



POLITECNICO
DI TORINO



東京大学
THE UNIVERSITY OF TOKYO



CALL FOR PARTICIPATION TO THE MASTER THESIS ATELIER (MTA)
AND TO THE JOINT WORKSHOP IN TOKYO *

PLANNING FOR THE GLOBAL URBAN AGENDA. SHAPING ECODISTRICTS IN TOKYO SUBURBS

Info: dist.polito.it

Email: tokyo.workshop2018@polito.it

Deadline for applications: **11.10.2017**

Organized within the framework of the Joint Project “UNI-NUA - Implementing the United Nations’ New Urban Agenda. Universities in action” (Politecnico di Torino and the University of Tokyo), the MTA and the Joint Workshop are promoted by the School of Planning and Design of the DIST department of the Politecnico di Torino for the launch of the “Planning for the Global Urban Agenda” Curriculum in English of the MSc in Territorial, Urban, Environmental and Landscape Planning.

* Travel and accommodation costs related to the participation of 8 selected students to the Joint Workshop in Japan (3-11.03.2018) will be fully covered by the DIST (Interuniversity Department of Regional and Urban Studies and Planning - Politecnico di Torino).

Coordinators: Prof. **Claudia Cassatella**, Prof. **Giancarlo Cotella**, Prof. **Marco Santangelo**

Assistant: PhD candidate **Massimiliano Granceri**

N.B.: the participation to the MTA of the 8 selected students includes the participation to the Joint Workshop and it is not possible either to take part to the MTA without taking part to the Joint Workshop or viceversa.

WHAT IS A MASTER THESIS ATELIER

The Master Thesis Atelier (MTA) runs in parallel with the first semester of the 2017-2018 academic year. Selected students will be required to reflect upon urban development processes in the Tokyo metropolitan area as well as to develop original projects within this context and the theoretical and methodological frameworks of the MTA.

Since October 2017, they will engage in a series of activities (including lessons and desk research) that will guide them in the development of Master theses that will focus on various aspects of urban development in a global metropolitan city, taking Tokyo as fieldwork and main case study (example of thematic focuses are: spatial planning and governance, landscape planning and valorisation, urban-rural interconnections, metropolitan reconfigurations, etc.).

Taking into account that the objective of this MTA is to have each student working on his/her final dissertation (thus implying that at least one of the MTA coordinators shall be chosen as supervisor), students will first attend a series of lectures, both from coordinators, professors of the University of Tokyo, other professors or external experts, that will allow them to progressively better understand the development challenges of Tokyo metropolitan area. These lessons will prepare the students also for the Joint Workshop in Tokyo (see details below).

In March 2018, selected students and professors from Politecnico di Torino will travel to Tokyo to take part, together with our Japanese colleagues and their students, to an intensive design workshop that will take place at the University of Tokyo from the 3rd to the 11th of March.

Finally, once back in Torino, each of the students will have time to work more thoroughly on his/her thesis topic, to be then further developed under the supervision of one or more professors involved in the MTA and, when useful, other professors.

Furthermore, students' works will be part of a book publication and an exhibition about the workshop activities.

THE JOINT WORKSHOP: "SHAPING ECO-DISTRICTS IN TOKYO SUBURBS. URBAN FARMLAND AND GREEN SPACE CONSERVATION IN THE REGENERATION OF SPRAWLED URBAN AREAS"

The Joint Workshop will be a full immersion in the Japanese reality and an intensive learning experience.

Activities will start on the 3rd of March, 2018 (students will arrive in Tokyo at least the day before). The wrap-up will be on the 10th of March and students will leave for Italy on the 11th.

The Japanese partner, the Department of Urban Engineering of the School of Engineering of the University of Tokyo, will host our learning activities and co-organize site visits and meetings with relevant stakeholders. The University of Tokyo is located in the centre of the capital, close to Ueno and the Imperial Palace.

Our local partners are: Prof. Akito Murayama, Prof. Akiko Iida, Prof. Fumihiko Seta, Dr. Kaoru Matsuo, Dr. Takahiro Yamazaki.

Topic of the Joint Workshop

The Joint Workshop focuses on the case of Nishi-Tokyo, a complex area at the urban-rural interface of one of the biggest metropolitan areas in the world. The University of Tokyo and Politecnico di Torino will share expertise in applied research in the field of urban

transformation, urban planning and design and test methods and tools while involving a broad number of stakeholders (local authorities, planning committees, representatives of economic activities, NGOs, etc.). In particular, the Nishi-Tokyo City Planning Committee, in its newly established commission for “Productive Green Zones”, welcome solutions as feedback of the studio works to be transferred to the urban planning practice in the city.

The aim of this Joint Workshop is to face and answer to these challenging questions:

- How to preserve and maintain rural areas and open spaces in sprawling metropolitan areas?
- Which policies, planning tools and design solutions can be foreseen?

Specific attention will be given to potential benefits that may be generated by the innovative understanding of the rural-urban interface, approaching the latter through a number of disciplinary lenses: from governance studies to landscape and spatial planning, from geography to urban design.

LANGUAGE

MTA activities, Joint Workshop included, will be exclusively held in English and students will have to prove their knowledge of the language during the interview. Moreover, they could hold one of the following certificates of English language knowledge:

- IELTS with a minimum score of 5.0;
- One of the one of the language certificates recognized equivalent to IELTS 5.0 by the Foreign Languages Centre and detained in the table published at the webpage: <https://didattica.polito.it/cla/en/certificates/> or a declaration of having a Ba. and/or M.Sc. degree issued by a University in which courses are taught in English, i.e. “The medium of instruction was English”.

Certificates not included in the list above will not be accepted.

REQUIREMENTS

Eligible students have to be enrolled in the second year (exceptionally in the first) of the following Master of Sciences:

- Pianificazione Territoriale, Urbanistica e Paesaggistico-Ambientale (Territorial, Urban, Environmental and Landscape Planning);
- Progettazione delle Aree Verdi e del Paesaggio;
- Architettura, Costruzione e Città (Architecture, Construction and the City);
- Architettura per il Progetto Sostenibile (Architecture for the Sustainable Design);
- Architettura per il Restauro e la Conservazione del Patrimonio.

At least four (4) out of eight (8) positions will be reserved to students of the School of Planning and Design (MSc in Territorial, Urban, Environmental and Landscape Planning and LM in Progettazione delle Aree Verdi e del Paesaggio).

FEES AND OBLIGATIONS

The programme does not require any payment of fees.

Participants are required to work with their own laptop.

Joint Workshop costs for travel and accommodation of 8 selected students will be covered by the organisation.

Workshop costs include:

- 9-day intensive Joint Workshop in Tokyo, with lectures, seminars, and Studio Work (approx. 72 hours);
- Politecnico di Torino + University of Tokyo tutoring during the whole academic activity of the Joint Workshop;
- Insurance coverage for accidents occurring on the university premises.

Visa fees (if needed), meals and public transport in Tokyo and any other cost not specifically mentioned above are not included.

APPLICATION AND DEADLINES

To apply, send to the organisation (tokyo.workshop2018@polito.it), by the deadline, an email in which you will write your full name, the Master of Science you are attending, and your intention to participate in the Master Thesis Atelier and related Joint Workshop.

To your email the following documents have to be attached, in pdf format:

- A photocopy of your Passport (the page with picture, personal info and expiry date);
- A Motivation letter (max 2 pages) written in English;
- Your Curriculum Vitae and/or portfolio (English version).

The application must be submitted by October 11th, 2017.

Further steps are detailed in the General Timeline, see below.

Selection criteria

Candidates will be assessed on the basis of their motivations, preparation, competences and expertise and their research skills, inferable from the documents sent to the application and from the interview.

A Commission, composed by the three coordinators of the MTA, will assess the candidates.

The Commission can allocate to each candidate at maximum 100 points in total, divided as follow:

- Career: maximum 30 points;
- Candidate's Motivation Letter, maximum 20 points;
- Curriculum and/or portfolio, maximum 10 points;
- Interview: maximum 40 points.

Only candidates that will totalize at least 42 points (considering Career, Motivation Letter and

Curriculum and/or portfolio) shall be admitted to the interview.

The list of candidates admitted to the interview will be posted on the Entrance A of the DIST department (Castello del Valentino) in the late morning of Friday, the 13th of October. Interviews will be held on the following Monday. An email will also be sent to selected candidates.

The interview aims at assessing the candidate scientific and cultural interests and whether they are equipped with the basic academic competences required to attend the MTA programme and to carry out the activities related to the Joint Workshop.

Candidates shall all come for the interview taking with them a valid identification document.

The absence of the candidate to the interview shall lead to the exclusion from the competition.

Only candidates who totalized a minimum score of 70/100 shall be considered eligible for the programme.

List of participants

The list will be posted at the Entrance A of the DIST department (Castello del Valentino) in the same day of the interviews. An email will also be sent to selected candidates. The list will be composed of 8 participants (fully funded for their participation to the Joint Workshop) + 2 eligible participants but without allocated funds.

The 8 participant students shall send an email to <tokyo.workshop2018@polito.it>, to communicate the acceptance of their position and related funds, no later than the 20th of October.

Eligible students without allocated funds will communicate in due time (i.e. before the start of the MTA activities, on the 27th of October) if they intend to take part to the Atelier, including the Joint Workshop, with their own funds.

In case one of the 8 funded students cancels his/her participation in time, the first eligible student without allocated funds will take his/her place and thus use the available funds.

CONDITIO SINE QUANON

A minimum of four (4) participants is required in order to activate the programme.

GENERAL TIMELINE

WHEN*	WHAT
26 Sept 2017	Launch of the Call for Participation
11 Oct	Deadline for students' application
13 Oct	List of candidates admitted to the interview
16 Oct	Interviews with selected candidates
16 Oct	Publication of the results
MTA – Lessons and meetings	
27 Oct	Introducing the workshop's themes and challenges (MTA Coordinators)
9 Nov	Land use planning in Tokyo and in Japan (prof. A. Murayama, prof. A. Iida)
22 Nov	Global metropolitan geographies: policy mobility and local challenges (prof. M. Santangelo)
14 Dec	Challenges in landscape planning: the rural-urban interface (prof. C. Cassatella)
15 Jan 2018	Territorial governance and spatial planning systems: an institutionalist perspective (prof. G. Cotella)
7 Feb	Presentation of the University of Tokyo studio results (by students) + Discussion and preparation towards the Joint Workshop
Joint Workshop in Tokyo	
3 March	Students arriving in Tokyo
4 March	Exploring Tokyo
5-9 March	Workshop activities
10 March	Workshop's results presentation
11 March	Students leaving Tokyo
MTA – General Results and Outcomes	
May	Presentation and exhibition of the Joint Workshop results at Politecnico di Torino
June	Workshop e-book publication
* Changes in the schedule may occur. All meetings will be held at the Castello del Valentino.	

COORDINATORS (Politecnico di Torino)

Claudia CASSATELLA (main coordinator)

Associate Professor in Regional and Landscape Planning and Vice-Chair of the School of Planning and Design, teaches in the MSc in Territorial, Urban, Environmental and Landscape Planning and in the MSc in Green Areas and Landscape Design, in Post graduate and PhD courses. She has been scientific coordinator of a number of research programmes and gained a wide experience in applied research, commissioned by public bodies. Among her research interests: landscape assessment and indicators; participative processes; rural policies, cultural heritage preservation.

Member of the Executive Board of UNISCAPE Network of Universities for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention and representative of the Politecnico di Torino in the Italian Society of Urban Planners. Her recent international experiences include: Invited Research Fellow at Nagoya University (JP) in 2016; Lecturer in Lyon2 University (FR) in 2017; Partner of the Global Learning Experience Programme of Chiacago De Paul University (on going).

Giancarlo COTELLA

Associate Professor, expert in territorial governance and spatial planning. Among his research interests a relevant place is taken by the comparative evolution of territorial governance and spatial planning systems, also as a consequence of the influence of the European Union and other international actors. Within this research field, he dedicated particular attention to the transferability of spatial policies as well as to urban and regional development regimes. In recent years, he has coordinated and taken part in several international research projects and taught as invited professor in many European Universities as University Paris Sorbonne, University of Kaiserslautern, University of Nijmegen, University of Newcastle, etc. Since 2005 he has been actively involved in the Association of European Schools of Planning (AESOP) as well as in other international networks as the Association of European Regions, the Akademie für Raumforschung und Landesplanung, etc.

Marco SANTANGELO

Associate Professor, whose main fields of expertise are urban geography and territorial governance. He teaches in the BSc in Territorial, Urban, Environmental and Landscape Planning and in the MSc in Geography and Territorial Sciences, where he is also Vice-Chair. He is the director of the EU-POLIS research centre since 2012 and he has worked and is still working on ESPON research projects on territorial governance and institutional capacity building. He took part in projects in both the URBACT I and II Community Initiatives, in the latter as lead expert on wellbeing and quality of life. He took part, in 2011, to the working group “Les systèmes métropolitains intégrés, leviers de développement territorial” for the French DATAR, in the framework of the “Territoire 2040. Aménager le changement” initiative. In 2012, he took part to the re-launch of the strategic planning activities of the City of Torino, becoming member of the Torino Strategica Task Force.

Main partner of the University of Tokyo

Associate Professor Akito MURAYAMA, majors in urban planning, urban design as public policy and community development. His recent researches include land use planning for depopulating and aging society in Japan and the implementation of municipal low-carbon city strategy through community development in existing urban area. Co-authored English publications include “Living Cities in Japan: Citizens’ Movements, Machizukuri and Local Environments” (Routledge, 2007), “Innovations in Collaborative Urban Regeneration” (Springer, 2009) and “Basic and Clinical Environmental Approaches in Landscape Planning” (Springer, 2014) and Urban Resilience - A Transformative Approach” (Springer, 2016). He teaches land use planning for undergraduate students, urban planning theory for graduate students and planning studios for both undergraduate and graduate students. He also participates in planning and community development practices.