

GENERAL SYLLABUS OF THE MASTER

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF MASTERS DEGREE:

There is a clear need for qualified professionals in developing countries who are able to design projects and manage urban-planning processes. These countries have some of the highest urbanization rates in the world and it is here where international cooperation is most needed.

However, issues related to high-speed transformation are also affecting cities in developed countries in the northern hemisphere.

The key theme on which the Master's degree is based is "Urban Regeneration", this being understood as a process which, integrating environmental, physical, urban, social and economic factors, suggests alternatives to improve people's quality of life in a particular urban sector or cities in general.

METHODOLOGY:

The former key theme represents the guideline of the entire cycle of the year master and it will be analysed and developed in different contexts and realities that architects have to face with, such as North Countries, South Countries, Developing Countries and Countries affected by catastrophes.

In the following lines there is a brief explanation regarding the approach of the phenomenon of "Urban Regeneration" on those context.

There is a need today to make a critical analysis of a global system in which social and economic inequalities and social exclusion have regrettably gone from the exception to the rule.

There is a need to create regulatory elements and urban and architectural strategies that promote and empower socio-spatial cohesion, encouraging new urban development hubs with the spatial and formal quality capable of generating new centralities, regardless of the scale of the projects themselves.

While on the one hand the crisis in the Western economic system has accentuated social friction and disintegration, with migratory phenomena further underlining urban

segregation in fragmented peripheral sectors, on the other, urban growth in developing countries has quite often been accompanied by an increase in informal settlements and socioeconomic imbalances.

“Urban regeneration” can also be understood as encompassing all the architectural and urban development processes related to rebuilding the socioeconomic and urban fabric of countries affected by human or natural catastrophes.

Following on from humanitarian aid, development projects need to take into account a form of urban reconstruction that respects the cultural legacies and lifestyles of its inhabitants to either recover the lifestyle they enjoyed prior to the catastrophe or even improve upon it, while at the same time trying to prevent and protect against potential risks in the future. These are very delicate and complex issues in which the interdisciplinary participation and collaboration of urban developers, economists, Architects, anthropologists and engineers are both fundamental and necessary.

THE ROLE OF THE ARCHITECT

Architects and urban planners no longer represent the benchmark authority that structures the general framework of our lifestyles, as promoted by the Modern Movement.

Architects today need to understand that they represent a key element in the complex system that has been established to seek holistic solutions that integrate interdisciplinary cooperation and citizen participation.

According to Freire, architects need to learn from other disciplines in order to read and interpret the reality they are faced with. It is essential to understand the urban and sociocultural fabric, to make a critical reading of all the scales of the design process, in order to generate proposals that address the cultural, economic and urban legacies of the situation in which we live.

It is about individuating and analysing strategies to develop a process of urban regeneration that could be applied to the different situations and actions mentioned above.

Small architectural projects, such as the “urban acupuncture” proposed by Lerner, can take root in a dense and fragmented urban fabric and consolidate themselves as “urban catalysts” capable of modifying and influencing entire neighbourhoods on a large scale.

As Manuel de Solá Morales used to say back in the Nineties, the important thing is not so much the scale of the intervention but the solutions it provides.

OBJECTIVES OF THE MASTER:

Students will acquire the necessary knowledge to be able to manage complex projects in which governmental and non-governmental institutions, beneficiaries and technical staff are involved.

Students will be able to organise their tasks from an interdisciplinary approach; they will also acquire the necessary methodologies and tools to manage projects ranging from urban to architectural scales; maximizing human resources and building the capacity of future generations to deal with and support local actors in post-disaster scenarios in both developed and developing countries.

STRUCTURE OF THE MASTER'S COURSE:

The Master's course is divided into three modules:

1. Module 1: Criteria ECTS: 30
2. Module 2: Field Trip & Internship ECTS: 14.5
3. Module 3: Studio Project ECTS: 15.5

TOTAL ECTS: 60

1. Module 1: Criteria Total ETCS: 30

This module is designed to provide a full and multidisciplinary understanding of project management and sustainable urban development policies and the economic and social policies that influence urban regeneration in developing countries, northern countries and countries undergoing reconstruction. The aim is for students to acquire an integral understanding of all the processes involved in urban regeneration based on practical knowledge of complex local situations.

This module comprises both seminars and workshops.

A seminar is understood as being a series of theoretical lessons of a technical or academic nature intended to study a particular subject in depth. It is possible that the lecturer may ask for a final exercise that might require the preparation of analyses and/or proposals.

A workshop is understood as being a series of theoretical lessons of an essentially technical nature that focuses on carrying out practical work among a group of people who share specific knowledge and/or similar experiences.

Module 1 will be assessed according to the following criteria:

- participation in class
- the ability to engage in a critical reworking of the subjects covered in class
- finding the appropriate answer or solution related to the topic of the work
- the ability to conduct individual research
- the ability to seek information and make bibliographical searches
- analytical skills and the ability to develop eventual proposals that are capable of providing specific solutions to the problems raised
- the ability to work in a team and leadership skills
- the ability to integrate what has been learned in class in the students own project/exercise
- the ability to present in public the work and/or research developed during the course

The attendance of Module 1 is mandatory.

Students are obliged to participate at least 80% of the total Module.

The rest 20% non- attendance have to be spread during the whole Module1. Students must to participate to all workshops and seminars. All the absences have to be justified. If the absences are more than 20%, in order to be accepted, they have to be justified with an official certificate (i.e. medical, work, civil.etc.).

Module 1, Criteria, comprises the following subjects:

1 a: Global Identity and Development ECTS: 6.5

This subject analyses all the interdisciplinary areas related to urban, sociological economic and administrative planning.

It examines the approach models of urban sociology, communication and citizen participation. It analyses economic planning and programming models for sustainable urban development centred on addressing the pressures deriving from the processes of globalization, in contrast to planning processes on a local and regional scale.

It examines the approach to governability as a decision-making process that includes the key elements of sustainability, equality, efficiency, transparency and accountability in civic participation and citizenship.

More specifically, subject 1 comprises the following courses:

a- *"Urban Sociology and Communication"*

Jean Michel Roux, UPMF . Grenoble (Mundus Urbanus Consortium)

b- *"Planning Sustainable Development: Project and Program Evaluation"*

Adriana Paolantonio University of Rome Tor Vergata (Mundus Urbanus Consortium)

c- *"Cities and crisis"*

Dan Lewis, UN-HABITAT Disaster and Post-Conflict Section Chief, Nairobi
Headquarters

Esteban Leon, UN-HABITAT Disaster Management Specialist, Geneva Office

d- *"Habitats Training and Capacity Building Branch"*

Joe Hooper, UN-HABITAT Training Officer, Training and Capacity Building Branch
Global Division Nairobi Headquarters

2a. Urbanism and Housing in Developing Context ECTS: 10

This subject studies building systems that are capable of incorporating flexible uses and programmes with techniques and materials derived from local cultures to tackle post catastrophe and reconstruction situations in developing countries.

It will also analyse fragmented urban contexts in the peripheral neighbourhoods of Barcelona in collaboration with the Barcelona City Council and UN-Habitat.

This Subject comprises both seminars and workshops.

More specifically, it comprises the following Courses:

a- *"Interventions in Emergency scenarios"*

Paul Cabrera, architect, MSF, Barcelona division

b- *"Local Cooperation: Urban Regeneration in a Fragmented Periphery of Barcelona"*

Giovanna Carnevali, architect, Program Director of the Master, UIC.

In collaboration with: UN-Habitat and Barcelona City Council

c- *"Participative design strategies for regeneration in developing countries"*

Reena Tiwari, Associate Professor in the Departments of Urban & Regional Planning and Architecture at Curtin University of Technology, Perth

3a. Design Tools ECTS: 13.5

This subject analyses all the design processes at different scales with the aim of producing projects that are capable of acting as urban catalysts, taking into account social stratigraphy, urban fragmentation and local economic conditions.

It also analyses post-catastrophe urban regeneration, focusing on how to achieve the best possible guarantee of protection against earthquakes in the future. This is an urgent and complex issue that demands the active participation of urban planners and architects.

This module will be delivered by workshops.

Specifically, this module comprises the following courses:

a- *"Sports for change, topics in humanitarian design"*

Cameron Sinclair, co-founder of Architecture for Humanity

Nathaniel Corum, architect, Architecture for Humanity

b- *"Urban Regeneration after Earthquake Disaster in Japan"*

Prof. Sawada is Associate Professor at the Nagaoka Institute of Design,

NIIGATA, Dept. of Design, Architecture and Environmental Design Course

Prof. Maki is Associate Professor at Kyoto University, Research Center for

Disaster Reduction Systems, Disaster Prevention Research Institute

Moriko Kira, architect, Guest Professor at Kobe Design University, Department of

Environmental Design, Amsterdam

2. Module 2: Field Trip & Internship, comprising a single subject: Total ECTS: 14.5

Field Trip: students spend approximately two weeks in Brazil (provisional) with the Representatives of Architecture for Humanity to follow up in situ the implementation of part of the project covered in class.

The fieldtrip is Optional for E.M. Students and Mandatory for UIC students. (For UIC students the costs of the travel are included in the fees of the Master course.

Internship: students spend a work-experience internship in international cooperation institutions and/or local organizations in order to familiarise themselves with the development and management of cooperation projects.

Module 2 will be assessed according to the following criteria:

- a. At the end of the internship period, the tutor will issue a detailed report on the results of students' time at the institution and the work they participated in, as well as a continuous and overall appraisal of the work they have undertaken.

The general lines of the Internship report of the tutor are based on the following general criteria:

-] Description of the field of the work
-] Description of the main activity of the student
-] Level of satisfaction of the Tutor and Institution and/or organization from the work that the student have developed

- b. Once the internship has finished, students will be required to produce a report describing their experiences and conclusions.

These reports will also form part of the work to be assessed.

3. Module 3: Study Project, comprises a single subject: ECTS: 15.5

The main objective of this final part of the Masters course is to conduct a Master Thesis in the field of cooperation that should reflect the multidisciplinary nature inherent in designing and managing urban development and architectural projects.

During this module there will be a series of weekly conferences with the aim of integrating the programme and the subjects covered during the year, with a series of special classes and supervision with tutors being organized to monitor the methodology of the theses.

Module 3 will be assessed according to the following criteria:

a. Conferences: the participation is mandatory. Students that don't attend at least to 80% of the conferences without an official certificate will receive a negative evaluation.

b. Master Thesis: the evaluation will be based essentially on three aspects:

- 1- Thesis analytical content
- 2- Style
- 3- Final presentation

MODULE	SUBJECT	ECTS CREDITS
1- CRITERIA	1. GLOBAL IDENTITY	6,5
	2. URBANISM AND HOUSING IN DEVELOPING CONTEXTS	10
	3. DESIGN TOOLS	13,5
2- FIELDWORK	4. FIELDWORK AND INTERNSHIP	14,5
3- STUDIO PROJECT	5. STUDIO PROJECT	15,5

**Master of International
Cooperation in
Sustainable Emergency
Architecture**

