

Brief description and notes (economic contribution if provided)

This workshop explores the dynamic interplay among contemporary landscape, architecture, urban spaces, and community resilience. Focusing on the current condition of one of the 21st-century transformations of Milan. Participants will investigate how innovative architectural projects can foster community connections, resilience, and sustainable urban redevelopment within the contested site in the center of Milan. Through lectures, site visits, and collaborative design, students will engage with themes of cultural heritage, sustainable practices, and the co-creation of inclusive public spaces. The main aim of the workshop is to bridge diverse neighborhoods and enhance urban resilience by addressing the challenges of fragmented urban areas. By reconnecting these fragmented spaces, students strive to create coherent and resilient communities that can adapt to and thrive amidst the complexities of contemporary urban life. This workshop is about moving from 'what is' to 'what if' while investigating how true creative, constructively critical thinking can suggest ways to revive and reclaim our communities without compromising the newer dominant socioeconomic layers of our urban life.

Exploration and Challenges:

1. Understand the history of the area and its cultural evolution through research and expert interviews.
2. Analyze neighborhood characteristics and the impact of new and historic urban fabrics.
3. Identify the site composition and its urban relationships.
4. Search for spatial and visual connections among these different neighborhoods and the broader urban context.
5. Determine community needs and desires such as enhancing connectivity, overcoming infrastructural challenges, recycling existing structures, and increasing open public spaces.
6. Uncover potentials in the urban area and extended territorial systems for synergy with new community-building programs and urban regeneration initiatives.
7. Investigate sustainable practices in architecture, particularly the principles of the circular economy.
8. Explore the concept of new programs that allow for community regeneration, bridging the gaps between different neighborhoods.
9. Reinterpret cultural heritage values and detailing in architecture toward the co-creation of future identities.
10. Develop the design of communal and public spaces that foster social interaction and community engagement inclusively.

keywords: Critical thinking; urban regeneration, community resilience, collaborative design; sustainable urban redevelopment; co-creative architecture; inclusive public space.

requested knowledge and skills: Computer Graphic Skills; 2D and 3D

maximum number of students: up to 20 students from AUIC + guest students from UFV



POLITECNICO
MILANO 1863

selection criteria: Students will be selected based on the quality of their portfolio
Interested students should submit their design portfolios with the description of their academic activities (studios, workshops, external experiences).
The application must be sent exclusively to: arch.theory.practice@gmail.com
proposed deadline of application: Friday Nov. 28th, 2025