



PhD Excellence Course
LANDSCAPE-BASED REGIONAL DESIGN
FOR THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Prof. Steffen Nijhuis (Delft University of Technology)

On May, 22-24 2018
Torino, Castello del Valentino, Sala Vigliano

Convener: Prof. C. Cassatella (DIST, Politecnico di Torino)

Ph.D Program in Urban and Regional Development



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Dipartimento Interateneo di Scienze, Progetto e Politiche del Territorio



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This course addresses landscape-based regional design as a strategy for urban development. The objective is to get to know concepts for understanding, planning and design sustainable development of a region, as well as setting the scene for local projects. It does that through design research and research-through-design as research strategies to explore the possibilities and identify the potentials for multi-scale spatial development. Explorative cartography is thereby an important tool for visual thinking and communication. The regional design shapes the physical form of regions based on the physiology of the natural and urban landscape and is about creating conditions for future development. Regional design strives to accommodate development via ecological approaches which regard the landscape as a holistic and dynamic system. It establishes robust and adaptive systems in the built environment, which are open to change. In order to grow and develop such kind of systems both must persist and adapt; its organizational structures must be sufficiently adaptive to withstand challenges, while also supple enough to morph and reorganize. The design is like an open-ended strategy, aimed at guiding developments or setting up future conditions for spatial development. As such landscape-based regional design provides spatial means for urban transformation, biodiversity protection, water resource management, recreation, community building, cultural identity and economic development.

Dr Steffen Nijhuis is Head of Landscape Architecture Research, Director European post-Master of Urbanism (EMU) and Associate Professor of Landscape Architecture at the Faculty of Architecture and the Built Environment, Delft University of Technology). More info: <http://steffennijhuis.nl>

22 May 2018. h. 15-17,30

Umberto Janin, *Welcome and forewords*

Claudia Cassatella , *Introduction*

Steffen Nijhuis, *Introduction lecture: backgrounds, concepts and setup*

23 May 2018. h. 9:00-12:00

Workshop I: *Understanding the urban landscape as a complex system.*

24 May 2018

h. 9:00-12:00

Workshop II: *Landscape-based planning and design strategies.*

h. 17,30-19,00

Students' presentation/feedback