



COLONIAL ECHOES, URBAN FUTURES

Archives, Memory, and *Generative AI* in Postcolonial Critique

Call for Participation – Multidisciplinary Seminar & Workshop

Interuniversity Department of Regional and Urban Studies and Planning

Castello del Valentino, Turin, Italy

Deadline: 10° April 2026

Keynote Speakers



- **Prof. Patricia Morton**, *University of California, Riverside & President of Society of Architectural Historians (SAH)*

Visualizing the French Empire: The Question of the Archive

- **Prof. Roger Louis Martinez-Davila**, *University of Colorado, United States*

The Archive Is Not Innocent: Digital Narratives through Generative AI and Historical Responsibility



Topic

The initiative focuses on how colonial archives and urban histories might be reinterpreted through Generative AI.

Activity Structure

The initiative combines a thematic seminar for theoretical grounding with a workshop for critical experimentation.

Day 1 establishes a shared critical framework on colonial archives and microhistories of resistance, foregrounding marginal voices and alternative readings of visual and spatial sources, while examining how generative AI may reproduce or reshape Eurocentric narratives through algorithmic bias and the politics of representation.

Day 2 is a collaborative workshop extending the seminar through experimental, pedagogical activities focused on critical awareness, comparative analysis, and the ethical and cultural implications of AI-generated imagery.

Objectives

- Exploring how algorithms reshape colonial narratives and visual representation.
- Collective discussion on the ethical and methodological implications of using AI in urban studies.

Scientific Coordination

- Pelin Bolca, Asst. Prof. (RTD-A), DIST
- Alessandro Aliberti, Asst. Prof. (RTD-B), DIST

Registration details

Participation in the workshop is free of charge and limited to approximately **20 selected students**.

Dates: 04-05 June 2026

Apply: Motivation letter (max. 1 page); CV (PDF)

Submission Link: [Here](#)

Contact person: pelin.bolca@polito.it