportunities for better and more practical study, providing independent researchers with free and low-cost access.

Our library collection is enriched by purchases and donations. The books to buy are chosen in accordance with the needs and requests of the students, administrative and academic staff. Under the Library Unit and Documentation, the library has a total of about 25000 printed books.

Digital Databases

Epoka University has full membership in JSTOR, a shared digital library created in 1995 that includes more than 12 million academic journal articles, books, and primary sources in 75 disciplines. JSTOR helps to explore a wide range of scientific content through a powerful research and teaching platform. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization.

JSTOR was founded to help libraries and academic publishers transition their activities from print to digital operations, to expand access to scholarly content around the world and to preserve it for future generations. JSTORE is offered free to our students and academic staff.

Every member of Epoka staff can access JSTOR's collections by going to <http://www.jstor.org/> and searching or browsing for content.

Using the Library

Our library works on an open shelf system enabling you to reach the books directly. The books in the open shelves are topically sorted in the book hall according to LC classification method. To find the book you are looking for, you should follow these steps:

Through the catalog search computers in the library; you can search author name, book name, and publisher, topic, or keyword areas.

To get the book, you can go to the shelves with the classification and location numbers of the books appearing on the screen as a result of your search.

Example of LC number for the book: "Exchange rates and international finance", Laurence S. Copeland / Financial Times, 2008

HG

3821

.C78

2008

The first part of the LC number "HG" represents the category of the book by its topic. In the LC system, the first letter H stands for Social Science class. Each subsequent letter indicates next level of subcategories of the main topic. In the given example G stands for Finance, 3821 indicates subcategories included between 3810-4000 (Foreign exchange, international finance, International monetary system), C78 indicates the first letter of authors surname, 2008 indicates book publication year.

Regulations

Students of PHD, Associate Degree, Bachelor’s Degree and Master Students and academic and administrative personnel are the members of the library. They can borrow library materials in accordance with the rules.

Researchers coming from outside the university are not lent books, they are only allowed to use them in accordance with the rules.

Readers in this group are requested to fill up the related form Lending Service.

Circulation Rules

Resource	Patron	Loan period(days)	Maximum number of check-outs(items)
Book	Pre-undergraduate/Undergraduate students	15	3
	Graduate students	15	5
	Staff	20	5
Bound Journal	Graduate students Staff	5	2
Visual/Audio Resources	Pre-undergraduate/Undergraduate students Graduate students Staff	3	3

B. The Curriculum

Undergraduate Teaching

First YEAR															
First Semester															
COURSES		Course Type	Compulsory /Elective	Weekly Course Distribution				Epoeka	Semestral Lecture and studying hours						ECTS
Code	Course Name			Th	P	L	T		C	L	P	L	Si	O	
							re	ec	er	ab	te	wh	to		
							di	t	a	.	W	e	a		
							ts	.	t	.	.	r	l		
ARCH 101	Basic Design	A	Compulsory	4	8	0	12	8	64	12	0	10	0	30	12
ARCH 105	Graphic Communication I	A	Compulsory	2	2	0	4	3	32	32	0	86	0	150	6
ARCH 121	Introduction to Architecture	A	Compulsory	3	0	0	3	3	48	0	0	52	0	100	4
MTH 125	Basic Mathematics	A	Compulsory	3	0	0	3	3	48	0	0	52	0	100	4
ENG 103	Development of Reading and Writing Skills in English I	D	Compulsory	3	0	0	3	3	48	0	0	52	0	100	4
Semestral Total				15	10	0	25	20	240	160	0	350	0	750	30
Second Semester															
COURSES		Course Type	Compulsory /Elective	Weekly Course Distribution				Epoeka	Semestral Course and studying hours						ECTS
Code	Course Name			Th	P	L	T		C	L	P	L	Si	O	
							re	ec	er	ab	te	wh	to		
							di	t	a	.	W	e	a		
							ts	.	t	.	.	r	l		
ARCH 102	Introduction to Architectural Design	B	Compulsory	4	8	0	12	8	64	12	0	10	0	30	12
ARCH	Graphic Communication II	A	Compulsory	2	2	0	4	3	32	32	0	86	0	150	6

108			Isory							2	2		6		5	
ARCH 124	History of Art and Architecture I	A	Compu Isory	3	0	0	3	3	4	0	0	0	5	2	1	4
ARCH 106	Free Hand Drawing	A	Compu Isory	1	2	0	3	2	1	3	0	5	0	1	4	
ENG 104	Development of Reading and Writing Skills in English II	D	Compu Isory	3	0	0	3	3	4	0	0	5	0	1	4	
Semestral Total				13	12	05	20	20	20	19	08	28	52	75	30	

Second YEAR

Third Semester

COURSES		Course Type	Compulsory /Elective	Weekly Course Distribution				Epoeka	Semestral Lecture and studying hours						ECTS
Code	Course Name			T	P	L	T		C	L	P	L	Si	O	
				h	r	a	o	re	L	P	L	te	W	h	o
				or	c	.	a	ts	t	t	.	.	e	r	a
				y	t	l			.	.					
ARCH 201	Architectural Design I	B	Compu Isory	4	4	0	8	6	6	6	0	1	0	2	1
ARCH 253	Building Construction Technology I	B	Compu Isory	2	2	0	4	3	3	3	0	6	0	1	5
ARCH 231	Statics and Strength of Materials	B	Compu Isory	3	0	0	3	3	4	0	0	5	0	1	4
ARCH 261	Building Materials	B	Compu Isory	3	0	0	3	3	4	0	0	5	0	1	4
ARCH 223	History of Art and Architecture II	A	Compu Isory	3	0	0	3	3	4	0	0	5	0	1	4
ARCH 211	Digital Graphics I	A	Compu Isory	1	2	0	3	2	1	3	0	1	1	7	3
Semestral Total				16	8	0	24	20	25	13	0	35	10	75	30

Fourth Semester

COURSES		Course Type	Compulsory /Elective	Weekly Course Distribution				Epoeka	Semestral Course and studying hours						ECTS
Code	Course Name			T	P	L	T		C	L	P	L	Si	O	
				h	r	a	o	re	e	r	a	te	t	o	

				e	a	b	t	d	c	a	b	W	h	t	
				o	r	.	a	i	t	.	.	.	e	a	
				y	t	.	l	s	.	t	.	.	r	l	
ARCH 202	Architectural Design I	B	Compu lsory	4	4	0	8	6	6	6	0	1	0	2	1
									4	4		2		5	0
												2		0	
ARCH 224	History of Art and Architecture III	A	Compu lsory	3	0	0	3	3	4	4	0	0	5	1	4
									8	8			2	0	0
														0	
ARCH 232	Structure Analysis	B	Compu lsory	3	0	0	3	3	4	4	0	5	0	1	4
									8	8		2		0	0
														0	
ARCH 240	Landscape Design	B	Compu lsory	3	0	0	3	3	4	4	0	5	0	1	4
									8	8		2		0	0
														0	
ARCH 254	Building Construction Technology II	B	Compu lsory	2	2	0	4	4	3	3	0	6	0	1	5
									2	2		1		2	
														5	
ARCH 218	Digital Graphics II	A	Compu lsory	3	0	0	3	3	4	0	0	5	0	7	3
									8			2		5	

Third YEAR

Fifth Semester

COURSES		Co urs e Ty pe	Comp ulsory /Elec tive	Weekly Course Distribution				E p o k a	Semestral Course and studying hours					E C T S			
Code	Course Name			T	P	L	T		C	L	P	L	Si		O	T	
				h	r	a	a	r	e	e	r	a	te	W	h	t	
				o	a	b	t	d	c	a	b	.	.	.	e	a	
				y	t	.	l	s	.	t	.	.	.	r	l		
ARCH 301	Architectural Design III	B	Compu lsory	4	4	0	8	6	6	6	0	1	0	2	1		
									4	4		2		5	0		
												2		0			
ARCH 311	Urban Design I	B	Compu lsory	3	0	0	3	3	4	0	0	7	0	1	5		
									8			7		2			
														5			
ARCH 380	Environmental Control Studio	B	Compu lsory	2	4	0	6	4	3	6	0	5	0	1	6		
									2	4		4		5	0		
														0			
ARCH 320	Theories of Architectural Design	B	Compu lsory	3	0	0	3	3	4	0	0	0	5	1	5		
									8				2	0	0		
														0			
ARCH 381	Structural Design	B	Compu lsory	3	0	0	3	3	4	0	0	7	0	1	5		
									8			7		2			
														5			
Semestral Total				1	8	0	2	2	2	1	0	3	5	7	3		
				6			0	0	4	2		3	2	5	0		
									0	8		0		0			

Sixth Semester

COURSES		Co urs e	Comp ulsory	Weekly Course Distribution				E p o	Semestral Course and studying hours					C
				T	P	L	T		C	L	P	L	Si	

Code	Course Name	Type	/Elective	k					a					T	S
				Th	P	L	T	C	L	P	L	Si	O		
				h	r	a	a	r	e	e	a	a	te	t	o
				e	c	b	t	d	c	c	b	W	h	t	
				o	t	a	s	i	t	.	.	e	a	l	
ARCH 302	Architectural Design IV	B	Compulsory	4	4	0	8	6	6	6	0	1	0	2	1
									4	4		2		5	0
												2		0	
ARCH 312	Urban Design II	B	Compulsory	2	2	0	4	3	3	3	0	9	0	1	6
									2	2		0		5	
														0	
ARCH xxx	Elective Course	C	Elective	3	0	0	3	3	4	0	0	1	0	1	6
									8			0		5	
												2		0	
ARCH 332	Building Construction Management	B	Compulsory	3	0	0	3	3	4	0	0	5	0	1	4
									8			2		0	
														0	
ARCH 331	Building Systems	B	Compulsory	3	0	0	3	3	4	0	0	5	0	1	4
									8			2		0	
														0	

Fourth YEAR

Seventh Semester

COURSES		Course Type	Compulsory /Elective	Weekly Course Distribution					Semestral Lecture and studying hours					E	C	T	S
Code	Course Name			Th	P	L	T	C	L	P	L	Si	O				
				h	r	a	a	r	e	e	a	a	te	t	o		
				e	c	b	t	d	c	c	b	W	h	t			
				o	t	a	s	i	t	.	.	e	a	l			
ARCH 401	Advanced Design Studio I	B	Compulsory	4	4	0	8	6	6	6	0	1	0	2	1		
									4	4		2		5	0		
												2		0			
ARCH 419	Advanced Detailing in Architecture	B	Compulsory	2	2	0	4	3	3	3	0	3	0	1	4		
									2	2		6		0			
														0			
ARCH 411	Studio of Conservation and Restoration	B	Compulsory	2	2	0	4	3	3	3	0	6	0	1	5		
									2	2		1		2			
														5			
ARCH 332	Building Construction Management	D	Compulsory	4	0	0	4	4	6	0	0	6	0	1	5		
									4			1		2			
														5			
ARCH xxx	Elective course	C	Elective	3	0	0	3	3	4	0	0	1	0	1	6		
									8			0		5			
												2		0			
Semestral Total				1	8	0	2	1	2	1	0	3	0	7	3		
				5			3	9	4	2		8		5	0		
									0	8		2		0			

Eighth Semester

COURSES		Course Type	Compulsory / Elective	Weekly Course Distribution					Epoika	Semestral Course and studying hours					ECTS
Code	Course Name			Th	P	L	T	C		L	P	L	Si	O	
				h	r	a	o	r	e	r	a	te	t	o	
				e	a	b	a	e	a	b	W	h	t		
				o	t	.	l	c	c	.	.	e	a		
				r	.	.	.	t	t	.	r	.	l		
ARCH 402	Advanced Design Studio II	B	Compulsory	4	4	0	8	6	6	6	0	1	0	2	1
ARCH 410	Research Methods	A	Compulsory	3	0	0	3	3	4	0	0	5	0	1	4
ARCH 414	Architect's Market Structure and Real Estate	D	Compulsory	3	4	0	3	3	4	0	0	5	0	1	4
ARCH xxx	Elective course	C	Elective	3	0	0	3	3	4	0	0	1	0	1	6
ARCH xxx	Elective course	C	Elective	3	0	0	3	3	4	0	0	1	0	1	6
Semestral Total				16	4	0	20	18	25	6	0	4	0	7	3

Fifth YEAR

Ninth Semester

COURSES		Course Type	Compulsory / Elective	Weekly Course Distribution					Epoika	Semestral Course and studying hours					ECTS
Code	Course Name			Th	P	L	T	C		L	P	L	Si	O	
				h	r	a	o	r	e	r	a	te	t	o	
				e	a	b	a	e	a	b	W	h	t		
				o	t	.	l	c	c	.	.	e	a		
				r	.	.	.	t	t	.	r	.	l		
ARCH 505	Special Topics in Architectural Design	B	Compulsory	2	2	0	4	3	3	3	0	8	0	1	6
ARCH 515	Thesis Research	B	Compulsory	3	0	0	0	3	4	0	0	1	0	1	6
ARCH xxx	Elective course	C	Elective	3	4	0	3	3	4	0	0	1	0	1	6
ARCH xxx	Elective course	C	Elective	3	0	0	3	3	4	0	0	1	0	1	6
ARCH xxx	Elective course	C	Elective	3	0	0	3	3	4	0	0	1	0	1	6
Semestral Total				11	2	0	11	11	23	3	0	4	0	7	3

													4			3	5	2	2		9		5	0
													Tenth Semester											
COURSES		Course Type	Compulsory / Elective	Weekly Course Distribution				Epoeka	Semestral Course and studying hours					ECTS										
Code	Course Name			T	P	L	T		C	L	P	L	Si		O	T								
				h	r	a	o	re	e	r	a	te	Wh	to										
				o	r	.	l	di	t	c	b	.	e	a										
				y	.			ts	t	.		r	l											
ARCH 310	Summer Practice at Construction Site	D	Compulsory	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	5									
ARCH 409	Summer Practice at Architectural Studio	D	Compulsory	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	4									
ARCH xxx	Non-Technical Elective	D	Elective	3	0	3	3	3		0	0	1	0	1	6									
ARCH 500	Master Thesis	E	Compulsory	2	0	2	2	2	4	8	0	0	0	0	5									
Semestral Total				5	0	5	5	5	8	0	0	6	0	7	3									
									0			7		5	0									
												0		0										

Graduate Teaching

Faculty of Architecture and Engineering														
Department of Architecture														
Proposed Curriculum of M. Sc. In Architecture														
First Year														
First Semester														
Courses		Course Type	Compulsory/Elective	Weekly Course Distribution				Epoeka	Semestral Lecture and Studying Hours					ECTS
Code	Course Name			T	P	L	T		L	P	L	S	O	

de		se	lecti	e	a	b	t	a	c	a	b	t	h	t	
		e	ve	o	c	.	a	C	t	c	.	e	e	a	
		T		r	t		l	r	.	t		W	r	l	
		y		y	.			e		.		.			
		p						d							
		e						i							
								t							
								s							
A R C H 4 0 1	Advanced Design Studio I	B	Co mpu lsor y	4	4	0	8	6	6 4	6 4	0	1 7 2	0	3 0 0	1 2
A R C H 4 6 1	Urban Planning	B	Co mpu lsor y	4	0	0	4	3	6 4	0	0	8 6	0	1 5 0	6
A R C H 4 9 3	Elective course	C	Elec tive	3	0	0	3	3	4 8	0	0	1 0 2	0	1 5 0	6
A R C H 4 9 5	Planning Theories	B	Co mpu lsor y	3	0	0	3	3	4 8	0	0	1 0 2	0	1 5 0	6
Semestral Total				1 2	6	0	1 8	1 5	2 2 4	6 4	0	4 6 2	0	7 5 0	3 0

First Year																
Second Semester																
Courses		C o u r s e T y p e	C o m p u l s o r y/ E l e c t i v e	Weekly Course Distribution				E p o k a C r e d i t s	Semestral Lecture and Studying Hours							E C T S
C o u r s e N a m e				T h e o r y	P r a c t i c e	L a b o r	T o t a l		L e c t u r e	P r a c t i c e	L a b o r	S e m i n a r s	O t h e r	T o t a l		
A R C H 4 0 2	Advanced Design Studio II	B	Co m p u l s o r y	4	4	0	8	6	6 4	6 4	0	1 7 2	0	3 0 0	1 2	
A R C H 4 1 8	Case Studies in Architectur al Criticism	B	Co m p u l s o r y	4	0	0	4	4	6 4	0	0	8 6	0	1 5 0	6	
A R C H 4 1 0	Research Methods	A	Co m p u l s o r y	3	0	0	3	3	4 8	0	0	1 0 2	0	1 5 0	6	

A R C H 4 9 6	Elective course	C	Elec tive	3	0	0	3	3	4	0	0	1	0	1	6
Semestral Total				1 4	4	0	1 8	1 6	2 2 4	6 4	0	4 6 2	0	7 5 0	3 0
Second Year															
Third Semester															
Courses		C o u r s e T y p e	Co mp ul so r y/E lecti ve	Weekly Course Distribution				E p k a C r e d i t s	Semestral Lecture and Studying Hours						E C T S
C o u r s e N a m e	T h e o r y			P r a c t i c e	L a b o r	T o t a l	L e c t u r e		P r a c t i c e	L a b o r	S e l f S t u d y	O t h e r	T o t a l		
A R C H 5 0 1	Supervised Independent Study and Research	B	Co mpu lsor y	3	2	0	5	4	4 8	3 2	0	2 2 0	0	3 0 0	1 2
A R C H 5	Special Topics in Urban Planning and Design	B	Co mpu lsor y	4	0	0	4	4	6 4	0	0	8 6	0	1 5 0	6

61															
ARCH415	Landscape Research	B	Compulsory	3	0	0	3	3	48	0	0	102	0	150	6
ARCH577	Elective course	C	Elective	3	0	0	3	3	48	0	0	102	0	150	6
Semestral Total				13	2	0	15	14	208	32	0	510	0	750	30
Second Year															
Fourth Semester															
Courses		Course Type	Compulsory/Elective	Weekly Course Distribution				Eopkacs Credits	Semestral Lecture and Studying Hours						ECTS
Code	Course Name			T	P	L	T		L	P	L	S	O	T	
ARCH	Master Thesis	E	Compulsory	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	450	0	450	18

5 0 0																
A R C H 5 9 8	Professional Practice at Construction Site	D	Compulsory	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	150	0	150	6
A R C H 5 9 9	Professional Practice at Architectural Studio	D	Compulsory	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	150	0	150	6
Semestral Total				0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	750	0	750	30
List of Elective courses																
Courses		C o u r s e T y p e	C o m p u l s o r y/ E l e c t i v e	Weekly Course Distribution				E p o k a C r e d i t s	Semestral Lecture and Studying Hours						E C T S	
C o d e	Course Name			T h e o r y	P r a c t i c e	L a b o r	T o t a l		L e c t u r e	P r a c t i c e	L a b o r	S e m i n a r s	O t h e r	T o t a l		
A R C H 4	Housing Systems	C	Elective	3	0	0	3	3	48	0	0	102	0	105	6	

1 3															
A R C H 4 1 7	Architectur e And Film	C	Elec tive	3	0	0	3	3	4 8	0	0	1 0 2	0	1 5 0	6
A R C H 4 2 1	Design Methods	C	Elec tive	3	0	0	3	3	4 8	0	0	1 0 2	0	1 5 0	6
A R C H 4 3 1	Advanced Structural Systems	C	Elec tive	3	0	0	3	3	4 8	0	0	1 0 2	0	1 5 0	6
A R C H 4 3 2	Sunlighting In Architectur e	C	Elec tive	3	0	0	3	3	4 8	0	0	1 0 2	0	1 5 0	6
A R C H 4 5 2	New Building Technologi es	C	Elec tive	3	0	0	3	3	4 8	0	0	1 0 2	0	1 5 0	6

A R C H 4 5 6	Urban Microclima te	C	Elec tive	3	0	0	3	3	4 8	0	0	1 0 2	0	1 5 0	6
A R C H 4 6 2	Housing Systems	C	Elec tive	3	0	0	3	3	4 8	0	0	1 0 2	0	1 5 0	6
A R C H 4 6 3	Gis Application s For Planners	C	Elec tive	3	0	0	3	3	4 8	0	0	1 0 2	0	1 5 0	6
A R C H 4 7 4	Theories Of Architectur al Design	C	Elec tive	3	0	0	3	3	4 8	0	0	1 0 2	0	1 5 0	6
A R C H 4 7 5	TRESHOL DS OF 20- Th CENTURY	C	Elec tive	3	0	0	3	3	4 8	0	0	1 0 2	0	1 5 0	6
A R C H	Forecasting In Design	C	Elec tive	3	0	0	3	3	4 8	0	0	1 0 2	0	1 5 0	6

4 7 6															
A R C H 4 7 7	Architecture In Context	C	Elective	3	0	0	3	3	4 8	0	0	1 0 2	0	1 5 0	6
A R C H 4 7 8	Architecture And Identity	C	Elective	3	0	0	3	3	4 8	0	0	1 0 2	0	1 5 0	6
A R C H 4 7 9	Psychology In Architecture	C	Elective	3	0	0	3	3	4 8	0	0	1 0 2	0	1 5 0	6
A R C H 4 8 0	Evaluation In Architecture	C	Elective	3	0	0	3	3	4 8	0	0	1 0 2	0	1 5 0	6
A R C H 4 8 1	Housing For Low- Income Groups	C	Elective	3	0	0	3	3	4 8	0	0	1 0 2	0	1 5 0	6

A R C H 4 8 2	Environme ntal Aesthetics	C	Elec tive	3	0	0	3	3	4 8	0	0	1 0 2	0	1 5 0	6
A R C H 4 8 3	Architectur e And Technology	C	Elec tive	3	0	0	3	3	4 8	0	0	1 0 2	0	1 5 0	6
A R C H 4 8 4	Computer Application s In Architectur e	C	Elec tive	3	0	0	3	3	4 8	0	0	1 0 2	0	1 5 0	6
A R C H 4 8 5	Home And Culture Studies	C	Elec tive	3	0	0	3	3	4 8	0	0	1 0 2	0	1 5 0	6
A R C H 4 8 6	Digital Visualisatio n And Presentatio n	C	Elec tive	3	0	0	3	3	4 8	0	0	1 0 2	0	1 5 0	6
A R C H	Introductio n To Hidrology	C	Elec tive	3	0	0	3	3	4 8	0	0	1 0 2	0	1 5 0	6

4 8 7															
A R C H 4 9 1	Architect'S Market Structure	C	Elec tive	3	0	0	3	3	4 8	0	0	1 0 2	0	1 5 0	6
A R C H 4 9 2	Design With Climate	C	Elec tive	3	0	0	3	3	4 8	0	0	1 0 2	0	1 5 0	6
A R C H 4 9 3	Remote Sensing And Cartograph y	C	Elec tive	3	0	0	3	3	4 8	0	0	1 0 2	0	1 5 0	6
A R C H 4 9 6	Assessment Methods	C	Elec tive	3	0	0	3	3	4 8	0	0	1 0 2	0	1 5 0	6
A R C H 5 0 5	Special Topics In Architectur al Design	C	Elec tive	3	0	0	3	3	4 8	0	0	1 0 2	0	1 5 0	6

A R C H 5 1 1	Social And Cultural Themes In Urban Architecture	C	Elective	3	0	0	3	3	4	0	0	1	0	1	6
A R C H 5 3 1	Special Topics In Building Technology	C	Elective	3	0	0	3	3	4	0	0	1	0	1	6
A R C H 5 3 9	Housing And Change	C	Elective	3	0	0	3	3	4	0	0	1	0	1	6
A R C H 5 7 1	Architecture And Utopia	C	Elective	3	0	0	3	3	4	0	0	1	0	1	6
A R C H 5 7 2	Methods And Techniques In Housing Research	C	Elective	3	0	0	3	3	4	0	0	1	0	1	6
A R C H	Geometry In Architecture	C	Elective	3	0	0	3	3	4	0	0	1	0	1	6

5 7 4															
A R C H 5 7 0	Design With Prefabricate d Building Elements	C	Elec tive	3	0	0	3	3	4 8	0	0	1 0 2	0	1 5 0	6
A R C H 5 0 2	Computatio nal Design: Theory And Application s	C	Elec tive	3	0	0	3	3	4 8	0	0	1 0 2	0	1 5 0	6
A R C H 5 0 4	Special Problems In Architectur e Studies	C	Elec tive	3	0	0	3	3	4 8	0	0	1 0 2	0	1 5 0	6
A R C H 5 0 6		C	Elec tive	3	0	0	3	3	4 8	0	0	1 0 2	0	1 5 0	6
A R C H 5 0 7	Building And Human Ecology	C	Elec tive	3	0	0	3	3	4 8	0	0	1 0 2	0	1 5 0	6

A R C H 5 0 8	Interior Design Research Workhop	C	Elec tive	3	0	0	3	3	4 8	0	0	1 0 2	0	1 5 0	6
A R C H 5 0 9	Readings In History Of Architectur e	C	Elec tive	3	0	0	3	3	4 8	0	0	1 0 2	0	1 5 0	6
A R C H 5 1 0	Ottoman Architectur e	C	Elec tive	3	0	0	3	3	4 8	0	0	1 0 2	0	1 5 0	6
A R C H 5 1 2	History Of Contempor ary Italian Architectur e	C	Elec tive	3	0	0	3	3	4 8	0	0	1 0 2	0	1 5 0	6
A R C H 5 1 3	Modeling The Idea	C	Elec tive	3	0	0	3	3	4 8	0	0	1 0 2	0	1 5 0	6
A R C H	Research On Fabrication	C	Elec tive	3	0	0	3	3	4 8	0	0	1 0 2	0	1 5 0	6

5 1 4															
A R C H 5 1 5	Museology	C	Elective	3	0	0	3	3	4 8	0	0	1 0 2	0	1 5 0	6
A R C H 5 1 6	Urban Sociology	C	Elective	3	0	0	3	3	4 8	0	0	1 0 2	0	1 5 0	6
A R C H 5 1 7	Modern Architecture In Albania	C	Elective	3	0	0	3	3	4 8	0	0	1 0 2	0	1 5 0	6
A R C H 5 1 8	Vernacular Architecture	C	Elective	3	0	0	3	3	4 8	0	0	1 0 2	0	1 5 0	6
A R C H 5 1 9	Traditional Dwellings In The Balkan Region	C	Elective	3	0	0	3	3	4 8	0	0	1 0 2	0	1 5 0	6

A R C H 5 2 0	Traditional Dwellings In Albania	C	Elec tive	3	0	0	3	3	4 8	0	0	1 0 2	0	1 5 0	6
A R C H 5 2 1	Environme ntal Psychology	C	Elec tive	3	0	0	3	3	4 8	0	0	1 0 2	0	1 5 0	6
A R C H 5 2 2	Directed Studies In Environme ntal Design	C	Elec tive	3	0	0	3	3	4 8	0	0	1 0 2	0	1 5 0	6
A R C H 5 2 4	Architectur e, Design And Theory	C	Elec tive	3	0	0	3	3	4 8	0	0	1 0 2	0	1 5 0	6
A R C H 5 2 6	Housing Issues In Contempor ary Society	C	Elec tive	3	0	0	3	3	4 8	0	0	1 0 2	0	1 5 0	6
A R C H	Water Urbanism	C	Elec tive	3	0	0	3	3	4 8	0	0	1 0 2	0	1 5 0	6

5 2 7															
A R C H 5 2 8	Green Urbanism & Ecological Infrastructu res	C	Elec tive	3	0	0	3	3	4 8	0	0	1 0 2	0	1 5 0	6
A R C H 5 2 9	Transdiscip linery Research Practices	C	Elec tive	3	0	0	3	3	4 8	0	0	1 0 2	0	1 5 0	6
A R C H 5 3 0	Nature Driven Urban Planning And Design	C	Elec tive	3	0	0	3	3	4 8	0	0	1 0 2	0	1 5 0	6
A R C H 5 3 2	Building Production Systems	C	Elec tive	3	0	0	3	3	4 8	0	0	1 0 2	0	1 5 0	6
A R C H 5 7 7	Governance In Planning Processes	C	Elec tive	3	0	0	3	3	4 8	0	0	1 0 2	0	1 5 0	6

Teaching, Learning, Assessment & Research

Undergraduate Students' List of Theses

Student: Blerta Muceku [Spring 2024-2025]

Thesis Title: MEASURING SENSE OF PLACE AMONG DISPLACED AND NON-DISPLACED STUDENTS: CASE STUDY OF POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY OF TIRANA

Supervisor: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Edmond Manahasa

Thesis Summary: This study measures the sense of place among students of the Faculty of Architecture and Urbanism, during a time of displacement due to the reconstruction of their original campus. Thus, they temporarily relocated their studies at the main campus of the Polytechnic University of Tirana. With this shift of places, understanding how such changes affect students' emotional and social connections to their physical campus is increasingly important. This phenomenon is grounded in the theoretical concept of sense of place by examining and measuring among students three key concepts: place identity, place attachment and place dependence. The aim of the research is to assess the effects through a comparative analysis of displaced students in their fourth and fifth years and non-displaced students from the second year. The methodology includes archival research and visual documentation to inspect the main campus of Polytechnic University environments, mapping, sampling and a survey to gather qualitative and quantitative data from participants, as well as data processing. Results show that non-displaced students reported higher levels of place identity and attachment, particularly regarding outdoor spaces and classroom environments. Whereas, displaced students revealed a lower emotional and functional connection with the temporary campus, emphasizing a lack of spatial continuity and belonging. The findings emphasize the significance of spatial familiarity and meaningful place design in improving student well-being in academic environments.

Keywords: Sense of place, Displacement, Place Attachment, Place Identity, Place Dependence.

Student: Klea Lala [Spring 2024-2025]

Thesis Title: THE CHANGING HOUSING PATTERNS IN HISTORICAL URBAN CONTEXT OF DURRËS AND ITS IMPACT ON IDENTITY: CASE OF "KUMINI" NEIGHBOURHOOD.

Supervisor: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Edmond MANAHASA

Thesis Summary: Recent urban development in the city of Durrës nowadays is associated with

rapid population growth and denser built environment. Such development has evolved also in historical zones of the city, leading to multilayered urban environment, which is supposed to influence identity of such neighbourhood. This research aims to identify the urban identity of a neighbourhood, that has been subject of continuous change in the post-socialist period by taking the case study of the “Kumini” neighbourhood in Durrës, Albania. It relates to the concept of urban identity, defined through both physical characteristics and residents’ identificatory relations to the neighbourhood. The methodology combines historical urban layer

analysis, housing typological identification, questionnaires with the inhabitants and spatial representation using Geographic Information Systems (GIS). The study identifies four main historical layers in the neighbourhood: ottoman, Italian, socialist, and post-socialist period, as well as a range of housing typologies corresponding to these periods. To investigate residents’ elements of identification through the neighbourhood, 105 interviews were conducted, 15 for each housing

typology, focusing on both physical and identificatory relations that contribute to neighbourhood identity. In the end, this research reveals that there are differences on identification with the neighbourhood based on housing layers and typologies. Most of the residents identify with their neighbourhood through identificatory relations, by providing a higher attachment with “Kumini” neighbourhood. As for the results based on housing typologies although older layer typologies had higher identification with their neighbourhood, multifamily housing typologies in both socialist and post-socialist layers, show low values, while the lowest is reported by interviewees living in informal housing units.

Keywords: neighbourhood, identity, housing typology, physical element, identificatory relation, demolished heritage.

Student: *Joana Boci [Spring 2024-2025]*

Thesis Title: *INTERNATIONAL ARCHITECT’S IMPACT ON THE IDENTITY OF POST-SOCIALIST TIRANA: THE ROLE OF URBAN AND ARCHITECTURAL AESTHETICS’ ELEMENTS*

Supervisor: *Assoc. Prof. Dr. Edmond MANAHASA*

Thesis Summary: International influences in the capital of Albania, Tirana, have always been present throughout history, especially in relation to urban and architectural projects. However, with the fall of the communist regime, the increase in globalization and the invitation to

international architects and urban planners to intervene and shape the new image of the city, concerns have been raised about the impact of their projects on the urban identity of Tirana. To investigate this impact, the research relies on the theory of urban identity within the framework of aesthetic values.

To achieve this goal, the methodology includes archival research, visual documentation, urban layers analysis, mapping and survey techniques with questions directed at local architects and urban planners (n=125). The questionnaire includes the evaluation of ten selected buildings, designed by international architects. The findings reveal a predominantly negative assessment by the participants, who see these buildings as detached from the architectural heritage and local context of Tirana, as well as lacking in urban and architectural aesthetic values. Respondents often assessed the lack of coherence with the surrounding structures and the unfamiliar style. The study concludes that, while globalization and the projects of international architects have brought new forms and ideas to Tirana, they have also contributed to a growing sense of decontextualization, challenging the development of a local and cohesive urban identity.

Keywords: Tirana, urban identity, urban aesthetics, globalization, decontextualization, image of the city.

Student: Klea LALA [Spring 2024-2025]

Thesis Title: THE CHANGING HOUSING PATTERNS IN HISTORICAL URBAN CONTEXT OF DURRËS AND ITS IMPACT ON IDENTITY: CASE OF “KUMINI” NEIGHBOURHOOD.

Supervisor: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Edmond MANHASA

Thesis Summary: Recent urban development in the city of Durrës nowadays is associated with rapid population growth and denser built environment. Such development has evolved also in historical zones of the city, leading to multilayered urban environment, which is supposed to influence identity of such neighbourhood. This research aims to identify the urban identity of a neighbourhood, that has been subject of continuous change in the post-socialist period by taking the case study of the “Kumini” neighbourhood in Durrës, Albania. It relates to the concept of urban identity, defined through both physical characteristics and residents’ identificatory relations to the neighbourhood. The methodology combines historical urban layer analysis, housing typological identification, questionnaires with the inhabitants and spatial representation using Geographic Information Systems (GIS). The study identifies four main historical layers in the neighbourhood: ottoman, Italian, socialist, and post-socialist period, as well as a range of

housing typologies

corresponding to these periods. To investigate residents' elements of identification through the neighbourhood, 105 interviews were conducted, 15 for each housing typology, focusing on both physical and identificatory relations that contribute to neighbourhood identity. In the end, this research reveals that there are differences on identification with the neighbourhood based on housing layers and typologies. Most of the residents identify with their neighbourhood through identificatory relations, by providing a higher attachment with "Kumini" neighbourhood. As for the results based on housing typologies although older layer typologies had higher identification with their neighbourhood, multifamily housing typologies in both socialist and post-socialist layers, show low values, while the lowest is reported by interviewees living in informal housing units.

Keywords: neighbourhood, identity, housing typology, physical element, identificatory relation, demolished heritage.

Student: *Esilda BUDLLA* [Spring 2024-2025]

Thesis Title: *A MULTILAYERED EVALUATION OF THE QUALITY ASSESSMENT, ATTACHMENT AND SOCIAL WELLBEING OF PANEL HOUSING ESTATES: CASE STUDY OF SELITË NEIGHBOURHOOD IN TIRANA*

Supervisor: *Assoc. Prof. Dr. Edmond MANAHASA*

Thesis Summary: This study focuses on the socialist period panel housing estates located in a neighbourhood of Tirana, locally known as Selitë. Built during the communist regime, the estate were intended as a practical solution to meet the need for rapid housing demands. In the post-socialist era, however, this housing typology has been increasingly characterized by neglected maintenance, informal additions and physical deterioration – changes presumed to affect residents' quality of life. The research aims to measure residents' perception of quality, satisfaction, attachment and social wellbeing – of socialist period panel housing estates in a post- socialist context. It employs a multilayered methodology combining archival research, observation, visual documentation, spatial mapping, and surveys conducted with 150 residents. The survey is structured in three parts: satisfaction with the built environment, attachment and social wellbeing, and image of the city – addressing both physical and social aspects. The findings indicate low satisfaction with the physical built environment, but strong preference for renovation over demolition, reflecting pragmatic place attachment. Long-term residents and homeowners show higher attachment and wellbeing, highlighting the role of occupancy and

stability. Selitë is perceived as a functional but outdated part of Tirana, with limited symbolic value to the city's broader identity. By offering a comprehensive analysis of the interplay between physical and social factors in shaping the lived experience within Selitës' panel housing estates, the study contributes to deeper understanding of residential perception and overall satisfaction of socialist period panel housing estates in post-socialist contexts.

Keywords: Socialist-era architecture, panel housing estates, satisfaction of built environment, place attachment, social wellbeing, post-socialist transformation, Tirana.

Student: Arjel BREGU [Spring 2024-2025]

Thesis Title: PLACE ATTACHMENT IN GREEN SPACES: A CASE STUDY OF THREE DIFFERENT SIZE PARKS OF TIRANA

Supervisor: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Edmond MANAHASA

Co-supervisor: Dr. Artan Hysa

Thesis Summary: The people-place attachment encompasses a broad and essential dimension of urban and green spaces, which have a vital psychological and physical role in people-place bonding. The aim of this study is to measure people-place bonding with green spaces and analyzing the elements that affect this attachment. This study focusses on the examining the relation between people and green spaces. It will take as case study three different size Parks in Tirana, Albania, specifically Grand Lake Park, "1 Km" Park and "Cajupi" Park. The methodology for this research will be based on sampling 220 citizens of Tirana in three different size parks of the city. Also, this research involves visual documentation, using QGIS data mapping and analyses according to different surveys and interviews. By involving geolocating methods this study will assess a deep exploration in human behavior regarding place. Identifying the form of attachment will be classified in three categories: physical elements (natural or built) or identificatory relation features (memories, experiences, social and self-identity aspects) that influence place attachment to green spaces. Additionally, it will provide a framework for understanding how urban green spaces might promote social interaction between people. The findings reveals that inhabitants of Cajupi Park, show the highest level of attachment to the park, due to their strong identity and historic relation. Inhabitants of "1 Km" Park show the least attachment and responders of Lake Park show a

relatively high attachment to the park. This research will increase awareness of the potential possibilities for enhancing or improvement of these areas, promoting community engagement, social interaction and general well-being.

Keywords: place attachment, green space, sense of place, place identity, psychological and physical bond

Student: Desara SULA [Spring 2024-2025]

Thesis Title: ALIENATION AND CONNECTION: CITIZENS' PERCEPTION OF THE CITY

CENTER IN RELATION TO TIRANA'S CHANGING URBAN LANDSCAPE

Supervisor: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Odeta MANAHASA

Co-supervisor: Dr. Desantila Hysa

Thesis Summary: This thesis explores how swift urban transformation in Tirana, the capital city of Albania, has impacted the inhabitants' perception of the environment. The city has become the site of building higher and faster following its rapid urbanization and political agenda, leading to these impersonal megastructures. This research study focuses on the urban changes Skanderbeg Square has undergone from 2016, with the construction of the TID tower until 2025. Seven towers will get analyzed regarding the impact they have on the perception of pedestrians and users of the square: 4EVER GREEN, Intercontinental Tirana, TID Tower, Downtown One, Eyes of Tirana, Skanderbeg Building (Tirana's Rock), Book Building. This change, from a low-rise

characterized city to an ever-changing vertical skyline, raises questions on the perceptivity and human behavior. Following an interdisciplinary approach, this study investigates the interplay between environmental design and human behavior. Changes in façade design and scale influence people's experience by causing alienation or promoting connection to it. To better understand the psychological, social and architectural dimension of the recent urban interventions, this thesis intertwines theoretical study, historical background, archival research and visual representation with qualitative data collected through the case study, ten semi-structured interviews and on-field observations. The interviews, averaging 20 minutes each, with workers and residents of the area, provide a direct perspective on local citizens' perceptions of Tirana. The results reveal a divided experience of Skanderbeg Square: while some citizens perceive the new towers as symbols of progress and modernity, the majority experience them as disorienting, oversized, and detached from human scale. Field observations

confirm this ambivalence, showing that the square often functions more as a place of passage than of belonging. Ultimately, the findings demonstrate that

Tirana's vertical growth has produced paradoxical condition: while symbolizing progress, it often alienates citizens by disrupting human scale and everyday connection to the city.

Keywords: Impersonal megastructures, urban metamorphosis, human-centric spaces, space psychology, human perception.

Student: Velisa Beqiri [Spring 2024-2025]

Thesis Title: ASSESSING ARCHITECTURAL INTEGRITY IN ADAPTIVE REUSE INTERVENTIONS: A METHODOLOGICAL STUDY ON THREE HERITAGE BUILDINGS IN TIRANA

Supervisor: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Odeta Manahasa

Thesis Summary: Adaptive reuse strategies have been a solution towards increasing building lifespan for many centuries now. This field of study has to do with valuing historical and architectural assets of a building, site, neighborhood, monument etc. while changing its main use to serve modern people's needs. Being so, it is of great importance to study and evaluate different adaptive reuse projects, due to their sustainable and environmental impact that they contribute to society. A successful adaptation project preserves the architectural integrity of a heritage building and positively contributes to a cultural and historical preservation of it. Heritage buildings are crucial since they symbolize and give glimpses from related past periods in time. Hence, the importance of adaptive reuse strategies lies in the long 'livability' of a heritage building through a sustainable approach. Instead of being destroyed, they should be sustained to serve as evidence of a culture, a lifestyle, a way of living in and around the building. Taking this into consideration, it is found

worth studying the axis of 'Dëshmorët e Kombit' Boulevard and its heritage values throughout time, referring to many adaptation projects that took place there, such as Pyramid of Tirana, Former Dajti Hotel and the National Puppet Theatre. This study develops from the historical context of the urban scale up to the building scale and spatial elements of the buildings are carefully analyzed. The purpose of this research is to provide a comprehensive review of the factors that brought the situation up to the decision of adaptation, understanding different typologies referring to other similar case studies, as well as evaluating its effects over time in a comparative manner. In the above-mentioned axis that the study is conducted, the need for

change of several functions comes as a top-down approach, often implied as not the most successful approach of such discussions.

Qualitative and analytical methods come to hand for a study of this kind, since they involve analysis of changes over time seen from an architectural point of view, as well as the impact it had and is continuously having on society. A functional organization plan and facades comparison of the former functions of the buildings and the current state of them is presented through this study. Through the analysis of authenticity of a heritage building conducted in Nara Grid on Authenticity, a method to evaluate the adaptation projects' success and authenticity of intervention is developed. According to a study published by ICOMOS, measuring the severity of change and significance of it, an evaluation of the degree of change is presented through this research. This research is found valuable from the fact that it can be used to propose adaptive reuse strategies for the abandoned or disused heritage buildings. This study may serve as a guide to anyone who is seeking a way to approach adaptative reuse projects to hybrid contexts with an identity not strongly and firmly defined like the case of Tirana and potentially suggesting ways of improving heritage assets of a country.

Keywords: Adaptive reuse strategies, to fit, heritage building, architectural integrity, hybrid architecture, Nara Grid, authenticity, severity of change.

Student: Eljana CANI [Spring 2024-2025]

Thesis Title: EXPLORING THE VERNACULAR SETTLEMENTS THROUGH THE LENS OF CHRISTOPHER ALEXANDER'S "PATTERN LANGUAGE": THE CASE OF ROSHNIK VILLAGE IN ALBANIA

Supervisor: Dr. Egin ZEKA

Thesis Summary: This thesis examines the architectural characteristics of Roshnik, a village twelve kilometers away from the city of Berat, Albania. It investigates the pattern overview of the village's organic development and how it aligns with Christopher Alexander's book "A Pattern Language". Roshnik serves as a potential case study for this research due to its nature as a self-built settlement, developed in a long time through individual acts of its inhabitants. The research aims to explore and understand if this settlement possesses some of the complexity and dynamism of Alexander's "patterns." More specifically, this work makes a detailed analysis of the village's morphology and architecture through the method of "Pattern Language." A qualitative methodology is used to analyze this thesis, implying fieldwork, spatial analysis, a

comparative analysis, and interviews with middle-aged residents for a deeper understanding of each traditional repeating element and how they have affected their societal routines. The findings of this study disclose how relevant the case of Roshnik is to be analyzed based on Christopher Alexander's "A Pattern Language" and how the vernacular, self-developed morphology of the village resonates with the time-tested solutions given by the author. This research can contribute to building a new approach for community-oriented and sustainable architecture that integrates traditional knowledge in contemporary planning and design.

Keywords: Pattern language, self-developed settlements, design principles, vernacular architecture, traditional knowledge.

Student: Aleza ZENELI [Spring 2024-2025]

Thesis Title: EVALUATION OF THE CHILD-FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENT: "DINAMO" STADIUM NEIGHBORHOOD IN TIRANA

Supervisor: Dr. Egin ZEKA

Thesis Summary: The development of cities appears to have overlooked the fundamental needs of individuals, particularly children. Extensive research demonstrates the crucial role that childhood plays in the physical, psychological, and emotional development of a person. If an environment fails to support the healthy growth of a child, it is necessary to revise and improve that environment. However, this fact has been neglected, leading to significant issues in the cities where we live. This thesis examines the concept of child-friendly urban environments, with a particular focus on Tirana, as a case study. The study objective is to evaluate the current urban landscape in terms of its suitability for children's needs and well-being, assessing spatial, social, and infrastructural factors that influence the quality of life for younger populations. This investigation focuses on Dinamo Stadium neighborhood in Tirana, incorporating both local data and relevant findings from international studies, alongside a critical review of existing literature.

Through a mixed-methods approach, combining field observations, detailed analysis, and fundamental principles extracted from the literature, the research identifies key indicators of child-friendly spaces, including safety, accessibility, independence, and the integration of nature and play within urban areas. Recommendations based on both literature research review

and a detailed analysis of the neighborhood are proposed to improve its conditions. By small-scale interventions while maintaining its potential features, and eliminating the negative aspects, the goal is to create a safer, more inclusive, and child-friendly environment. The findings contribute to the broader discourse on sustainable, inclusive cities, proposing small-scale interventions for design strategies and community engagement practices aimed at creating environments that prioritize the growth of children and ensure their active participation in shaping future cities.

Keywords: Child-Friendly, Urban Environment, Urban Design, Child Development, Public Space, Urban Planning.

Student: Gledia VISHKULLI [Spring 2024-2025]

Thesis Title: EVALUATION OF HUMAN-DIMENSION PRINCIPLES IN THE DESIGN OF HOUSING AREAS: CASE OF “MAGNETI” RESIDENCE IN TIRANA

Supervisor: Dr. Egin ZEKA

Thesis Summary: Urban congestion, priority of automobiles, lack or low quality of public spaces are some of the most common problems in metropolitan cities. On the other side, there is a growing

demand to build or transform cities with new approaches that give priority to people and nature. This thesis investigates the concept of human dimension, its implications for urban design and the way it affects everyday activities of people. The concept of a city that empowers the human scale design is a very important factor in determining the quality of life in urban environments. The key objective of this thesis is to study the main principles that generate a human dimension approach in cities, particularly in residential zones. This concept is strongly related to principles of good public spaces, walkability, environmental comfort, social interaction, and mixed-use development.

This study focuses on investigating the human dimension principles in a residential zone in the city of Tirana, known as the “Magnet Residence”. The research firstly makes some detailed analyses of the physical environment and spatial features of this residential zone. Secondly, it explores how the characteristics of the study are in relation to principles of a human scale habitat. Finally, in order to understand the way it is used, the study makes a post- occupancy evaluation of the public spaces within the residential complex. The results of the three different analyses are discussed in a different section by trying to make a correlation with the three of

them, and understand the quality of the studied public urban spaces in relation to human dimension principles. The results show that this residential zone possesses some positive qualities of human dimension approach such as good and continuous walkability, diverse ground floor functions, dynamic and active public space, good lighting, and inclusive use by different age groups and categories of people. On the other hand, it represents some problems and challenges regarding the lack of urban furniture in some parts of the site, mainly in green areas, physical obstructions along pathways, such as unpaved paths, limited seating arrangements throughout the area that restrict larger social gatherings etc.

Keywords: Human dimension, human scale urban space, post-occupancy evaluations, residential area, public space.

Student: Xhuliana BLOSHMI [Spring 2024-2025]

Thesis Title: A PROPOSAL TO A PLAYFUL CITY APPROACH: RETHINKING URBAN DESIGN FOR ENHANCED HUMAN EXPERIENCE IN TIRANA

Supervisor: Dr. Valerio PERNA

Thesis Summary: We do not cease to engage in play because we grow old, rather, we grow old because

we lose sight of what play is all about. Play is a lens through which one can perceive the city. However, the city, seen as a living canvas, has gone through persistent evolution and reshaping through planning and design, since the rise of urbanization. Many urban environments have become increasingly sterile and disconnected, prioritizing efficiency and technology over human experience. This shift has led to a decline in social interactions and a diminished sense of community among urban dwellers. This thesis seeks to foster a dialogue between scholars examining human play and architects implementing urban design, encouraging a discussion on how playful interventions can revitalize urban life. While it is debated that “smart” cities are more sustainable, how does this improve everyday life on city streets? What about the experience of living in a city? We aim to establish new perspectives about the shift from Smart cities to Playful ones by studying how urban design integration of playful elements enhances social interactions and creativity. The research uses a mixed-methods approach that combines both a thorough literature

review with case studies and surveys based on the theoretical framework of “playable cities”. Through this exploration, the thesis advocates for a reimagined urban planning model that positions play as an essential component in the design of future cities. This model will emphasize people's interactions with the city as with themselves, creating a more dynamic and playful urban experience for all. The findings of this thesis demonstrate that integrating playful elements into urban planning in Tirana can significantly enhance social interaction and improve the overall quality of life for residents. Case studies of key locations, such as the Grand Park, New Bazaar, Kahreman Ylli Street, the Pyramid, and the Magnet Residential Area, reveal that spaces designed with playful features foster community engagement and well-being. For instance, the Grand Park serves as an active recreational area, inviting individuals of all ages to interact with both the environment and each other, while neighborhoods lacking such interventions experience limited social connectivity. Additionally, The Playful City Manual emerges as a vital resource for urban planners

and policymakers, offering practical recommendations for incorporating playful features into urban design. This proposal emphasizes the complexity of play within urban contexts and

promotes a model of play-inspired design that can be adapted to various socio-cultural settings. The integration of playful elements in urban design is not merely an enhancement but a crucial factor in creating vibrant, livable cities. The future development of Tirana must prioritize resident welfare by fostering play-based environments that resonate with community aspirations and values.

Keywords: *Urban design, Playful intervention, Human play, Playful City, Urban life, Smart city*

Student: Endi BUSHATI [Spring 2024-2025]

Thesis Title: EXPLORING THE INTERSECTION OF NEURAL NETWORKS AND ARCHITECTURE: IMPACTS ON HUMAN PERCEPTION

Supervisor: Dr. Valerio PERNA

Thesis Summary: In order to better understand how machine learning algorithms and systems can affect people's perception of space, this thesis will address and analyze the relationship between neural networks and architectural design. It is important to understand how neural networks can impact the aesthetically pleasing and functional experience of built environments as they become more incorporated into design processes, especially in generative architecture and form-finding. Expanding on the core values of these technologies that impact users' visuals and psychological perception, by focusing on various applications of neural networks in architectural design, ranging from creating new forms to optimizing spatial layouts. The study will review the body of research and contaminate information from the root or footprint that has already been done, seen and experienced, by combining different case studies of projects where these systems have been used. The evaluation process of neural networks will be divided into potential advantages and disadvantages in forming architectural experience including their bulk to design environments that are both psychologically and functionally efficient. This research will add to the expanding conversation about technology's role in architecture by examining the dynamic relationship between artificial intelligence and human perception.

Keywords: *Artificial Intelligence, Neural Networks, human prespective, creativiuty, technology, future, web development.*

Student: Jorxhina BITRI [Spring 2024-2025]

Thesis Title: HARMONIZING HERITAGE AND HOSPITALITY: DESIGNING A SUSTAINABLE AGRITOURISM HOTEL IN BERAŢ, ALBANIA

Supervisor: Dr. Valerio PERNA

Thesis Summary: One of the most promising approaches to rural development, environmental integrity, and cultural heritage conservation is agritourism in multifunctional landscapes. Improved ecological services, more economic possibilities for local residents, and cultural resource preservation are some of the additional prospects brought about by this synergy between agriculture and tourism. However, this great potential is stifled in many current endeavors by less-than-ideal designs where hospitality and agricultural practices do not come together in a manner that

successfully achieves sustainability. The design of a sustainable agritourism hotel in Berat, Albania, is linked with

the country's very strong cultural and natural heritage. This study tries to set a framework for designs able to combine eco-tourism with agricultural productivity in such a way as to achieve an interdependent relationship between the built environment and the surrounding landscape. It applies the concept of ecological design, vernacular architecture, and landscape integration in looking at agritourism initiatives with examples drawn from a case study from around the world. Data collection has been done through a related literature review, site analysis in Berat, and discussion with the regional stakeholders. The zoning plan, interactive visitor area, and usage of traditional farming practices are brought into the design framework. The proposed hotel design demonstrates the potential of agritourism to

reconcile the needs of ecological conservation, agricultural practices, and tourist activities. Main components are the integration of integrated agricultural practices, renewable energy technologies, and areas that induce sustainable behavior among tourists. Additionally, the architecture respects the cultural heritage of Berat through the use of traditional materials and styles of architecture. The findings suggest that agritourism accommodations located in multifunctional landscapes could become a model of sustainable rural development. Combining the ecological ideas with cultural and agricultural integration, such activities have the potential to promote the resilience of rural areas while providing tourists with meaningful experiences. Future research should be oriented in the direction of developing policies and guidelines that would help trigger and improve sustainable agritourism practices not only in Albania but also in other destinations. An assessment of the economic impacts of agritourism hotels on nearby communities would contribute to bringing substantial information to stakeholders and decision-makers. Further research in this line will help to guide the decision-making processes toward more sustainable practices within the tourism industry, taking into consideration both the benefits and challenges associated with this development

model.

Keywords: Sustainable Agritourism, Multifunctional Landscapes, Rural Development, Ecological Design, Landscape Integration, Cultural Heritage Conservation, Agricultural Productivity, Traditional Farming Practices.

Student: Gerjus VERJONI [Spring 2024-2025]

Thesis Title: GENERATIVE DESIGN MEETS URBANISM: A COMPUTATIONAL APPROACH TO ADDRESS URBAN CHALLENGES OF INFORMAL SETTLEMENTS IN KËNETA, DURRËS

Supervisor: Dr. Valerio PERNA

Thesis Summary: Generative design has emerged as a transformative approach in urban planning, utilizing computational tools to optimize and automate the design process. At its core, generative design involves algorithms that explore a broad design space, producing a variety of solutions based on defined goals and constraints. This study examines the integration of generative design in urban planning, highlighting the ability to improve decision-making and create optimized, sustainable urban environments. Through a detailed analysis of some key case studies, including projects that focus on the development of smart cities and residential neighborhoods, the paper explores how generative design can balance complex objectives such as density, profitability, energy efficiency, and livability. These case studies demonstrate the potential of these technologies, to not only address traditional design challenges, but also respond to contemporary needs. Moreover, the thesis goes into a more practical framework. The main principles of these technologies are applied in a chosen site, the area of Kënetë in Durrës. The process begins with a thorough site analysis, from which a specific focus zone is selected as testing ground for the generative design framework. A script is built in Grasshopper, through the CityGenerator plug-in. Three master plan proposals are generated to examine how the parametric script responds to different inputs within the same site boundaries. The scenarios not only test the adaptability of the generative system but also illustrates its potential to design urban environments. The findings outline the value of generative design as a powerful tool in shaping the future of urban development, offering insights into its practical applications and implications for the built environments.

Keywords: Generative design, Urban planning, Algorithm, Simulation, Sustainable, Efficiency

Student: Fadil Qato [Spring 2024-2025]

Thesis Title: GUIDELINES FOR EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENTS FOR CHILDREN WITH AUTISM: A STUDY ON SCHOOL SPACE DESIGN.

Supervisor: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Edmond MANAHASA

Thesis Summary: Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) is a developmental condition that affects communication, behavior and social interaction. As the numbers rise globally the importance of inclusive education becomes more and more urgent. Children with autism face unique challenges in traditional educational settings which are not designed to meet their sensory and cognitive needs. So we need to rethink educational spaces to be sensitive to the behaviors and needs of children on the spectrum. The research is based on the importance of the role of architecture in forming the daily life of society and especially this specific target group. This thesis aims to research and understand design techniques and produce information that will be used to create an environment that can be used as an educational and therapeutic space for children that fall under the spectrum of autism disorder. Regardless of socio-cultural or economic influences, one out of every 150 children is thought to be on the autism spectrum. As a discipline, architecture is concerned with the shaping of the physical environment in order to promote certain functions and evoke desired actions. Architecture is responsible for creating environments that meet the needs of a wide variety of users. As time goes by, autism is not perceived as a rare and specific disorder anymore, the statistics are rising and it is now a very common and well known disorder, attempting to be categorized as an epidemic. This environment is mainly composed of sensory materials (texture, colors, patterns, acoustics etc.). These factors affect autistic behavior, and their awareness and integration are at the heart of the condition. Individuals with medical needs should not be excluded from such accommodations. Despite the high prevalence of autism, there are no architectural design standards specific to the needs of autistic individuals. There is a rising consensus that an autism-friendly atmosphere, particularly in a school setting, can help a student with autism spectrum disorder perform better (ASD). To address this, the approach combines three key components:

- A literature review across neuroscience, architecture, and autism-related design research
- A case study analysis of international autism-friendly schools
- A review of international design standards including BB104 (UK), Belgium's special education practices, and the Autism Guidelines of South Australia By bringing these together, the thesis offers evidence-based architectural strategies for addressing the sensory, spatial, and emotional needs of autistic children. The purpose of this thesis is to create a guideline for designing schools for children with autism in Albania. It examines some

of the obstacles that children with autism spectrum disorder face by studying existing literature and case studies of school buildings, with the aim to have a design evaluation. In the light of the information collected during the study,

some suggestions are proposed related to the architectural design of such environments. Given this, designers will have some architectural guidelines in the subjects of program elements, lighting, texture, color, acoustics, and

layout of the classrooms. However, the bottom line is kids need structure in order to thrive. To support this, the thesis provides specific design considerations for all essential spaces within a school environment from

classrooms and therapy rooms to hygiene facilities, administrative areas, and outdoor play spaces offering a comprehensive architectural approach tailored to the diverse needs of children with autism.

Keywords: *architecture, autism spectrum condition, children, inclusion, design, school environmental, special needs.*

Student: Alma Kaso [Spring 2024-2025]

Thesis Title: *POST-OCCUPANCY EVALUATION OF "7-MARSI" ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL IN TEPELENA, BASED ON USERS' PERCEPTION.*

Supervisor: *Assoc. Prof. Dr. ODETA MANAHASA*

Thesis Summary: Post-Occupancy Evaluation (POE) is a tool used to assess how well buildings function after occupancy, with an emphasis on user satisfaction, functionality, and maintenance requirements. It contributes to the improvement of learning environments by recognizing design strengths and weaknesses, ensuring that schools promote rather than detract from students' well-being and academic achievement. This master's thesis discusses a Post Occupancy Evaluation (POE) at "7-Marsi" that functions both as primary and secondary school in Tepelena to assess user satisfaction and recommend critical areas for improvement based on students' requirements and preferences. To achieve this, a set of questionnaires was distributed at "7-Marsi" school to gain insights into areas of student dissatisfaction and understand what an ideal school environment is from the user's perspective. Five surveys were developed and distributed, each designed for a specific user group: preschool children, students in grades 1-3, 4-6, and 7-9, as well as teachers. While all of the questionnaires covered the same key categories—such as lighting, temperature, safety, noise, outside areas, etc—the volume and language were adapted to the cognitive and developmental levels of each age group. Questions for younger children were presented in

simplified language and images to enhance clarity and understanding. A separate questionnaire was distributed to teachers to gather their professional thoughts and observations on the functioning and performance of the current educational environment. The Post-Occupancy Evaluation of 7-Marsi School, revealed that student satisfaction with the school environment consistently declines with age, highlighting critical issues such as poor temperature control, a lack of outdoor and recreational spaces, inadequate acoustic conditions, insufficient hygiene (particularly in restrooms), a lack of personal storage, under-equipped labs, narrow corridors, and limited classroom technology. It fails to meet their changing cognitive, emotional, and educational needs. This study is significant because it emphasizes the importance of inclusive, adaptive, and developmentally appropriate school environments that promote student well-being, engagement, and learning across ages. It also shows that kids of different ages have distinct needs and, based on their cognitive development, evaluate aspects of the school environment differently. As children get older, they tend to think more critically about school aspects, while younger children perceive them more positively. These nuanced, age-based perceptions reveal whether or not the school effectively satisfies their needs, emphasizing the need to create learning environments that evolve alongside their users.

Keywords: POE, building evaluation, education institutions, user needs and preferences, user satisfaction, functionality, participatory design, school architecture.

Student: ENDI BUSHATI [Spring 2024-2025]

Thesis Title: EXPLORING THE INTERSECTION OF NEURAL NETWORKS AND ARCHITECTURE: IMPACTS ON HUMAN PERCEPTION

Supervisor: Dr. Valerio PERNA

Thesis Summary: In order to better understand how machine learning algorithms and systems can affect people's perception of space, this thesis will address and analyze the relationship between neural networks and architectural design. It is important to understand how neural networks can impact the aesthetically pleasing and functional experience of built environments as they become more incorporated into design processes, especially in generative architecture and form-finding. Expanding on the core values of these technologies that impact users' visuals and psychological perception, by focusing on various applications of neural networks in architectural design, ranging from creating new forms to optimizing spatial layouts. The study will review the body of research and contaminate information from the root or footprint that has already been done, seen and experienced, by combining different case studies of projects where these systems have been used. The evaluation process of neural networks will be divided

into potential advantages and disadvantages in forming architectural experience including their bulk to design environments that are both psychologically and functionally efficient. This research will add to the expanding conversation about technology's role in architecture by examining the dynamic relationship between artificial intelligence and human perception.

Keywords: Artificial Intelligence, Neural Networks, human perspective, creativity, technology, future, web development.

Student: MIKELA SULA [Spring 2024-2025]

Thesis Title: ENERGY AND THERMAL PERFORMANCE OPTIMIZATION OF BUILDING MORPHOLOGIES IN BRUSSELS: BASE CASE AND FUTURE RETROFIT SCENARIOS

Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Sokol Dervishi

Thesis Summary: With the current climatic crisis, the production of new building stock is only adding up to the problems of climate mitigation. By conserving the existing building stock, longevity of the buildings is ensured. This research paper explores energy retrofit strategies in the building stock of Brussels, one of the cities with the oldest buildings in Europe. The focus falls on five buildings of varying ages, for which energy simulations with Design Builder software are generated in order to understand the current energy consumption situation. By deciding on different age groups of buildings, the research captures a range of typical construction techniques and materials contributing to the better comprehension of the building stock. The objective of this paper is to propose the development of optimization scenarios that enhance both human comfort and energy efficiency in long term, over the next 25 years, tackling the rapidly evolving climate changes and energy demands. These optimization scenarios include sophisticated insulation, excellent performing windows and integration of renewable energy technologies with a distinct emphasis on the use of solar panels, while reducing dependency on external power sources. Eventually, this research proposes solutions that do not only reduce energy consumption but also provide long-term comfort and occupants' well-being in Brussels. The chosen retrofit strategies include the application of a 5 cm layer of aerogel, 10 cm layer of phenolic foam, 15 cm layer of EPS Expanded Polystyrene (Standard), the replacement of existing windows with BIPV Window Technology and the retrofitting of the roof by application of XPS Expanded Polystyrene – C02 Blowing. Another part of the study is the analysis of the increase and decrease of the temperatures during winter and summer months by taking into consideration one southern and northern room from the typical floor of each building in order to evaluate the design effects in thermal comfort.

The last part offers a large analysis of the solar energy generated from each of the buildings when implemented on the roofs, the facades and both at the same time, while assessing the energy savings that each of them accomplishes. The study offers a broad view of energy retrofit strategies in Brussels, by analysing their benefits in terms of occupant thermal comfort, energy savings and payback period. These insights will serve policymakers and architects to design for future energy efficiency and comfort standards.

Keywords: ding retrofit, energy simulations, thermal comfort, PV potential.

Student: RAJDI ISALLARI [Spring 2024-2025]

Thesis Title: REVITALIZING INNER SPACES IN STUDENT HOUSING BASED ON CO-LIVING CONCEPTS

Supervisor: Prof. Dr. SOKOL DERVISHI

Thesis Summary: Today, young people around the world increasingly pursue university education after high school. As a result, governments face significant challenges in providing adequate accommodation for all students. Most proposed projects prioritize quantity over quality offering more rooms and fewer shared spaces, which reduces opportunities for social interaction.

Being part of a community is essential for fostering mental health and well-being. However, living in a crowded or dense environment does not automatically create a sense of community. For instance, single rooms may offer convenience but often lead to isolation, limiting social interaction and affecting students' overall well-being. In such settings, students may only interact with their roommates, leading to disconnection from the wider student body.

The main objective of this thesis is to design multi-functional common spaces and shared facilities within student housing. A key focus is on space usage and interaction. The project also emphasizes student participation in the design process, incorporating insights gathered through research and questionnaires based on student preferences.

Keywords: Co-living, Student housing, Shared spaces, Common spaces, Multi-functional building, Multi-functional design, Inner space, Social interaction.

Student: NOEMI BOZO [Spring 2024-2025]

Thesis Title: URBAN FORM AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY: EVALUATING ROOFTOP CONTROLLED ENVIRONMENT AGRICULTURE ACROSS VARIOUS EUROPEAN CLIMATIC CONDITIONS

Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Sokol Dervishi

Thesis Summary: Sustainability has emerged as a critical concept that directly addresses the current global challenges such as climate change, rapid urbanization, overpopulation and environmental degradation. The upcoming years demand solutions that can go beyond traditional urban planning. This research explores the impact that existing building morphologies have on the energy demand of Controlled Environment Agriculture Systems (CEAS). The aim of this study is to analyze critical design factors like building orientation, shape, height and surrounding structures, in order to identify optimal morphological structures that enhance energy efficiency by minimizing the energy demands for heating, cooling, and equipment, also while supporting local food production. This research aims to contribute to the field by providing key insights that address global land scarcity and food security challenges. This study is conducted in both urban and building scales by using energy simulations and meteorological data to explore different climate settings and future scenarios. Energy simulation models integrate CEAS into the rooftops of various existing morphologies in four distinct European climates. These models are generated using DesignBuilder Software which uses energy simulations to evaluate the energy consumption and the microclimate behavior of rooftop greenhouses under controlled environment conditions for the next decades. This analysis is followed by simulations in Rhinoceros 3D software and Grasshopper plug-in, complemented by Ladybug and Honeybee Plug-ins in order to assess solar capacity. The models incorporate farming variations tailored to reflect the urban morphologies and climatic conditions of the selected regions, ensuring that each design is optimized for its specific environment. The results highlight the morphology types that perform best for contemporary and future predictions in each selected climate. For the contemporary predictions, the fifth morphology performs best in 3 climates, while for the humid continental climate, the third morphology performs the best in both scenarios of the study. For the future predictions, the fifth morphology performs best in 2 climates, for the humid sub-tropical climate the second morphology performs the best and for the oceanic climate the first morphology performs best. All morphologies have a positive potential for the application of PV panels for energy efficiency and zero net energy consumption. The findings help us demonstrate the potential of CEAS as a tool for integrating sustainable food production into urban contexts, by highlighting the possibility that the optimization of a building during its early design phases can lead to significant energy savings.

Keywords: *Urban Agriculture, Controlled Environment Agriculture (CEA), Rooftop Greenhouse, Regenerative Cities, Food Security, Climate-Responsive Architecture, Urban Morphologies, Sustainable Urban Design.*

Student: ELMA ZHAPA [Spring 2024-2025]

Thesis Title: THE PHENOMENOLOGICAL APPROACH IN ACCESSIBILITY AND INCLUSIVITY FOR PEOPLE WITH VISUAL IMPAIRMENTS IN UNIVERSITY OF ARTS IN TIRANA

Supervisor: Dr. JOANA DHIAMANDI

Thesis Summary: The use of architectural discipline is not only about designing functional and physical structures but spaces that express and shape how individuals absorb the meaning of the space around them. In this context, phenomenology plays a very important role by focusing on the lived experiences of people within the built environment. Phenomenology in architecture analyzes how individuals perceive, feel and emotionally engage with their surroundings, which is how light, sound, texture and spatial elements influence their understanding of space. When a phenomenological approach is applied in inclusive design, it takes on an even deeper significance. Educational art and cultural spaces, such as academies that offer studies within the context of visual arts, film, music, dramatic arts and museums, galleries, theaters and heritage sites are not only architectural historical spaces but also need to express the spirit of the place which needs to be accessible for everyone. These spaces must be designed not only to be accessible in terms of physical requirements but also to ensure that every individual, regardless of their sensory and physical abilities, can fully engage with the environment. By incorporating phenomenological principles, architectural design can ensure that all users, including those with abilities, can interact with the space in a way that respects their sensory and emotional needs.

In this study, the interaction of this phenomenological approach with inclusive design will be analyzed based on a well thought selected case study which is University of Arts in Tirana because it consists in educational art and cultural spaces context. This study will be developed through semi-qualitative methods, starting with mapping the cultural spaces in Tirana, Albania and defining Albanian legislation standards in projecting for disabled people. Supporting this study with a specific questionnaire for students with full vision and spatial perceptual experience for individuals with visual impairments.

In conclusion, this study aims to create an evaluative checkbox that includes all elements of inclusivity for educational spaces dedicated to education, art and culture, incorporating sensory and perceptual aspects of human experience. Based on this checkbox, the evaluation of inclusive elements can be conducted for each educational art and cultural space in Tirana and across Albania. Based on the low inclusivity evaluation at the University of Arts in Tirana, necessary elements were implemented and adapted to achieve a higher level of inclusivity for students with visual impairments. It is also proposed that this checkbox be addressed to municipalities and architects,

encouraging them to consider it prior to optimizing existing buildings or designing new buildings in an inclusive way, to support people with visual impairments.

Keywords: *Phenomenology, Sensory, Universal, Inclusive, Accessible, Art Spaces, Cultural Spaces, Albania, Visual Impairments, Perception, Blindsight.*

Student: IVA BUFI [Spring 2024-2025]

Thesis Title:

Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Sokol Dervishi

Thesis Summary:

Keywords:

Student: GENNY CANO [Spring 2024-2025]

Thesis Title: RESTORATION, CONSOLIDATION, AND REINTEGRATION OF THE MONASTERY OF SAINT MARY, KROREZ

Supervisor: Assoc. Prof. Dr. EDMOND MANAHASA

Co-supervisor: MSc. MANJOLA LOGLI

Thesis Summary: "The Monastery of Saint Mary, Krorez, Saranda", although declared a Category I cultural monument in 1963 by the Rectorate of the State University of Tirana, thus escaping the scourge of the communist period during which many religious objects were razed and desecrated, could not escape human vandalism during this period. After the last restoration interventions dating back to 1983, the Monastery has suffered significant degradation until today. The choice of the diploma topic "Restoration, Consolidation and Reintegration of the Monastery of Saint Mary, Krorez" is an effort and awareness for the preservation of historical values but also for the recovery and re-functioning of the Monastery which helps in the human rise.

The first step is to get to know the object. To achieve this, we are assisted by archival material from institutions that care for cultural monuments and material from literature. Archival materials give us an overview of the condition of the building in different time periods, the degradation over the years, but also the consolidation and restoration interventions applied over the years for the conservation of the building.

The material from the literature introduces us to the various political-economic-social-cultural developments of the construction period, the typology of the building, the functional solutions, the compositional elements, the constructive solutions, the materials used, the architectural-decorative treatment of the object under study, as well as similar restoration cases.

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The methodology includes historical, architectural, typological and material analysis, constructive solution, survey method, existing state of the object, diagnostics of the object's condition and proposed restoration interventions which are based on 4 main principles of restoration:

1. Interventions in cultural monuments must be distinct.
2. Interventions in cultural monuments must be reversible.
3. Interventions in cultural monuments must be compatible.
4. Interventions in cultural monuments must be restrained.

The result is the preservation of the authenticity of the object, and its revitalization, opening the doors to visitors and believers to evaluate the historical values that this object carries, but also to follow religious rites.

Keywords: *Monastery, cultural monument, post-byzantine architecture, building typology, compositional elements, object diagnostics, restoration interventions.*

Student: BESLDA HYSA [Spring 2024-2025]

Thesis Title: PROPOSAL FOR IMPROVEMENT OF URBAN AND BUILDING COMFORT TO ACHIEVE NEAR-ZERO ENERGY BUILDINGS ON THE CASE OF PREFABRICATED SOCIALIST MASS HOUSING BLOCKS IN TIRANA

Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Sokol Dervishi

Thesis Summary: This paper addressed proposals for redevelopment, ideas for re-adaptation, and ideas for revitalization of socialist period housing types: prefabricated residential blocks of Tirana. Mass constructed, these buildings fall victim to problems of inefficient energy, social separation and outdated infrastructure. The objective of this research is the search for sustainable strategies to convert the building types in such a way that they become energy efficient, habitable, participating in the needs of the current inhabitants and the revitalization of the urban context that surrounds them.

The purpose of this thesis is to establish the path to nZEBs via retrofit strategies. These strategies are as well as technical ones relative to the building envelope and architectural ones referring to add-ons and parasitic architecture. This aim aims at mitigating energy poverty among inhabitants

and increasing aggregate sustainability levels in the housing stock by increasing the dwellings' thermal performance and by reducing energy demand.

Moreover, this research sets out a conceptual recommendation for consideration: parasitic architecture as a tool of densification. Although not defined in this thesis, the concept invites a potential that could include proposed commercial or mixed-use development that may tantalize economic potential and stimulate community liveliness. It is mentioned at a theoretical level these supplements being proposed to go side by side with spaces for third economic sector integration, providing a guide for future academic as well as practical researches.

To this purpose, two residential blocks in Tirana have been chosen as case studies within the methodological process. Blocks were selected according to multiple criteria including their diverse morphologies, social and spatial grounds as well as key demographic and socio-economic links to the central parts of the city. Such differences guarantee that the sample of the study is made of various conditions such as building morphology and orientation. An energy model will be made for each block to determine their current energy usage. Concurrently with the measurements a questionnaire will be sent to the inhabitants in order to collect subjective data about wellbeing and problems regarding energy. This will enable a comparison between the perception and the actual energy situation thus enhancing the overall consideration.

The outcomes of this research will offer important information about the zones that need the most help and what kinds of help will be most helpful. The results will help the researchers to determine whether specific residential or commercial add-ons may be more appropriate in different areas depending on those areas' unique energy and socio-economic needs. A before-and-after situation will be simulated to visualise the outcome of retrofit proposed measures and interventions in parasitic architecture and in this way, it will be possible to illustrate how the aforementioned solutions can affect the physical and the socio-economic conditions of the socialist housing blocks of Tirana. Finally, it is the ambition of the thesis to contribute with sustainable solutions meeting both the environmental performance criteria and economic health/cost efficiency of these urban sites.

Keywords: *Revitalization, prefabricated, near-zero energy, retrofitting add-on, photovoltaic, insulation, cost.*

Student: KEJTI CENOLLI[Spring 2024-2025]

Thesis Title: CONSTRUCTING COMFORT: THE IMPACT OF ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN IN CHILDRENS HEALTHCARE CENTERS

Supervisor: Dr. INA DERVISHI

Thesis Summary: Hospitals have also been referred to as “a city within a city” considering its spatial complexity. It is the responsibility of architects to create a bridge between the medical world and normal life. Children’s healthcare centers in comparison to the general ones, have a much more complex set of needs in achieving general comfort, suggesting that we follow design principles like flexibility and customizability. Indoor Environmental Quality plays an important role on the health, comfort and recovery process of pediatric patients. The intention of this study is to explore the impact of key environmental factors like thermal comfort, ventilation and building efficiency on pediatric ward rooms, with the special focus of balancing occupant comfort and environmental stability. Given the fact that children’s healthcare centers present unique challenges due to the nature of environment itself being delicate and the young patients’ vulnerability, the parameters of the indoor environment quality are principal in supporting both physical healing and psychological wellbeing. The two considered pediatric wards that this study is analyzing are located on a Mediterranean climate in Tirana, Albania and the other in the humid subtropical climate of Tampa, Florida. This study explores the sustainable principles of design and energy use and the enhancement of occupant experience, all in alignment with the ASHRAE standards. From questionnaires to real time thermal sensors and software simulations, the recommendations of this study are tested and up to date with indoor environmental quality standards. Lastly, this study has the intention of being a guide to future explorations and applications of thermal sustainability and user comfort in pediatric healthcare. In light of the limited existing research on this phenomenon, the significance of this research is addressing a critical yet underexplored area, providing valuable real-world insights into how indoor conditions impact the health and wellbeing of pediatric patients. In the words of Alvar Aalto (1991) Humanizing architecture means creating better architecture and also exploring functionalism in larger scale rather than purely technical.

Keywords: Comfort, flexibility, innovation, sustainability, environmental quality.

Student: MIGENA ÇUNI [Spring 2024-2025]

Thesis Title: ANALYSING THE ITALIAN-INFLUENCED URBAN DWELLINGS’ FEATURES IN SHAPING THE ARCHITECTURAL IDENTITY: SIX CASES FROM TIRANA.

Supervisor: Assoc. Prof. Dr. ODETA MANAHASA

Thesis Summary: The thesis focuses on a detailed analysis of two main Italian-influenced architectural styles: the Novecento and Rationalist style, during the pre-socialist period of 1920-1940, in Tirana. There are three selected Italian-influenced urban dwellings of the Novecento architectural style: 1) Villa No.19, 2) Villa No.14 and 3) Villa No.1. However, the other three

selected Italian-influenced urban dwellings of the Rationalist architectural style are: 1) Nepravishta Villa, 2) Dr. Simonidhi's Villa, and 3) Villa No.16. The urban dwellings selection is based on several criteria including a) their site positioning, b) their current situation, considering whether they are abandoned, c) their historical, social, and political significance, and d) their unique architectural identity.

The research conducted an in-depth analysis of the architectural identity represented by Italian-influenced urban dwellings, through a well-structured – dynamic: 1) temporal organization, 2) semantic organization, 3) spatial organization; and static: 1) context, 2) form, style, and aesthetic, and 3) material – component categorization. Based on the architectural identity component structure and categorization, the selected Italian-influenced urban dwellings are studied accordingly, revealing their recognizable values. The study incorporated well-structured tables based on informations gathered from the analysis of Novecento and Rationalist styles within the Italian context. These tables outlined their principles, features, and distinguishing elements of each style. Furthermore, they served academical tool for examining the six selected Italian-influenced urban dwellings in Tirana. Through this

study approach, the defining architectural characteristics of the style were identified and analyzed within the Albanian context.

The results concluded with a detailed spatial organization study, structure, and facade analysis of each architectural element including entrance, windows, doors, columns, pilasters, and porticos related to their form, style, aesthetic, and ornamentation. After analyzing each villa, the three selected Italian-influenced urban dwellings were studied in terms of the distinguishing architectural features that characterize the Novecento and Rationalist styles. Said that, Novecento villas exhibit classical symmetry, decorative detailing, locally adapted materials, and vernacular elements such as pitched roofs, Rationalist examples emphasize functional zoning, geometrical clarity, symmetrical and asymmetrical façades, and structural materials. In addition, the architectural identity and heritage values of the Italian-influenced urban dwellings are illustrated by the analysis of all architectural features that makes them recognizable and important for our architectural identity.

Keywords: Italian-influenced urban dwellings, architectural identity, style, architectural comonents, spatial organization, materiality, ornamentation.

Thesis Title: ADAPTIVE REUSE OF UNDERGROUND TUNNELS IN ALBANIA: AN ENERGY PERFORMANCE PERSPECTIVE

Supervisor: Dr. INA DERVISHI

Thesis Summary: The adaptive reuse of underground tunnels offers significant potential for sustainable design and spatial optimization. This study explores the transformation of Albania's extensive and underutilized underground bunker network into functional spaces such as cultural centers, archival storage, underground farming and emergency shelter housing. Focusing on case studies in the city of Tirana—Nselected for it's distinct historical and climatic context—this research evaluatesNthermal comfort and energy consumption through parametric computational simulations. The simulations incorporate local climate data, design typology, and construction materials to develop finite-element models that assess various scenarios involving building geometry, wall insulation, occupancy patterns, and ventilation strategies. The findings underscore the critical role of these variables in reducing energy consumption while enhancing thermal stability and space usability. This research highlights the importance of integrating Albania's cultural heritage into sustainable urban development and offers a framework for adaptive reuse projects, providing a reference for similar global interventions in underutilized underground spaces. Findings indicated that the energy demand for heating decreased significantly with greater insulation thickness and burial depth; cooling loads remained negligible. Of the functions evaluated, museum use had the lowest energy demand because of favorable internal gains and moderate operating schedules.

Keywords: Underground Tunnels, Adaptive Reuse, Thermal Comfort, Sustainable Urban Development, Energy Efficiency, Climate Responsive Design, Cultural Heritage

Student: ADRIANA LAMAJ [Spring 2024-2025]

Thesis Title ENERGY PERFORMANCE EVALUATION OF ADAPTIVE REUSE OF EXISTING UNDERGROUND TUNNELS: THE CASE OF KUKËS

Supervisor: Prof. Dr.SOKOL DERVISHI

Thesis Summary: The adaptive reuse of the tunnel systems remains an unexplored pinnacle for advancing sustainable design and conserving space, especially in regions with outdated

infrastructures from the Cold War period. This study focuses on the enhancement multifunctional potential of Kukës underground tunnel located in northeastern Albania into cultural centers and pharmaceutical storage facilities, as well as emergency housing for shelter. The chosen Kukës site which is well known for its unique climatic conditions and rich history acts as case study for analyzing the energy performance and thermal comfort of subterranean spaces in reuse scenarios. The research incorporates local climatic conditions, tunnel shape, constituent materials, occupancy dynamics, and insulation level, ventilation methods, and space utilization through parametric simulations executed in DesignBuilder and EnergyPlus. Results show sufficient comfort can be achieved while still conserving energy through appropriate design measures, particularly thermal insulation and the optimized function of thermal mass. This research not only confirms the feasibility of converting the Kukës tunnel into viable, energy-efficient facilities but also provides evidencebased insights that can inform future adaptive reuse strategies in similar underground contexts.

Keywords: Underground Tunnels, Adaptive Reuse, Underground Spaces, Thermal Comfort, Energy Efficiency, Climate Responsive Design, Sustainable Architecture, Cultural heritage.

Student: ENDRIN LASKU [Spring 2023-2024]

Thesis Title: AN INVESTIGATION INTO THE THERMAL PERFORMANCE AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY OF A VERNACULAR DWELLING IN TIRANA, ALBANIA

Supervisor: Dr. INA DERVISHI

Thesis Summary: Vernacular Architecture around the world has evolved over centuries through trial and error, making use of locally available materials such as earth, stone, and brick, with traditional techniques, accompanied by passive design strategies like courtyards, semi-open spaces, natural ventilation, and thoughtful orientation. These elements allowed vernacular dwellings to achieve near thermal comfort with minimal dependence on mechanical heating or cooling systems.

This thesis investigates how through adaptive reuse and optimizations, we can explore the thermal performance and energy efficiency for Toptani (Libohova) Villa, located within the Castel of Tirana. Through the usage of DesignBuilder software, a 3D model of the dwelling was developed with simplified geometry and similar local materials. The simulation was validated through weather dataset from Tirana, sourced via Meteonorm 8, to evaluate various scenarios related to natural ventilation, thermal comfort, and energy demand.

To gain deeper insight into room-specific thermal behaviour, two rooms were selected for detailed analysis: one on the Ground Floor with a north-facing viewing façade, and one on the upper floor with a façade viewing towards south. These selected areas allowed comparison of how orientation and room location within the building affect indoor temperatures across summer and winter seasons.

The findings indicate a clear difference in performance based on solar exposure and airflow potential, reinforcing the importance of spatial layout in passive design.

Natural Ventilation strategies, especially full day and night time operations proved efficient in reducing indoor temperatures during summer and improving comfort during winter, without active cooling systems. On the other hand, scenarios without ventilation led to higher indoor temperatures, emphasizing the critical role of timing. Optimization of the building envelope such as ceiling, wall, and glazing insulation, significantly improved thermal performance during winter and summer period with a demand of 74.3% reduction for the former and 28.7% for the latter.

A cost efficiency analysis was done at the end, for the interventions done and the savings that we profit from. The results confirm that vernacular architecture can be successfully adapted for modern energy standards through a thoughtful integration of optimizations and passive strategies. This study emphasizes the potential of vernacular dwellings in shaping sustainable architecture and offers practical insights for improving existing buildings in Mediterranean and similar climates, supporting long term environmental and economic adaptability.

Keywords: Vernacular Architecture, Adaptive Reuse, Libohova Villa, Sustainability, Natural Ventilation, Energy Efficiency.

Student: GERTI KUÇI [Spring 2024-2025]

Thesis Title: ARCHITECTURE FOR HEALTH:

IMPROVING RECOVERY AND WELL-BEING OF THE PEDIATRIC HOSPITAL IN SHKODRA, ALBANIA Supervisor: Dr. JOANA DHIAMANDI

Thesis Summary: Hospital buildings, also known as "white buildings," play a crucial role in human history. Over the years, this architectural typology has evolved based on societal, technological, and environmental needs. They have been influenced by various socio-cultural developments, including changing perceptions of disease, economics, geographical location, religion, ethnic affiliation, and the socio-economic status of patients. They also reflect the perceived needs of the population and scientific and technological advancements.

Numerous studies have shown that hospital architecture directly impacts disease treatment. Architectural features, including natural light, materials, acoustics, spatial organization, and access to nature, can significantly affect healing processes, stress levels, and overall health outcomes.

Additionally, patient-centered, evidence-based design is increasingly becoming important as the field of healthcare architecture develops to create spaces that actively promote mental and physical well-being.

In Albania, as in many other countries, there has been an evolution in this architectural typology. This development has included innovations and improvements that directly impact the quality of hospital conditions and services provided.

An excellent example is the Pediatric Hospital in Shkodra, where will be demonstrated how new interventions and approaches can improve the conditions of an existing building, creating a more suitable environment for children's healing while also enhancing the quality of life for patients and staff.

Keywords: *Hospital, well-being, design, pediatric hospital, architecture.*

Student: FRANÇESKA MATI [Spring 2024-2025]

Thesis Title: REVIVAL OF THE GLASS INDUSTRY IN ALBANIA:
REVITALIZATION OF THE GLASS FACTORY IN TIRANA

Supervisor: Dr. JOANA DHIAMANDI

Thesis Summary: Glass material is one of the important materials in the construction industry and not only, where it has wide use starting from the construction of objects, and further in their design and architecture. The glass industry in Albania came for the first time in 1954, and over the years three factories have been created in the cities of Korca, Kavaja and Tirana, bringing innovation to Albanian art and society. The objective of this research is the study of the glass industry and its impact on the development of the Albanian construction material and market. By analyzing the way of working and bringing the product to the market. Over the past 30 years, glass from small products and items has moved into wide use in mechanics and larger industries, replacing other materials and becoming stronger, especially when it comes to the field of architecture. 40 years later, the glass industry stopped its work. And today it has been 30 years since this industry has lost its value in Albania. 3 factories lost their jobs, but the material of the industry continues to have its value in the market, era after era, bringing new products especially in the art sector. Architecture has begun to have glass, as one of the main and very necessary elements in design and construction. Starting from the old factories, the works and experiences left by the Albanians

who worked in this industry, all the remaining archival information will be taken for study, from where we will analyze how this industry ended at its end. Analyzing the steps it went through in opening and until closing. The way the factories were built and their analysis during the time they were working. The glass factory in Tirana, one of the smallest, taking into account the growth of tourism in the city of Tirana, is intended to be turned from an old glass factory into a museum, bringing the material of glass back to life, both in the artistic aspect and its use in large industries. Based on the name of the street, 'Glass Street', the concept of returning the former factory area to the glass area, and the old region of 'Kombinat' to turn into one of the new artistic areas.

Keywords: Glass, glass industry, museum, art, architecture, techniques, light.

Student: ANXHELA PAJOLLARI [Spring 2024-2025]

Thesis Title: DEVELOPMENT OF ALBANIAN RIVIERA: A CRITICAL OBSERVATION AND A PROJECT PROPOSAL FOR REVITALIZATION OF HUNDECOVA VILLAGE

Supervisor: Assoc. Prof. Dr. EDMONA MANAHASA

C0-supervisor: MSc. KRESHNIK MERXHANI

Thesis Summary: The Albanian Riviera is a region rich in cultural and architectural heritage, as a result of its long and intense history. This region, characterized by stone villages, where houses are built one above the other, to create a harmonious relationship with the coastal topography, today suffers from unregulated constructions that have caused visual degradation and loss of cultural identity. This thesis offers a critical observation regarding the transformation of the region in terms of urban and cultural landscape. The research identifies the main problems that consist in the abandonment of historical settlements, the disappearance of traditional architecture, and the exclusion of local communities from the territories they once shaped. As a counter-response to these trends, the thesis proposes a revitalization project for Hundecova, an abandoned village located near Lukovë and Shën Vasili. Based on site-specific analysis, historical traces and topographical integration, the proposal aims to restore the spatial logic of the traditional settlement, reactivate its cultural memory and introduce new architectural interventions that are respectful, distinctive and sustainable. Inspired by the principles set out in international charters such as the Venice Charter, the project supports a balance between preservation and innovation. Through a phased strategy - ranging from restoration to adaptive reuse and the introduction of new programs - the proposal presents Hundecova as a prototype for sustainable heritage-based tourism along the southern coast of Albania. Keywords: *Coastline, architectural heritage, sustainability, community engagement, preservation, revitalization.*

Student: *GERSA ÇELA*[Spring 2024-2025]

Thesis Title: *CREATIVE INDUSTRIES AS A TOOL FOR URBAN REVITALIZATION IN INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE SITE, CASE STUDY OF KOMBINART PROJECT IN KOMBINAT AREA.*

Supervisor: *Dr. JOANA DHIAMANDI*

Thesis Summary: This thesis examines the role of creative industries in the revitalization of post-industrial urban areas, with a focus on the Kombinat district in Tirana. Once an important industrial center during Albania's socialist period, Kombinat has experienced physical decline, economic inactivity, and a weakening of its community functions. The KombiArt project, proposed by the Archea Group and supported by the Municipality of Tirana, aims to reactivate the area through creative and cultural functions.

The objective of this research is to assess whether and how creative-led projects can contribute to the sustainable revitalization of neglected industrial areas, using Kombinat as a case study. The theoretical framework draws from Florida's concept of the creative class, Landry's creative city model, Evans' cultural planning approach, and Alexander's theory of organic urban development. These foundations inform a structured analytical framework based on nine evaluation principles: spatial integration, accessibility, economic model, service diversity, stakeholder involvement, mobility networks, cultural inclusion, sustainability, and architectural identity preservation.

The methodology combines both qualitative and quantitative methods. Eight European case studies (Berlin, Manchester, Barcelona, Copenhagen, Tallinn, Ljubljana, Lisbon, and Belgrade) were analyzed due to their implementation of adaptive reuse strategies and approaches that could be adapted to the Albanian context. Five site visits were conducted in Kombinat to document its urban structure and spatial features. Additionally, thirteen semi-structured interviews were carried out; ten with local residents and three with professionals in architecture and urban planning. The data were analyzed thematically, supported by field observations and planning document reviews. The findings indicate that, although the KombiArt project incorporates elements of international best practices, it does not fully utilize the existing industrial heritage structures, lacks a clear long-term operational plan, and fails to integrate essential everyday services such as education, transportation, and healthcare. These shortcomings, identified through the nine-principal framework, led to four improvement proposals: preservation and reuse of the Stalin Textile Factory, maintenance of the original urban grid, functional zoning by user group, and balancing cultural activities with daily service needs.

This research offers a structured model for evaluating creative revitalization projects in Albanian cities and may serve as a reference for municipalities, planners, and researchers in designing sustainable and inclusive interventions in former industrial areas.

Keywords: *Creative Industries, Urban Revitalization, Kombinat Area, Industrial Heritage, Adaptive Reuse.*

Student: DENISA MEHMETI [Spring 2024-2025]

Thesis Title: LEARNING FROM CHILDREN: USING COLOR TO DESIGN EMOTIONALLY SUPPORTIVE PRESCHOOL ENVIRONMENTS

Supervisor: Assoc. Prof. Dr. ODETA MANAHASA

Thesis Summary: Colour psychology has been increasingly researched, in recent years, however, very little research has explored how it may be applied in early childhood environments. It is clear that the implication to have the possibility to acquire a deeper insight into the selection of colors and emotional experiences in

preschool children is evident, as it would have implications for the designing of learning environments that could support cognitive, social and emotional development. This research investigates the influence of color in architectural environments based on the color preferences and emotional connotations of children between 5 to 7

years old in Canadian Kindergarden in Fier, Albania. This study investigates how color influences children's spatial cognition, children's emotional states at within environments that are specifically planned and built. Thus, by investigating the role of color in spatial design, this research can give suggestions to architects and designers

for creating preschool environments that assist emotional well-being and learning. The purpose was to explore how preschool children react to different color palettes and to conduct what color preschoolers prefer at this age. They were given drawings of their own classroom for them to color them with bold colors on day 1, pastel colors on day 2 and both palettes on day 3. Also a survey asking their reactions to the color of each element of their classroom was done on day 1. A mixed-methods design was used, covering both qualitative and quantitative

data collection, in order to clearly investigate the influence of color schemes of preschool environments on the emotional, cognitive, and social development. Children will receive a sequence of color stimulation, and their responses will be monitored and categorized. The findings show that children's reactions to color are influenced by

environmental information. Particularly when used in toys, furniture, or activity spaces, bright colors red, yellow, and blue were enticing, imaginative, and lively. Conversely, pastel colors promoted emotions of calm, emotional stability, and focus, especially when used on bigger architectural components like walls, floors, or ceilings. When given the opportunity, toddlers instinctively adjusted these color schemes, using brighter accents for activity and quieter backgrounds for rest. This revealed a developing spatial and emotional awareness that aligned with developmental psychology theories, particularly Piaget's.

The findings will be used by designers and architects to design learning environments that foster cognitive, social, and emotional development in preschool.

In addition, this work's findings will have wider consequences for practitioners in early childhood education, policy makers, and designers, in such a way that it is possible to design child-oriented spaces where preschoolers can thrive and benefit from educational success.

Keywords: Colour Psychology, Preschooler, Color Preferences, Architecture, Emotional Association.

Student: ROMARJO ZAIMI [Spring 2024-2025]

Thesis Title: EFFECT OF HIGH RISE BUILDINGS ON THE SURROUNDING THERMAL COMFORT OF THE ENVIRONMENT: CASE STUDY OF TIRANA.

Supervisor: Dr. JOANA DHIAMANDI

Thesis Summary: This thesis has considered high-rise buildings to identify their impacts on the thermal comfort of the urban environment in Tirana, Albania. The rapid urbanization process and taking vertical development as a challenge to accommodate a rising population and economic activity have beset Tirana by severe environmental and infrastructural problems. Such a framework is also of deep interest to the researcher who takes this thesis as an opportunity to analyze in detail the challenges facing an urban heat island effect: alteration of wind patterns and light pollution. It will, therefore, integrate the data from many sources and various simulation digital techniques, wherein homogeneous models will be analyzed to estimate the impacts posed by high-rise buildings typically found in urban microclimates on thermal comfort in Tirana. The results indicate that high structures have been a cause for increased temperatures in the metropolitan area, suppression of natural ventilation, and more or less luminous pollution with an impact on the quality of life of the city dwellers. It also seeks to examine the social and economic forces that have thrown up high-rise buildings within Tirana while establishing the current urban planning and infrastructure support of this vertical growth. Increasing green building technologies and potential development will also make it much easier and feasible to reach green space

preservation in efforts to decrease the negative environmental impacts identified. It is, in general, a process of research based on evidence with a practical stock of recommendations aimed at providing strategic input for urban planners, architects, and policymakers. The findings are geared toward maintaining a balance between the need for vertical development of the city and the need to keep an urban environment where the city population may live and sustain themselves in Tirana.
Keywords: *UHI's, thermal comfort, high rise, urban planning, sustainable architecture.*

Student: KEJSI RADA [Spring 2024-2025]

Thesis Title: ARCHITECTURAL ACOUSTICS AS DESIGN STRATEGY FOR THE REVITALIZATION OF AUDIOVISUAL COMPLEXES: THE CASE OF RTSH BLOCK IN TIRANA

Supervisor: Prof. Dr. SOKOL DERVISHI

Thesis Summary: Shifting paradigms in radio-television conceptualization and broadcasting technologies have prompted a reassessment of audiovisual production facilities to align with contemporary standards. Architectural acoustics as a design approach, directly influence how audiovisual spaces perform and how sound is perceived. This research explores how acoustical principles can guide the revitalization of RTSH audiovisual block in Tirana by shaping context-sensitive strategies that responds to the site's architectural complexity and current state. The methodology integrates spatial and activity mapping with room-specific acoustic simulations using Odeon software, alongside on-site measurements of seven key interior typologies. Parameters such as RT, SPL, and STI are analyzed in relation to each space's intended function. Qualitative insights gathered from RTSH employees and industry professionals further inform the design framework. Results indicate that spaces originally designed with acoustic foresight, particularly those within the radio building exhibited higher performance and required minimal intervention. In contrast, acoustically neglected areas, exacerbated by outdated materials and a lack of public investment, compromised sound quality and usability. The study argues for a design-led acoustically informed approach to offer transferable strategies for similar projects in audiovisual complexes.

Keywords: Architectural acoustics, performance-based design, audiovisual complexes, RT, SPL, STI.

Student: ERVE SHAHAJ [Spring 2024-2025]

Thesis Title: A PROJECT PROPOSAL FOR SMALL-SCALE HOLIDAY VILLAGE DESIGN ON THE COAST OF SOUTHERN ALBANIA

Supervisor: Dr. EGIN ZEKA

Thesis Summary: The very fast development of coastal tourism in southern Albania, especially in Vlora, Albania, has brought great environmental, cultural, and economic challenges. Due to the rapid development of tourism, there has been overbuilding, including the destruction of natural landscapes and ecosystems. That is why today we see a very high development of buildings in areas with developed vegetation, with a certain ecosystem that could have been preserved by connecting the building with the existing greenery, but due to the use of land for hotels, the greenery has been destroyed.

On the other hand, these rushed constructions have resulted in basic, uninspired hotel designs that do not reflect the rich cultural heritage of the country's architecture. This construction factor has reduced the unique character of the city of Vlora as well as its potential to be called a culturally and architecturally rich destination for tourism.

This thesis is focused on analyzing small-scale hotels and tourism infrastructure in different case studies and then proposing a design for a holiday village in the city of Vlora, Albania, with an approach that tries to reflect the local character of Mediterranean settlements. First, a literature review is conducted on Mediterranean architecture, South Mediterranean architecture, tourism in Albania, architectural accommodation standards for hotels, and case studies. After gathering all the research and case study analysis, observations and site analyses were conducted. All these inputs have been crucial in the design proposal for the small-scale holiday village, which is the final output of this work.

Keywords: Holiday village, Architectural identity, Coastal tourism, Mediterranean architecture.

Student: ELISA PERSHAKU [Spring 2024-2025]

Thesis Title: INTEGRATED CONSERVATION AND ARCHITECTURAL INTERPRETATION OF THE ALLAJBEGI MOSQUE AND RECONSTRUCTING THE PORTICO IN ACCORDANCE WITH HISTORICAL EVIDENCE AND RESTORATION ETHICS

Supervisor: Assoc. Prof. Dr. EDMOND MANAHASA

Co-supervisor: MSc. KRESHNIK MERXHANI

Thesis Summary: In Dibër County's village of Burim, the Allajbegi Mosque is recognized as one of Albania's most notable Islamic-Ottoman monuments. The mosque, which was built in 1578 and became a Cultural Monument in 1970, is also prized for its architectural and historical aspects, in addition to its religious value. This study is mainly concerned with the conservation and restoration work carried out by the National Institute of Cultural Heritage (IKTK), notably focusing on the

degree of material decay seen before any measures were enacted, as well as the measures that were enacted. Areas of analysis that are important consist of the breakdown of stone masonry because of weathering and moisture intrusion, how biological colonization affects wooden components, and the disappearance or unsuitability of plaster layers from past, insensitive restorations. The investigation is designed to document and appraise the restoration strategies, resources, and abundance by heritage protection protocols implemented by IKTK. The technical and aesthetic impacts of the interventions on the historic structure are analyzed, with consideration given to their compatibility, reversibility, and sustainability. This investigation also assesses how well authenticity was either kept intact or put at risk and points out challenges that came up while the conservation took place. In light of these observations, the study's last part introduces an innovative design suggestion for the portico's reconstruction at the mosque, an architectural element of historical importance that is not intact in

its original appearance. As indicated in the proposal, the mosque will feature an open stone portico and it respects the original structural logic. Through a thoughtful new strategy, this investigation, which builds on previous restoration work, enhances the Allajbegi Mosque's long-term importance and sustainable preservation.

Keywords: Mosque, Portico, Architectural Restoration, Material Interpretation, Traditional Techniques

Student: MEGI XHAKA [Spring 2024-2025]

Thesis Title: CITIZIENS' PERCEPTION OF GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE AND HUMAN-SCALED DESIGN, IN TWO DIFFERENT NEIGHBORHOODS, OF POST-SOCIALIST TIRANA.

Supervisor: Assoc. Prof. Dr. EDMOND MANAHASA

Co-supervisor: Dr. Artan Hysa

Thesis Summary: As Tirana continues to transform under the history and pressures of post-socialist urbanization, the built environment's quality and citizens' everyday life have become more relevant topics. The city's recent trajectory of development has been characterized by high-density, commercial development at the expense of greenery, walkability, and socially inclusive spatial design. People-centered planning and green infrastructure are no longer luxuries in this equation, they are instead, the imperatives of livable and equal urban environment. This thesis investigates how two residential complexes in Tirana, Delijorgji and Magnet, represent various urban typologies and the ways the neighborhood's spatial form shapes residents' perceptions, interactions, and sense of well-being.

The thesis adopts a twofold method. First, it conducts detailed spatial and observational analysis based on the interpretation of map sites, height to width ratios, solid-void ratios, distribution of land use, and landscape integration. Second, it gathers information through a formal questionnaire distributed to 200 residents/users of the two study areas, to understand perceptions of greenery, social interaction, safety, accessibility, and local identity. The integration of quantitative data with qualitative findings enables an informed analysis of the impact of how urban form and green space usage on daily life in the two areas.

The findings highlight stark differences between the two study areas. Delijorgji is characterized by uniform, high-rise buildings with no internal green spaces and limited open shared areas, resulting in limited opportunities for social engagement and lower satisfaction levels. In contrast, Magnet is more pedestrian-oriented environment, with varied building heights, richly landscaped courtyards, and shaded pathways. These features enable an active and positive use of the public space and are strongly associated with higher perceptions of comfort, walkability, and sense of belonging to the neighborhood.

Furthermore, the thesis reveals that the users of Magnet have a stronger tendency to use green areas more frequently, find their neighborhood to be livable and friendly, and express stronger feelings of safety accompanied by strong feelings of community. The users of Delijorgji show that they lack green areas, they have an increased usage of vehicular circulation, and weaker feelings of belonging to their neighborhood. These insights suggest that spatial form and ecological integration are fundamental functions when determining the residents' feeling of place.

In conclusion, this thesis emphasizes the need to plan urban neighborhoods with green infrastructure, accessibility, and scale appropriate to human experience. There is also a need for the urban planning policy of Tirana to change its paradigm from maximizing buildable area to maximizing livability. A set of forward-looking recommendations is provided, with references to best practices in similar post-socialist contexts, to direct future developments towards more inclusive, green, and human-centered urban environments.

Keywords: Human scale, urbanization, perceptions, green infrastructure, belonging, experience.

Graduate Students' List of Theses

Student: DOLANTINA XHAKROSA [Spring 2024-2025]

Thesis Title:

Supervisor: ASSOC.PROF. DR. ODETA MANAHASA

Thesis Summary:

Keywords:

xli

List of Incoming & Outgoing Students

(Student Name, & Surname: Name of Home & Host University, Country, Duration of Stay)

Name	Surname	Sending Institution	Department	Program	Type of exchange	Academic Year	Framework
Sadi	Meng a	University of Ecole Nationale Supérieure d'Architect ure de Nantes	Architectu re	Integrated Second Cycle Program in Architectu re	Semest er Exchan ge	2024- 2025	Erasmus +
Fabio la	Cristal li	University of Naples Federico II	Architectu re	Integrated Second Cycle Program in Architectu re	Short- term exchan ge	2024- 2025	Erasmus +
Angel a	Girard o	University of Naples Federico II	Architectu re	Integrated Second Cycle Program in Architectu re	Short- term exchan ge	2024- 2025	Erasmus +

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Rei	Xhe ngo	AR CH	AR CH	Uni vers ity of Nap les "Fe deri co II"	Italy	202 4- 202 5	Fall - Spri ng	ER AS MU S+

Research Areas and Research Groups

Research Areas and Research Groups

- Housing theory, housing design, evaluation of housing, energy efficient housing, sustainable residential environment
- Space Syntax analysis from urban to building scale
- Digital fabrication, parametric modelling, algorithmic modelling, 3D printing, computer-aided design

MSc. Nerina Baçi

Focused on ongoing research in social sustainability.

MSc. Manjola Logli

Logli's areas of interest extend to the environment and user behaviors, user well-being and the interaction between sustainability and design regarding socio-cultural dimension, spanning the latter one on a larger scale, in that of livable communities.

List of Publications

The Academic staff of the EPOKA University, during this period of functioning (2023-2024) has published articles in different scientific journals, proceeding books, newspapers, etc.

No	Name Surname	Scientific Publications and Academic Activities
1	Prof. Dr. Sokol Dervishi	<p>Merollari J., Dervishi S., "Analyzing the impact of urban morphology on solar potential for photovoltaic panels: A comparative study across various European climates" Sustainable Cities and Society Volume 115, 15 November 2024, 105854.</p> <p>Article link https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S2210670724006784 About this journal https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/sustainable-cities-and-society About the index https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/sustainable-cities-and-society Impact Factor 2024: 10.5</p>
2	Prof. Dr. Sokol Dervishi	<p>Lika K., Dervishi S., " Exploring the impact of high-rise residential building morphology with controlled environment agriculture (CEA) and vertical farming on energy performance in various climatic contexts", Energy Conversion and Management Volume 326, 15 February 2025, 119452.</p> <p>Article link https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0196890424013931 About this journal https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/energy-conversion-and-management/about/insights About the index https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/energy-conversion-and-management/about/insights Impact Factor 2025: 9.9</p>
3	Prof. Dr. Sokol Dervishi	<p>Bufi I., Dervishi S. & Dervishi I. "Early-Design Daylight Performance Evaluation of a Housing Block in Tirana, Albania" Book Chapter in Lecture Notes in Civil Engineering, Book Series <i>Edited by</i> Marco di PriscoSheng-Hong ChenIoannis VayasSanjay Kumar ShuklaAnuj SharmaNagesh KumarChien Ming WangZhen-Dong CuiXinzheng Lu https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-981-97-8317-5_47</p>

4	Prof. Dr. Sokol Dervishi Dr. Ina Dervishi	Bufi I., Dervishi S. & Dervishi I. “Early-Design Daylight Performance Evaluation of a Housing Block in Tirana, Albania” Book Chapter in Lecture Notes in Civil Engineering, Book Series <i>Edited by</i> Marco di PriscoSheng-Hong ChenIoannis VayasSanjay Kumar ShuklaAnuj SharmaNagesh KumarChien Ming WangZhen-Dong CuiXinzheng Lu https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-981-97-8317-5_47
5	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Edmond Manahasa Assoc. Prof. Dr. Odeta Manahasa	Manahasa, E., Manahasa, O., Petrovski, A., Kirdar, G. Urban Happiness through Intangible Aspects as Placemaking Tools in Three South-Eastern European Cities: Case Studies from Historical Neighborhoods in the Process of Transformation Book Chapter in Placemaking in Practice Volume 2 <i>Engagement in Placemaking: Methods, Strategies, Approaches</i> Edited by: Francesco Rotondo, Djukic Aleksandra, Preben Hansen, Edmond Manahasa, Mastoureh Fathi, and Juan A. García-Esparza <i>BRILL eBooks(pp69-100)</i> https://brill.com/display/title/63582 doi:10.1163/9789004691919_006
6	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Edmond Manahasa Assoc. Prof. Dr. Odeta Manahasa	Manahasa, E., Manahasa, O., Petrovski, A., Kirdar, G. Urban Happiness through Intangible Aspects as Placemaking Tools in Three South-Eastern European Cities: Case Studies from Historical Neighborhoods in the Process of Transformation Book Chapter in Placemaking in Practice Volume 2 <i>Engagement in Placemaking: Methods, Strategies, Approaches</i> Edited by: Francesco Rotondo, Djukic Aleksandra,

		Preben Hansen, Edmond Manahasa, Mastoureh Fathi, and Juan A. García-Esparza <i>BRILL eBooks(pp69-100)</i> https://brill.com/display/title/63582 doi:10.1163/9789004691919_006
7	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Edmond Manahasa MSc. Katjana Boriçi	Manahasa, E. , Boriçi, K., Lorens, P., & Manahasa, O. (2024). Evaluating urban identity of Gdańsk historical inner city and Granary Island urban regeneration from a neighbourhood perspective. <i>Geographia Polonica</i> , 97(4), 383-402. https://doi.org/10.7163/GPol.0284
8	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Edmond Manahasa Assoc. Prof. Dr. Odetta Manahasa MSc. Manjola Logli	Manahasa, O., Logli, M., & Manahasa, E. (2025). An assessment model for socio-cultural sustainability of campus outdoor environments using physical and satisfaction indicators. <i>International Journal of Sustainability in Higher Education</i> . https://doi.org/10.1108/IJSHE-08-2024-0561
9	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Edmond Manahasa	Manahasa, E. , Demiraj, K., Manahasa, O., & Hysa' A., (2025). Effect of privacy in place attachment: how does a residential complex design in Tirana influence attachment to home, neighbourhood, and city? <i>The Journal of Housing and the Built Environment</i> . Article in Press, 10.1007/s10901-025-10183-4
10	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Edmond Manahasa	Manahasa, E. , Zera, A., K., Manahasa, O., & Hysa' A., (2025). Neighbourhood Identity versus City Identity: An Inter-Scalar Perspective Via Urban Layers in a Historical Zone Under Transformation. <i>Frontiers of Architectural Research</i> . Article in Press..
11	Assoc. Prof. Dr.	Manahasa, O. , Logli, M., & Manahasa, E. (2025). An assessment model for socio-cultural sustainability of campus outdoor environments using

	Odeta Manahasa MSc. Manjola Logli	physical and satisfaction indicators. <i>International Journal of Sustainability in Higher Education</i> . https://doi.org/10.1108/IJSHE-08-2024-0561
12	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Edmond Manahasa MSc. Katjana Boriçi	Manahasa, E., Boriçi, K., Lorens, P., & Manahasa, O. (2024). Evaluating urban identity of Gdańsk historical inner city and Granary Island urban regeneration from a neighbourhood perspective. <i>Geographia Polonica</i> , 97(4), 383-402. https://doi.org/10.7163/GPol.0284
13	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Edmond Manahasa Assoc. Prof. Dr. Odeta Manahasa	Manahasa, E., Demiraj, K., Manahasa, O. , & Hysa' A., (2025). Effect of privacy in place attachment: how does a residential complex design in Tirana influence attachment to home, neighbourhood, and city? <i>The Journal of Housing and the Built Environment</i> . Article in Press, 10.1007/s10901-025-10183-4
14	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Edmond Manahasa Assoc. Prof. Dr. Odeta Manahasa	Manahasa, E., Zera, A., K., Manahasa, O. , & Hysa' A., (2025). Neighbourhood Identity versus City Identity: An Inter-Scalar Perspective Via Urban Layers in a Historical Zone Under Transformation. <i>Frontiers of Architectural Research</i> . Article in Press.
15	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Edmond Manahasa	Manahasa, Edmond, Boriçi, Katjana , Lorens, Piotr, Manahasa, Odeta. "Evaluating urban identity of Gdańsk historical inner city and Granary Island urban regeneration from a neighbourhood perspective" In <i>Geographia Polonica</i> , vol. 97, iss. 4, pp. 383-402. 2024.

	MSc. Katjana Boriçi	<p>Article link https://doi.org/10.7163/GPol.0284 https://www.geographiapolonica.pl/article/item/14117.html</p> <p>About this journal https://www.geographiapolonica.pl/about-journal.html</p> <p>About the index https://www.scimagojr.com/journalsearch.php?q=28667&tip=sid (Search “<i>Geographia Polonica</i>” or the journal ISSN “0016-7282”)</p>
16	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Edmond Manahasa Assoc. Prof. Dr. Odeta Manahasa MSc. Manjola Logli	<p>Manahasa, O., Logli, M. and Manahasa, E. (2025), "An assessment model for socio-cultural sustainability of campus outdoor environments using physical and satisfaction indicators", <i>International Journal of Sustainability in Higher Education</i>, Vol. ahead-of-print No. ahead-of-print. https://doi.org/10.1108/IJSHE-08-2024-0561</p> <p>Article link https://doi.org/10.1108/IJSHE-08-2024-0561</p> <p>About this journal https://www.emeraldgrouppublishing.com/journal/ijshe</p> <p>About the index https://www.emeraldgrouppublishing.com/journal/ijshe https://jcr.clarivate.com/jcr/home (Search “International Journal of Sustainability in Higher Education” or the journal ISSN “1467-6370”) – Impact Factor 2023: 3 (Journal Citation Reports 2023)</p>

Participation of Academic Staff in Academic Events

MSc. Manjola Logli

1. 1 week exchange at the University of Naples Federico II.
 - a) Presentation on Research Topics: ‘An Assessment Model for Socio-Cultural Sustainability of Campus Outdoor Environments Using Physical and Satisfaction Indicators’ and ‘Wellbeing and
 - b) Cognitive Functions of Senior Residents of Retirement Homes: A Designing Inclusive Experience from Tirana, Albania’.

- c) Engaged in consultation for the ‘THEORY AND TECHNIQUE OF ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN’ course, led by Prof. Arch. Mariateresa Giammetti.
- d) Participated in a PhD workshop titled ‘Urban Transcripts’.

MSc. Anisa Cenaj

- 2. The Civil Engineering Convention, held at Istanbul Technical University, Turkey, during 07-12 March 2024.
- 3. International Student Conference of Civil Engineering (ISCCE 2024), held in Pristina, Kosovo, 25-26 April 2024.
- 4. “International Interdisciplinary Network on Smart Healthy Age-Friendly Environments”, in the framework of COST Action CA 19136, held at the Odisee Campus, in Brussels, Belgium, during September 30- October 03, 2024.

Dr. Joana Dhiamandi

- 1. Exchange Meeting “Future for Religious Heritage”, held in Valetta, Malta, during 24-25 January 2024.
- 2. Creative Glass Forum”, that will be held in Belgrade, Serbia on December 11-15, 2024.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Odeta Manahasa

- 3. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Odeta Manahasa participated as an accreditation expert from ASCAL at the site visit held at the premises of Barleti University, during January 31-01 February 2024, in Tirana.
- 4. “International Interdisciplinary Network on Smart Healthy Age- Friendly Environment”, in the framework of COST Action CA 19136, held in Bucharest, Romania, during May 20-23, 2024.
- 5. “International Interdisciplinary Network on Smart Healthy Age Friendly Environments”, in the framework of COST Action CA 19136, held at the Odisee Campus, in Brussels, Belgium, during October 01-04, 2024.
- 6. “2025 ENHR Grand Paris Conference”, that will be held in Paris, France, during June 30- July 05, 2025.
- 7. “1st Management Committee Meeting”, in the framework of COST Action CA24134, held in Brussels, Belgium, during September 22- 23, 2025.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Edmond Manahasa

1. *“Plenum Closing Conference on Digital Urban Placemaking and the Presentation and Release of the Completed Website of the Action”*, in the framework of COST Action CA 18204, held at the Spiru Haret University and Constanta County Prefecture, in Bucharest, Romania, during April 15-18, 2024.
2. *“International Interdisciplinary Network on Smart Healthy Age Friendly Environments”*, in the framework of COST Action CA 19136, that will be held at the Odisee Campus, in Brussels, Belgium, during October 01-04, 2024.
3. Academic Forum on the Risk Assessment & Management of Cultural Heritage”, held in Tirana, on November 21, 2024.
4. *“TransformERS General Assembly”*, in the framework of COST Action CA 22156, that will be held at the Science and Research Centre Koper, Krevljeva 5, Koper, Slovenia, during March 25-26, 2025.
- Lecturer Edmond Manahasa attended the Koper Meeting within the framework of COST Action › TransformERS. The meeting was a very good opportunity to have very valuable meetings with colleagues from different countries. . Apart from workshops, the visit to Renewable Materials and Healthy Environments Research and Innovation Center of Excellence InnoRenew CoE was a unique experience, where he had the chance to see their laboratories and cutting edge experiments.
5. *“2025 ENHR Grand Paris Conference”*, held in Paris, France, during June 30- July 05, 2025.

Prof. Dr. Sokol Dervishi

1. *IBPC 2024” which is the 9th edition of the official triennial conference of the International Association of Building Physics (IABP)*, held in Toronto, Canada, during July 2024.
2. *“Generate (Gender and Precarity at the Energy Frontier) in -person meeting”*, held in Skopje, Macedonia, during 25-27 March 2025.
- Prof. Dr. Sokol Dervishi and Dr. Ina Dervishi from the Department of Architecture at Epoka University

participated in the GENERATE Project in Skopje, 26th March 2025, a regional initiative addressing the intersection of green energy transitions and gender equality across the Western Balkans. During the meeting, project partners presented country-specific reports that analyzed the policies and frameworks surrounding energy transitions and gender equality. Key discussions centered on the complex challenges of shifting towards renewable energy, with particular attention given to Albania's high rates of energy poverty of households. Experts explored the socio-political challenges, such as public opposition, regulatory hurdles, and the unequal distribution of renewable energy benefits. The project emphasized the importance of integrating gender-sensitive approaches into energy policies to address both energy access and empowerment of marginalized groups, including women. Epoka University's involvement underscores its dedication to addressing energy poverty and gender equality, reinforcing its commitment to sustainable development in the region.

3. "4th Management Committee Meeting", took place from 30 June to 02 July 2025, as well as in the Conference "Shaping the Future Living Places", held from 03 to 04 July 2025, in Lisboa, Portugal.

Dr. Ina Dervishi

1. *IBPC 2024*" which is the 9th edition of the official triennial conference of the International Association of Building Physics (IABP), held in Toronto, Canada, during July 2024.
2. "Generate (Gender and Precarity at the Energy Frontier) in -person meeting", held in Skopje, Macedonia, during 25-27 March 2025.

Dr. Valerio Perna

1. Prishtina Sustainable Week", that will be held in Prishtina, Kosovo, during September 29- October 03, 2025.

MSc. Kreshnik Merxhani

1. "Workshop on the Cultural Landscape in the Highlands of the Albania and Kosovo", that will be held in Albania and Kosovo, during September 09-15, 2024.

Simon Battisti for an Inspiring Open Lecture on Urban Design

On January 15, 2025, EPOKA University welcomed urban designer, researcher, and activist Simon Battisti for an open lecture titled *Cities for Children: Improving School Streets in Tirana*. This special event, organized for our architecture students, highlighted innovative approaches to creating safer, more inclusive urban spaces for children. Simon Battisti, founder of the NGO Qendra Marrëdhënie, brought a unique and insightful perspective on how to reimagine the streets surrounding schools in Tirana. His vision prioritizes children and pedestrians over vehicles,

challenging traditional urban planning methods and fostering sustainable change. During the lecture, Battisti shared: A conceptual framework for reshaping urban spaces to be more child-friendly and safe. Challenges and solutions for reimagining the streetscape of Tirana, focusing on balancing functionality with inclusivity. Future projects and initiatives aimed at creating sustainable, pedestrian-centered environments. The session sparked meaningful discussions among attendees about the role of urban design in transforming public spaces. Students engaged with ideas that emphasized the importance of prioritizing people over cars, aligning with global trends in sustainable city planning. This event not only enriched our students' understanding of urban activism but also inspired them to envision a future where Tirana's streets can become safer and more accessible for everyone—especially its youngest citizens. We extend our gratitude to Simon Battisti for his thought-provoking lecture and for sharing his expertise with the EPOKA community.

ARCH 223 Course [History of Art and Architecture II] trip to Barcelona

In the framework of Arch 223 Course [History of Art and Architecture II] together with students of Architecture Department at Epoka at Epoka University we conducted a site trip to Barcelona. We visited the Gothic Quarter of Barcelona, including important building like Cathedral of Barcelona and Santa Maria del Mar Basilica.

Further, we experienced some of Gaudi's most unique buildings like Casa Batllo, Casa Mila, Sagrada Familia and Casa Vicencs.

In the end we could not do without visiting modernism's iconic Barcelona Pavilion of Mies Van Der Rohe and Richard Meier's Museum of Contemporary Arts in Barcelona.

Open Lecture: "How Climate Changes Require Designing Buildings Differently" by Dr. Umberto Berardi

EPOKA University had the honor of welcoming Dr. Umberto Berardi, a renowned professor, who delivered an insightful open lecture to architecture students titled: "How Climate Changes Require Designing Buildings Differently?".

The keynote speaker, Dr. Umberto Berardi, President of the Canadian Acoustical Association and the International Association of Building Physics, shared his groundbreaking research and innovations. Renowned for his expertise as a former Canada Research Chair in Building Science, Dr. Berardi presented pioneering advancements in nanotechnology applications, organic bio-PCMs, and granular aerogels that enhance building performance and sustainability.

The lecture highlighted the need for sustainable and climate-responsive architectural practices, offering valuable insights into adapting design strategies for a changing world. This event emphasized the importance of integrating cutting-edge science into architecture to address climate challenges, inspiring both students and professionals to rethink design strategies for a resilient future.

Architecture Students of EPOKA University Explore Pogradec for Studio Projects

From October 31 to November 3, students and professors from the Department of Architecture embarked on a site trip to Pogradec as part of their studio courses.

Groups from the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th years conducted in-depth observations and site analyses across various zones in the city. These explorations are integral to developing architectural and urban project proposals, focusing on a thorough understanding of the local context and sensitivity to the regional geography.

The trip was not only academically enriching but also filled with exciting discoveries. Students participated in lively discussions, hands-on analyses, and creative sketching sessions. This enriching experience not only deepened their design skills but also allowed them to discover the unique potential of Pogradec's diverse sites, blending learning with memorable moments.

EPOKA University Graduate Jacela Merollari under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Sokol Dervishi Publishes Thesis in Top Journal 'Sustainable Cities and Society' (Q1, impact factor of 10.5)

Jacela Merollari, who graduated in June 2024 from EPOKA University, published her master's thesis under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Sokol Dervishi, Dean of the Faculty of Architecture and Engineering, in one of the most prestigious international journals: Sustainable Cities and Society (Q1, impact factor of 10.5).

The research aligns with the strategic plan of EPOKA University related to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals, with a particular emphasis on SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy) and SDG 13 (Climate Action).

The study explores the impact of different urban morphologies of existing residential buildings on energy performance in four European climatic contexts and the potential for installing solar panels in these morphologies. Five different morphologies are analyzed through computational energy simulations on urban and building scale. The findings establish recommendations for energy optimization principles for decision-makers, urban planners and architects in various urban design scenarios.

PROJECTS

Name Surname of Staff	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Odeta Manahasa
COST Action No	CA 19136
COST Action Title	International Interdisciplinary Network on Smart Healthy Age-friendly Environments (NET4AGE-FRIENDLY)
COST Action Chair:	Ms. Carina Dantas carinadantas@shine2.eu

Your role/position in the COST Action	MC Member
Duration of the Action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start date - 21/10/2020 • End date - 20/10/2024
Short Description (100-150 words):	<p>To promote social inclusion, independent living and active and healthy ageing in society, the NET4AGE-FRIENDLY COST Action will establish an international and interdisciplinary network of researchers and stakeholders from all sectors. Its aim is to foster awareness, and to support the creation and implementation of smart, healthy indoor and outdoor environments for present and future generations. NET4AGE-FRIENDLY further aims to overcome fragmentation and critical gaps at both conceptual and pragmatic innovation level on responsive, age-friendly and sustainable environments to address European research and policy challenges.</p> <p>The main approach of NET4AGE-FRIENDLY is the establishment of local or regional ecosystems in each COST country involved, to work on health and well-being in an age-friendly digital world. The ecosystems will consist of citizens, public authorities, businesses/NGOs and researchers. They will be supported by four thematic Working Groups (User-centred inclusive design in age-friendly environments and communities; Integrated health and well-being pathways; Digital solutions and large-scale sustainable implementation; Policy development, funding forecast and cost-benefit evaluations). The outcomes of the thematic Working Groups will be integrated by a dedicated Working Group to create a synergised output as a Reference Framework.</p> <p>NET4AGE-FRIENDLY will be used as a connector for involving and hosting regular themed sessions with local and regional stakeholders and users' representatives from various countries and backgrounds, as well as for fostering the</p>

	knowledge creation and sharing among researchers. Particular attention will be devoted to promoting the involvement of Early Career Investigators, entrepreneurs and participants from COST Inclusiveness Target Countries.
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Name Surname of Staff	Assoc. Prof.Dr. Odeta Manahasa
COST Action No	CA23138
COST Action Title	Port City Territories in Action: A collaborative Laboratory for Inclusive Energy Transition (PACT)
COST Action Chair:	Prof Carola Hein c.m.hein@tudelft.nl
Your role/position in the COST Action	Working group Member
Duration of the Action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start date - 23 October 2024 • End date - 22 October 2028
Short Description (100-150 words):	Ports have long been hubs of energy transport and transformation—notably petroleum—; they are also key to facilitating the energy transition both in terms of transport and in terms of production. These energy hubs have unique safety and security requirements, they are also located in a fragile ecosystem at the edge of sea and land. Ports have facilitated the growth of major metropolises and attracted people and corporations, creating a complex system. At a time of climate change major societal urgencies, and a much-needed shift from fossil fuels to renewable energy, many problems are condensed in these territories. As hubs of economic development, port city territories are developing new approaches to understanding, initiating, and coordinating

	<p>sustainable and inclusive transitions that require more than technological responses. This transition necessitates a value-based approach and collaborative, multi-disciplinary action. The COST Action PACT - Port City Territories in Action: A Collaborative Laboratory for Inclusive Energy Transition, proposes new methodological responses for knowledge co-production and collaborative planning towards sustainable, inclusive futures by focusing on the spatial and socio-cultural implications of energy transition on port city territories. PACT builds on six main objectives: mapping, reframing, co-creating, including, envisioning, and transmitting. It has identified four pilot studies where cooperation between ports and cities has taken new forms: Le Havre, Livorno, Rotterdam and Cadiz. They will serve to inspire other case studies from Europe to test the PACT Framework through multiple workshops.</p>
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Name Surname of Staff	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Odeta Manahasa
COST Action No	CA23117
COST Action Title	Connecting Critical Pedagogies, Inclusive Art Forms and Alternative Barometers for Urban Sustainability (CIRCUL'ARTs)
COST Action Chair:	Dr Marta Jecu zarzarii@yahoo.com
Your role/position in the COST Action	Working group Member
Duration of the Action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start date - 18 October 2024 • End date - 17 October 2028

<p>Short Description (100-150 words):</p>	<p>CIRCUL'ARTs develops an innovative methodology to stimulate the emergence of solutions towards more circular and sustainable cities, based on a 'dynamic ecology of knowledge'. This implies new ways of co-creating knowledge, sharing it and transforming it into action, orientating our learning towards more practical action. Most of all, this new methodology consists in stepping out of a Euro-centric perspective and taking into consideration plural voices and needs, ancestral and indigenous knowledge, creative micro-strategies developed at a local level - a body of information that has remained hitherto unconsidered.</p> <p>We envision bringing this knowledge into a global circulation, appealing to artistic practice - as a form of creating information exchange in a participative and creative way and of producing topic solutions. Art, and the de-colonisation of thought and knowledge will allow us to develop a methodology that is in itself sustainable and circular.</p> <p>Our project is therefore organised around 6 thematic working groups (corresponding to our three working areas plus 3 creative methodologies), and a 7th one that brings together recommendations for the development of innovative creative methodologies in the field of circular economies and disseminates them:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Plural schooling and critical pedagogies 2. Urban rituals, performances, street theater, music 3. Urban installations and gathering points 4. Innovation through creative and circular technologies 5. Connecting 'natures' in the urban context 6. Dissemination and recommendations
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Name Surname of Staff	MSc. Anisa Cenaj
COST Action No	CA 19136
COST Action Title	EU Week for Sustainable and Inclusive Communities: The Future is SHAFE
COST Action Chair:	Ms Carina Dantas carinadantas@shine2.eu
Your role/position in the COST Action	MC Member/ Speaker
Duration of the Action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start of Action - 01/10/2020 • End of Action - 30/10/2024
Short Description (100-150 words):	<p>SIRENE Social Innovation Responsive Environments NETWORK is a Horizon Europe-funded project that started in November 2022 to support the growth of social innovation ecosystems delivering eco-friendly and sustainable community-based services for Smart Healthy Age-Friendly Environments (SHAFE) in Europe.</p> <p>COST Action NET4Age-Friendly, aims to establish an international and interdisciplinary network of researchers from all sectors to foster awareness, and to support the creation and implementation of smart, healthy indoor and outdoor environments for present and future generations.</p> <p>The main aim of the two above-referred initiatives is to support the implementation of inclusive communities at the local and regional level and thus the main target group foreseen are policy makers from diverse EU-Regions that can use these results to improve quality of life of citizens in their</p>

	territories, along with quadruple helix actors of those regions: third sector, service providers, industry, academia and R&I.
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C. Support, Resources & Representation

List of Students' Internships

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1oXKbaGQcRFjZjTEMRA7YBZyo5oaSm6vsbyOeM3EZgpU/edit?pli=1&gid=0#gid=0>

Student Best Success Stories

EPOKA University Graduate Jaçela Merollari under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Sokol Dervishi Publishes Thesis in Top Journal 'Sustainable Cities and Society' (Q1, impact factor of 10.5)

Jacela Merollari, who graduated in June 2024 from EPOKA University, published her master's thesis under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Sokol Dervishi, Dean of the Faculty of Architecture and Engineering, in one of the most prestigious international journals: Sustainable Cities and Society (Q1, impact factor of 10.5).

The research aligns with the strategic plan of EPOKA University related to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals, with a particular emphasis on SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy) and SDG 13 (Climate Action).

The study explores the impact of different urban morphologies of existing residential buildings on energy performance in four European climatic contexts and the potential for installing solar

panels in these morphologies. Five different morphologies are analyzed through computational energy simulations on urban and building scale. The findings establish recommendations for energy optimization principles for decision-makers, urban planners and architects in various urban design scenarios.

Office Holders

The department would like to thank the following for their valuable contribution to teaching, administration, and management over the past year:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Edmond Manahasa (Head of the Department of Architecture)

Prof. Dr. Sokol Dervishi (Dean of Faculty of Architecture and Engineering)

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Odeta Manahasa

Dr. Valerio Perna

Dr. Egin Zeka

Dr. Ina Dervishi

Dr. Joana Dhiamandi

MSc. Kreshnik Merxhani

MSc. Nerina Baçi

MSc. Manjola Logli

MSc. Anisa Cenaj

MSc. Katjana Boriçi

Coordinator Ms. Edona Gerbeti

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In addition to the Office Holders listed above, the department would like to thank all the offices for their collaboration in making this department offer all the facilities needed for the students.

Department of Architecture

Epoka University
Rr. Tirane- Rinas, Km. 12 , 1039, Tirane/Albania
Phone: +355 4 2232 086
Fax: +355 4 2222 117
Email: info@epoka.edu.al