EPOKA UNIVERSITY | Department of Architecture

ANNUAL REPORT

18 October 2021 – 30 September 2022

Annual Report

18 October 2021 – 30 September 202

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A. Organization & Management

Introduction

Dr. Edmond Manahasa
Head of Department

General

The Department of Architecture offers undergraduate and graduate programs in Architecture. The undergraduate program is based on a fifth-year study leading to the bachelor's degree with emphasis on architectural design studios. Prepares students for critical engagement with practice and ensures readiness for professional responsibilities. Our department's vision is to offer a leading Architecture program in Albania and the Balkan region. We teach sustained evaluation of principles, traditions, and requirements of building in all its aspects. Our goal is to advance the profession of architecture by combining artistic talent, technical proficiency, and social engagement in pursuit of excellence.

Our programs seek to multiply insights and abilities of students, including sensitivity to the aesthetic and social responsibilities of environmental design; the cultivation of a broad, humanistic, world view; commitment to research; respect of innovation; an advanced understanding of the culture of practice; and sophisticated graphic skills and technical vocabulary. The education of students in sustainability is a major focus of the curriculum. Our programs are interdisciplinary and taught in English.

Mission

Our institutional vision is to be in an association that develops the architectural consciousness in society, to play a facilitating role to increase the quality of life, become a leading institution at the national and international architectural arena, and a reference and preferred institution in terms of academic activities.

Our programs seek to multiply insights and abilities of students, including sensitivity to the aesthetic and social responsibilities of environmental design; the cultivation of a broad, humanistic, world view; commitment to research; respect of innovation; an advanced understanding of the culture of practice; and sophisticated graphic skills and technical vocabulary. The education of students in sustainability is a major focus of the curriculum. Our programs are interdisciplinary and taught in English.

Vision

To train professionals those are equal in national and international criteria of education; qualified in theory and practice areas; design environments which meet esthetic, technique, ecologic, economic, cultural, historical, social, environmental and other necessary requirements; and train intellectual and expert architects who are innovative, creative, ethical, have the ability to work in interdisciplinary projects.

Architecture Department at Epoka University has about a decade that prepares students to address complex design, cultural, social, environmental issues through conceptual, thoughtful and creative inquiry.

Our department continues to grow with the number of undergraduate intakes as well as graduate. We have more than 200 students in the department and about 20 staff members, composed of full time and part time staff from highly successful schools of Europe. The Architecture Department cultivates design education through a variety of experiences which include learning through doing, act as a team and community collaborations.

Department provides rigorous design education that train students as professionals in art, science and built environment. We have many graduates who work in important national and international institutions, as well as graduates that continue their studies in well-known European and American Universities.

Study programs offered by the Department

The Department of Architecture offers three study programs:

- PICD ARCH – integrated second cycle study program in Architecture, which is a five-year Second Level Integrated Diploma (Master + Bachelor) in Architecture program
- MSc ARCH – two years Master of Science in Architecture program
- PhD ARCH – Doctoral program in Architecture

Epoka University Integrated second cycle study program in Architecture (PICD ARCH Program) is the second level study program offered by the Department of Architecture. PICD ARCH prepares students for critical engagement with theory and practice and ensures readiness for professional responsibilities. The program duration is 5 academic years or 10 semesters. Students are required to complete 44 courses (270 ECTS in total or 30 ECTS per semester) during the first nine semesters and work on the Master Thesis (30 ECTS) during the last semester, which makes in total 300 ECTS.

B. Resources

Department Staff

Full time Academic Staff

Dr. Edmond Manahasa

Edmond holds the PhD degree in Architectural Design from Istanbul Technical University, Turkey. He has been awarded as 3rd Best Foreign Student Prize in Graduation Year 2002 for Bachelor Level at Istanbul Technical University. From 1 August 2002-1 March 2007 he has been part of Zambak Architects where the main activities and responsibilities consisted in: Team Manager for Construction Projects, Preliminary Project Proposal Design, 3d Works Drawing Construction Project and Supervision Of Architectural Projects as:
Turgut Ozal Educational Complex-Tirana/Albania September 2002- March 2002

Petkim Siteler Mosque and Landscape Requalification in Körfez/Kocaeli/Turkey November 2002- January 2003
Gaziantep Cargo Transfer Center-Şehit Kamil/Gaziantep/Turkey March-June 2003
HA-Korça High School Project and Supervision in Kavaja/Albania January-February 2004 A+B Block, C Block January-February 2007
Akbulut Textile Factory in Malatya/Turkey September 2004-January 2005 Baku High School – Azerbaijan September December 2005

YK Educational Complex in Struga/Macedonia March 2006-June 2006 Karahan Quarter Dormitory in Bursa/Turkey July 2006
Private University Preparatory School Interior Design and Courtyard Landscape Design Istanbul/Turkey August – September 2006
Liria-High School Project Proposal in Elbasan/Albania October 2006
Küçük Yalı Mosque and Annexes Architectural Project Proposal in Küçükyalı/Istanbul Turkey, November 2006
Hotel Building in Spille Kavaja/Albania March 2007-May 2007 Apartment Block in Lushnja/Albania Summer 2009 Apartment Block in Durres/Albania Summer 2011
He has four years of teaching experience as Senior Instructor in the following Courses:
Basic Design Course, Architectural Application Project, History of Architecture I, History of Architecture II, History of Architecture III.
Currently he holds the position of Head of the Architecture Department and at the same time is a full-time lecturer.

Prof. Dr. Sokol Dervishi
Mr. Sokol has been graduated from Faculty of Architecture, Istanbul Technical University, Istanbul, Turkey.
2004-2006 (MSc) Postgraduate studies at Faculty of Architecture and Spatial Planning, Vienna University of Technology, Vienna, Austria.
2006-2010 (Dr. technicae) Doctoral studies at Building Physics and Building Ecology Department, Faculty of Architecture and Spatial Planning, Vienna
University of Technology, Vienna, Austria
2010-2014 Venia Docendi – Habilitation, Vienna University of Technology, Vienna,
Austria, ("Priv. dozent" / Associated Professor)
2014 – present Habilitation (venia docendi) – A.o Prof. Dr. at Vienna University of Technology (Building Physics)
2011 – present Professor of Epoka University, Tirana Albania
2013 – 2014 Professor of Polytechnic University of Tirana, Tirana Allbania 2007 – 2014 Lecturer at Vienna University of Technology,
(Courses – Visual and Acoustic Performance, Advance Studies in Building Science)
2007 – 2014 Senior Scientific Researcher at Vienna University of Technology,
Scientific Research / Faculty

- Epoka University, Tirana-Albania
- Vienna University of Technology, Vienna-Austria
- Polytechnic University of Tirana, Tirana-Albania
- Ozeyegin University, Istanbul-Turkey

Honours, Prizes and Awards

1 "University Award for Excellent Students", Istanbul Technical University, May 2004, Istanbul, Turkey
2 Diploma with High Honour Award for Academic Achievement, June 2004, Istanbul, Turkey (published in Sabah Daily Turkish Magazine)
3 "University Award for Best Foreign Student", Istanbul Technical University, May 2004, Istanbul, Turkey
4 "Istanbul Educational Institute Award for Best Foreign Student in all universities in Istanbul", Istanbul Technical University, May 2004, Istanbul, Turkey
5 Best Master of Science Diploma Thesis Award, Building Science and Technology Postgraduate MSc program, June 2006, Vienna University of Technology, Vienna, Austria

7 Doctor of Science Thesis with Excellence Award, November 2011, Vienna University of Technology, Vienna, Austria
Important Industrial Projects I EU projects
Multifunctional Plug & Play Facade "MPPF" at the COMET program (Competence Centers for Excellent Technologies).
Funding: Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG),

Project: "Naturally Cool" Project-Nr: 817575).
Period: 2008 – 2010
Funding: Österreichischer Klima- und Energie-Fonds
Self-updating models for sentient buildings
Funding: Austrian Science Foundation (FWF), project numbers P15998-N07 and L219- N07. Period: 2006-2008
People as Powerplant
Period:
2005 - 2008
Funding:
BMVIT (Initiative: "Energiesysteme der Zukunft")

Dr. Anna Yunitsyna
Mrs. Anna has completed State Technical University in Vologda, 6-year diploma of Architect with honors also she has completed the master's in architecture program (in English) in Dessau Institute of Architecture, Germany. During the education was granted with 2-year DAAD scholarship for postgraduate studies. She has worked as architect at project institute Archangelsk Civil Project in Archangelsk. She is Awarded by a title PhD at Czech Technical University in Prague where the research topic is "Flexible housing - Universal space in dwelling". Since 2010 – working as lecturer in Epoka University. During the work have participated in the following activities:
April 2012 – member of the Organizing Committee of the 1st International Conference on Architecture & Urban Design
May 2014 – member of the Organizing Committee and reviewer of the Scientific Committee of the 2nd International Conference on Architecture & Urban Design Addition Candidate member of Russian Union of Architects. Holder of professional architectural license in Albania.

Dr. Odeta Manahasa
Mrs. Odeta Manahasa has been graduated with bachelor and master's degree from Middle East Technical University in 2005 and 2008 respectively. She has been graduated with a PhD degree in Architecture from Istanbul Technical University in 2017. She is a senior lecturer at Epoka University, teaching Basic Design course since 2008. In her dissertation, "Children Participation and Post Occupancy Evaluation in Developing a Communicative Language to (Re)Design Educational Environments", she uses the children space experience as a tool for participation, to offer a new perspective to the participatory design discourse on the levels of participation.
In addition, she has a long-standing interest in understanding environmental psychology in its larger context, particularly in relation to child and child space perception. She is developing this interest as two lines of inquiry: (i) child space perception knowledge, with a focus on a systematic structure for thinking on environmental behavior phenomena from different methodological perspectives, and (ii) improve the quality of learning environments.

Thus, her areas of expertise and research interest include Architectural Education, Children and Architecture (e.g. Children's participation in architectural design), Participatory Design, and School Design., environmental psychology, post occupancy evaluation, environmental behavior and design.

Dr. Fabio Naselli

Fabio Naselli gained his Master Degree on Architecture at Palermo University (Italy) on March 1989 and received his PhD in Urban and Regional Planning from Palermo University (Italy) on February 2002, and he currently is a full-time Lecturer in the Department of Architecture at Epoka University. He got six yearlong post-doc grants from Palermo University (Italy) from 2003 to 2009 and he was Assistant Professor at Kore University of Enna (Italy) Faculty of Engineering and Architecture, during the years 2010-2016. He was the Scientific Director of IEREK (Egypt) international research institute (from 2014 to 2018) and currently he is the Director of Spa.Re.Life International Winter School (since2012) and the Scientific Responsible of DAC (Design at the Center) International Network for Integrated and Multiscale Design (since 2015).

Dr. Egin Zeka

Egin Zeka is a lecturer and researcher in the Department of Architecture and the director of Center of Research and Design in Applied Sciences [CoRDA] at Epoka University, Albania. He teaches courses of "Urban Design" and "Advanced Design Studios". Furthermore, he does research with master students in the field of urbanism. Zeka received his bachelor degree in Urban and Regional Planning [2009], Master degree in Urban Design [2012], and PhD degree in Urban and Regional Planning [2020] at Istanbul Technical University, Turkey. His research interests are in: urban design, generative design, urban morphology, traditional settlements and urban revitalization. Projects: `DURANA, International Urban Design Competition, 2nd prize (teamwork), 2014; National Design Competition: "Tourism into Tradition, B&B project, 1st Prize (teamwork); La Biennale di Venezia, part of the team representing Albanian pavilion in Biennale Architectura [2018]; Team leader in "100+ Villages Academy", Lot 10 [2018].

Dr. Artan Hysa

Artan Hysa, is an architect by education, earning the Bachelor of Architecture degree in 2007 and Master in Architectural Design in 2010. In the scope of the doctoral research, he is aiming to explore the transdisciplinary research methods and techniques leading to holistic findings in the field of spatial management and planning. More precisely, he is working on the utilization of CORINE Land Cover data in various decision-making processes of spatial planning and management. The research fields he is mostly interested in can be listed as follows, transdisciplinary research methods, research by design, and landscape research.

Dr. Desantila Hysa

Desantila Hysa, an architect by training, holds a Ph.D. degree (2021) from Istanbul Technical University, a M.Arch (2010) and a Bachelor (2007) degree, both from Middle East Technical University in Turkey. She has been instructing and lecturing several courses at Epoka University since 2010 at the graduate and undergraduate levels. Her field of research is on design pedagogies and her field of interest extends to computational approaches to design, design cognition and visual perception studies.

MSc. Ina Dervishi
Mrs. Ina Osmani has been graduated with bachelor's degree from Middle East Technical University in 2012 and and master's degree from Epoka University in 2014. From that time, she is teaching at Epoka University Basic Design course. Her areas of interest are: sustainable urban development, environmental design of cities, urban heat islands. Currently she is working on her PHD research performing it at Vienna Technical University.

MSc. Artemis Hasa
Artemis Hasa has a Bachelor in Architecture and Master of Science degree from Epoka University, Tirana, Albania and currently is conducting his PhD studies at Istanbul Technical University under the Faculty of Architecture, Field of Construction Sciences, in Istanbul, Turkey. The main focus of his research is on Building technologies and performance. His teaching experiences had been on building technology courses and main design studio courses.

MSc. Kreshnik Merxhani
Graduated in Architecture at the Polytechnic University of Tirana. He is generally focused in Traditional Architecture and is distinguished for his writings, artistic photos and for restoration and re-implementation projects. Since 2008, he is committed as a co-author in restoration projects of several monuments of Ottoman and Communist period mainly in the City of Gjirokastër. In 2014- 2016 (March) he was the Head of the Technical Sector of DRKK (Regional Directory of National Culture) - Gjirokastër, a terrain office at the Ministry of Culture. In addition, some project that he was co-author and some activities of former organization that Merxhani was part of, are nominated and be short listed for Aga Khan award (GCDO) the 2010 Cycle and are winner of Europa Nostra Price (CHwB). His work as a co-author has been part in Biennale in Venice "Common Ground", in the Albanian Pavilion. He has visited various Universities in Albania such as the Faculty of Architecture and City Planning, UT, and Epoka University. He has been part of different exhibition and online illustration with his photography and graphic art like "Martin Parr" (2010), EVOCED (2016), Photos from Spaç (World Monument Fund – 2015), CHwB publications etc. Some of the articles are being published at different scientific journals and are presented at some conferences inside and outside Albania.

MSc. Nerina Baçi

Ms. Nerina Baçi was awarded a Master of Science degree in Architecture from Epoka University in 2021. From that time onward, she has been teaching at Epoka University Architectural Design course. Her areas of interest involve performance-based architectural design, environmental design, building construction technology.

Part time Academic Staff

MSc. Teuta Kodra
Teuta Kodra holds a degree of Master of Science from Polytechnic University of Tirana and has been part of different trainings regarding her field of study. She has been part of different projects as: Project Design for the Reconstruction of Librazhd Hospital - Funding/Client: Librazhd Municipality. Project Design for the Reconstruction of Burrel Maternity Hospital - Funding/Client: Burrel Municipality, Reconstruction of Bulqiza Health Center - Funding/Client: Bulqiza Municipality.
Bulqiza Hospital Rehabilitation Project- Funding/Client: Bulqiza Municipality.
Laç Kindergarten. Rehabilitation Project- Funding/Client: Ministry of Education and Sports. Project Design for the Reconstruction of Strikcan Primary School - Funding/Client: Strikcan Commune. Project Design for the

Reconstruction of Radomire Primary School - Funding/Client: Radomire Commune. Currently she teaches Digital Visualization & Presentation Coursein Epoka University and at the same time is part of the "Accademia"- Autodesk Training Center Albania and Kosovo.

MSc. Julian Beqiri

Julian Beqiri is an architect, urbanist and independent researcher. He holds a master's degree in Architecture from Polytechnic University of Tirana, Albania and a master's degree in Urbanism from Delft University of Technology, Netherlands. From 2016 to 2020 Julian worked as an architect at Office for Metropolitan Architecture (OMA) in Rotterdam, and in November 2020 joined the academic staff of Epoka University, Albania. Apart from teaching and writing, Julian leads the design office DISPACED (Dialectics of Space Design) which investigates the realm of design through the lens of philosophical thinking. His architectural design and writing concern the intersection where these fields meet and overlap.

MSc. Dritan Bratko

Mr. Dritan Bratko is a high qualified engineer who graduated from the Faculty of Civil Engineering, Hydro-Technical branch with 11 years of experience in the relevant field. In 2010 Mr. Bratko has attended a B.E. Degree and in 2015 have completed the – M.Sc. Degree in Hydro-technical Engineering, in 2018 - 2019 has completed a Professional Master in Disaster Risk Management and Fire Safety in civil Engineering and in 2019-2021 has completed a M.Sc. in construction Management. Hydro-technical engineer and project coordinator with 11 years of local and international experience in the fields of hydrology, hydraulic modeling, highway drainage, water supply, sewerage water, wastewater treatment plant, hydropower project implementation and optimizing solutions. He has been mandated by the Ministry of infrastructure and Energy as the Team Leader for drafting the new law "For Water Supply and Disposal Sector, Wastewater Collection and Treatment".He is the author of two studies regarding the Water intake structure for hydropower and Peak flow transposition of Ishmi and Erzeni River Basins. Mr. Bratko has been part of various and multidimensional.

Academic Visitors (2021-2022)

Antonio Acierno

Antonio Acierno, University of Naples Federico II gained his master's degree on Architecture at Federico II University of Naples in April 1990. He attended a MSc in Urban Planning at the Bartlett School of the University College of London in 1994, received his PhD in Rationality and Operativeness of Urban and Environmental Planning on March 2002; Assistant professor and research fellow in 2006. Since 2015 he is Associate Professor of Urban Planning at the Department of Architecture (DiARC) of the University Federico II of Naples (Italy). Currently he is Coordinator of the 2-years MSc in Territorial Urban Landscape and Environmental Planning at the University Federico II, head of the Interdepartmental Research Center on Urban Planning "A. Calza Bini" and scientific editor in chief of the urban planning journal TRIA (WoS indexed). His main interests are the theory and innovation in Urban Planning and Design, regarding social and environmental safety of places, in urban and peri-urban contexts, both in research and teaching. He has published numerous books and scientific papers on national and international journals and book series on urban safety, green infrastructure, urban regeneration, urban and landscape planning.

PROF. ARCH. ALESSANDRA PAGLIANO

Alessandra Pagliano gained her master's degree in architecture at Naples (Italy) on March 1995 and received her Ph.D. in Representation of Architecture and landscape from Federico II University of Naples in 1999. She currently is associate professor of Drawing in the Department of Architecture of University Federico II of Naples (since 2016) a before, in the same University she was University researcher since 2004. She is in the teaching board of the Ph.D. program in Architecture. She is editor-in-chief of TRIA magazine (Anvur class A) and in the scientific panel of two publishing series. She teaches also in the Master on Landscape at risk, at the Federico II University of Naples.

Administrative Staff

MSc. Edona Gerbeti

Edona Gerbeti is the Coordinator of Department. She holds a Bachelor and a Master of Science Degree in English Language and Literature. Since October 2021, she works as Coordinator of Architecture Department. She exercises her duties in coordination with the Faculty Administrator and Head of Department. The Coordinator of the Department is responsible for management of the department activities with administrative character and incoming and outgoing correspondences.

Finance

Income and Expenditure Summary

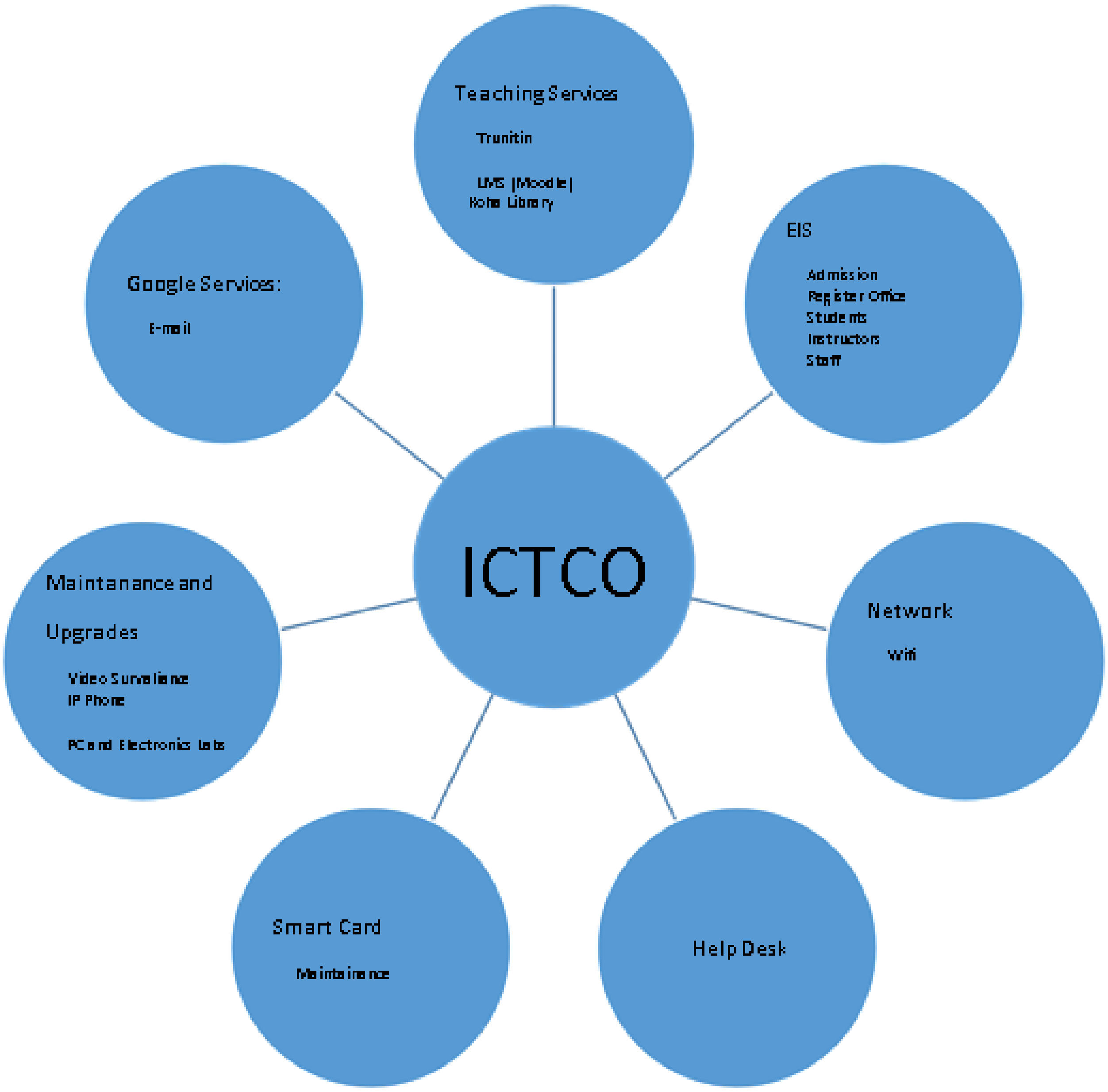
Income and various financing for **Integrated Second Cycle Study Program in Architecture** during the 2021-2022 academic year:

Income (in Euro)	*2021-2022*
Tuition fees for and during studies	613,882.5
TOTAL	**613,882.5**

Expenditures for **Integrated Second Cycle Study Program in Architecture** during the 2021-2022 academic year:

	2021-2022		
Expenditures (in EURO)	Salaries	Expenditures	Investements
Tuition and other student fees	326,923	194,146	44,303
Total	**326,923**	**194,146**	**44,303**

IT Resources, Physical Infrastructure and Library Resources



The Information and Communication Technologies Coordinating Office (ICTCO) provides informatics services needed in the University. It plans the informatics infrastructure of the University, provides its security and ensures the continuation of its functions. ICTCO works on the project for effective, legal and extensive usage of the informatics services for students and personnel.

The Information and Communication Technologies Coordinating Office (ICTCO) provides:

Teaching Services:

- **Turnitin** software helps you to understand and avoid plagiarism and develop your understanding of how to cite sources as part of an academic argument. ICTC office manages the users and train the staff about how to use Turnitin.
- **Learning Management System (LMS)** – A service based on Moodle offered for students and instructors in order to access, coordinate and organize course materials online. Students and instructor can login on LMS using the provided official email account.
- **Library Automation System (Koha) -** Koha is an open-source Integrated Library System in use today by hundreds of libraries worldwide. Koha is web based, so there is no software to install on desktop computers. Users can check the books online and reserve them via web. Its features are more than enough to manage the Epoka Library effectively and efficiently.
- **DSpace** – The institutional repository of Epoka University: DSpace is an open source repository software package typically used for creating open access repositories for scholarly and/or published digital content. The proceedings of the conferences which are organized by Epoka University can be accessed from this repository. Epoka University is the only university who has digital repository in Albania (http://repositories.webometrics.info/en/Europe/Albania). We also give services to other international journals to publishtheir publications (http://dspace.epoka.edu.al/handle/1/1378) in our digital repository.

Google Services:

- **Webmail (Google account) –** Epoka University is using Google Apps for Education services and all students and academic and administrative staff are provided with an email address under epoka.edu.al domain which is a Google account. Beside official communication, which is done through this email address, this account can be used for authentication to other online systems offered by university.

- **Google Classroom** – A more interactive service offered by Google as part of Google Apps for education to access, coordinate and organize course materials on cloud. By using Google Classroom, course materials can be integrated with other Google services where assigned users can collaborate. Students and instructors can access this service using the provided account.

Education Information System (Curriculum) – a website containing information related to study programs, curriculum, and course syllabi.

Smart Card: All students and staff are provided with Smart Card identification cards. The Smart Card is put as an e-ID application at three buildings, two PC labs, one Electronics Lab, and campus gate entry turnstiles and barriers.

Help Desk: ICTCO is also responsible for the maintenance of personnel and PC Lab computers in respect to software and hardware. Its staff monitors the personal computers within the frame of distribution of duty and authority and brings the issues to a conclusion. At the same time, ICTCO plans servers and cabling services of the University. Staff can open ticket via help.epoka.edu.al for their ICTCO related problems and follow the process from here. You can share your opinions on every subject related to information technologies and informatics with help@epoka.edu.al and you can also write your complaints and suggestions for a better campus life.

Software Opportunities
Epoka University has a subscription of Microsoft Program which is called DreamSpark. It supports technical education by providing access to Microsoft software for learning, teaching and research purposes. Epoka family members can download software through www.dramspark.com website at no cost. Epoka University also provides Office 365 accounts to all staffs and students which includes all office applications for free.

Network
Wireless: Epoka University provides wireless internet connection to all Epoka members in the campus. As ICTCO, we ensure that the wireless signal is strong and covers everywhere in campus. **Wired:** Besides wireless, there are three PC labs, one Civil Engineering lab, one Electronics lab, one PhD study room, and library where PCs serve students and staffs with wired internet. In the Epoka Library and one of the classrooms, there are plug and use stations next to each table where students and staff can use for wired internet and electricity for their laptops.
Digital Signage: There are four TVs in the campus, they are used to inform EPOKA members about latest news and announcements.

Epoka Interactive Systems (EIS)

Recognizing the needs of campus community, EPOKA has made a strategic decision to replace its aging, cumbersome, and vendor-supported student, instructors, and staff systems with a modern, nimble and effective internally built system that includes admissions, enrollment, registration, financial aid, student, instructor, and staff accounts, and advising in one platform.
EIS is developed by ICTCO at EPOKA University. From the user interface, EIS is an online interactive system where users can log in using the provided official email account. It is a modular system organized by roles and respective units at the university and the information is stored in a centralized database. All users have access to their personal information, can update general details and CV and they can manage job related tasks and activities according to their role and job position.

- **Students:** Students in their profile can access their personal information and information related to their study program. Course registration is done through the system and after that, students can view the ongoing academic activity of the registered courses during the semester. They can check attendance, exam dates, interim grades and final grades. Also in the system, they can access the program curriculum, transcript, grade calculation, weekly schedule, requests and notifications. The EIS prompts students when they are in the "warning zone" for financial or academic issues. It empowers students to create course plans to ensure timely graduation.

- **Instructors:** Academic staff including full-time and part-time lecturers, can have access to their courses assigned in the current semester and can also view previously assigned courses. Lecturers can update the syllabus, complete student attendance, assign and finalize grades. Advisor lecturers can have access to academic information of the students assigned for advisory and they can approve student course registration.

- **Coordinators:** The opening of courses according to course appointment in each semester is done by department coordinators and approved by faculty coordinators. Coordinators can monitor the academic activity of the lecturers under respective department.

- **Admissions and Registrar's Office:** Admissions Office enters all pre-registered student information and assigns scholarships. After the student has completed the registration, all the related information entered by Admissions office, is managed by Registrar's office.

- **Finance:** Finance office can manage and follow up all student financial information related to tuition fees and scholarship.

- **Human Resources:** Human resources office can manage all staff information data and assigns roles and job position for each staff.

- **Curriculum:** a website containing information related to study programs, curriculum and course syllabus.

All users have access to their personalized reports according to their roles and respective units. Faculties and units are liberated from tedious manual tasks. EIS supplies them with new and most updated information that will empower them to make informed decisions based on data.
EIS can be continuously updated with new modules according to the university needs. EIS can be accessed via: https:// eis.epoka.edu.al and users can log-in by their EPOKA Mail account credentials.

<u>Measurable indicators:</u>

number of PC per doctoral students	120
number of PC furnished labs per students	4
number of PC for academic staff	87
number of PC for administration	53
number of printers for each one	15
number of photocopying machines for each one	15
number of head projectors	1
number of video-projectors	30
number of scanners	10

PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

EPOKA University is located on the Tirana-Rinas road, on the 12th kilometer. The campus extends over a total area of 67,000 m2. The 2017-2018 academic year is being conducted regularly in the premises of two buildings with a total area of 14352 m2.
The E-building has a modern infrastructure and a central heating and cooling system. The classrooms are equipped with video projectors and smart boards that enable the normal conduct of the learning process.

On September 2013, the construction of A-Building the "Cultural Social Object of EPOKA University" was completed. In addition to classes, there are plenty of recreational facilities for students such as cafeterias, libraries, Wi-Fi, facilities for the Student Council and student clubs, sports facilities, etc. Below are shown current picture of the building.

Measurable indicators:

Premises of the Faculty

Faculty facilities/responsible for the faculty	**Number**	**Square (m^2)**
Auditorium for Lectures	3	752
Classes for Seminars	9	1604
Auditorium for promotional activities	1	128
Auditorium for course practice/ professional practice	2	258
Laboratory for courses	5	233
Informatics Laboratory	4	174.6
Internet rooms	2	151.8
Library rooms	1	322
Rooms for photocopies, bookstore etc.	1	33.6
Information office for students	2	71
Corridors/halls	25	2707.4
Sports facilities	5	2100
Service facilities for third parties	1	56
Facilities for student government activities	1	30

Recreational facilities like cafeteria/ fast-food/etc.	1	1471
Toilet sanitary wares for students	54	327.2
Normatives m^2/per one student	**10419.6 m2 / 1254student = 8.3**	
Facilities for staff:	**Number**	**Square (m^2)**
Offices for the Dean/Vice-Dean	1	102
Office for the Administrator	1	25.4
Office for Vice Rector	1	31.5
Offices for the Department Coordinators	1	58
Offices for departments/research centers	12	328.5
Offices for the academic personnel	20	334
Office for the Finance Office	2	37
Office for the Internal Quality Assurance Unit	1	12
Meeting rooms	2	129.3
Premises for service personnel	11	30.2
Premises for the activities of the Student Council	1	30
Recreation premises such as cafeteria/fast-food/ restaurant	1	337
Toilet sanitary wares for academic staff	23	140
Normatives m^2/per one person	**2157 m^2/ 90 person = 23.97 m^2/person**	

Premises for the Faculties	**Quantity**	**Surface**	**m^2/student**
Auditoria/Classrooms for lectures	5	752	0.40
Classrooms for seminars	17	1545	0.82
Premises for promotion activities	1	128	0.07
Classrooms for course/professional practice	2	258	0.14
Laboratories for courses	3	233	0.12
Informatics laboratories	2	174.6	0.12
Internet Room	2	151.8	0.12
Library Hall	1	322	0.17

Premises for photocopying, bookshop etc.	1	85.2	0.05
Student information office	2	71	0.04
Corridors/halls	25	2707.4	1.44
Sports premises	5	463	0.25
Premises for service to third parties	1	56	0.03
Restrooms (WC) for students	54	327.2	0.17
Restrooms (WC) for academic personnel	35	212.1	2.16
Premises for personnel:	**Quantity**	**Surface**	**m^2/person ratio**
Offices for the Dean/Vice-Dean	5	285.5	40.79
Office for the Administrator	1	25.4	25.40
Offices for the Department Coordinators	2	60.6	20.20
Offices for departments/research centers	12	328.5	27.38
Offices for the academic personnel	40	620	6.33
Office for the Finance Office	2	37	18.50
Office for the Internal Quality Assurance Unit	1	50	50.00
Meeting rooms	2	75	0.77
Premises for service personnel	11		30.33
Premises for the activities of the Student Council	1	30	1.30
Recreation premises such as cafeteria/fast-food/ restaurant	1	337	0.17
Total	234	9335.3	

During the 2021-2022 academic year, the EPOKA University Campus uses for the 23 classes: (E-B31, E-B32,E-B33, E-211, E-212, E-213, E-311, E-312, E-313, A-117, A-118, A-119, A-120,A-127, A-128, A-129, A-130, A-131, D-101, D-102, D-103, D-104, D-201, D-202, D-203, D-204 Auditories: E-110, E-214, E-314 and A-005),) a conference room (E-B01), fuor computer laboratories (E-011, E-015, E-B30 and A-126), one electronic lab (E-010), one Architecture laboratory (A-120/1) and a civil engineering laboratory. There are 2 internet rooms as it is reflected in the table above, but the University offers wireless internet all over its space. The capacities used are given in the table below.

Classes used during the 2019-2020 academic year.

No.	Name of the Class	Surface (m2)	Capacity
1	E B31	60	40
2	E B32	60	40

3	E B33	60	40
4	E 211	64	36
5	E 311	63.46	40
6	E 312	81.32	48
7	A 117	165.6	60
8	A 118	165.5	60
9	A 119	138.0	45
10	A 120	110.4	35
11	A 127	72.41	56
12	A 128	73.53	56
13	A 129	73.71	56
14	A 130	72.02	56
15	A 131	72.02	56
16	D 101	72	42
17	D 102	66	42
18	D 103	50	30
19	D 104	52	30
20	D 201	72	42
21	D 202	66	42
22	D 203	50	30
23	D 204	52	30
total	**23**	**1784.47**	**1012**

Auditoriums used during the 2021-2022 academic year

No.	Name of Auditorium	Surface (m2)	Capacity
1	E B01	128	99
2	E 110	130.82	136
3	E 212	81.32	72
4	E 213	81.72	72
5	E 214	154.32	150
6	E 313	81.72	70
7	E 314	154.32	134
8	A 005	145.2	70
Total	**7**	**927.42**	**803**

During the academic year 2021-2022, four study units for architecture seminars, four computer laboratories, one electronic laboratory together with the theoretical part of the course, one architecture laboratory, one projects laboratory, and the Civil Engineering laboratory are being used for the development of the learning process. Another computer lab is under construction at D Building.
The facilities are equipped with heating-cooling system and video projectors. The construction materials and laboratory tools found in the Civil Engineering Laboratory are also being used in the teaching and research process. The capacity of the laboratories used is given in the table below.

Laboratories used during the 2021-2022 academic year

Name	Laboratories	Surface (m2)	Capacity
E 011	Computer Laboratory 2	96.64	42
E 015	Computer Laboratory 1	77.93	40
E B30	Computer Laboratory 3	123.7	47
A 126	Computer Laboratory 4	72.4	42
E 010	Electronic Laboratory	132	50
E 012	Projects Laboratory	131.54	30
A-120/1	Architecture Laboratory	27.6	12
I 001	Civil Engineering Laboratory	283	40
Total	**8**	**944.8**	**323**

EPOKA University has a conference hall with a surface of 128 m^2 and a capacity of 99 persons. The conference hall is used more for social, cultural and various national and international conferences. The hall is equipped with central heating-cooling system, video projector, sound system and two cabins for simultaneous translation. Also in the premises of the "Cultural Social Object" building is a conference hall with a surface of about 400 m^2 and a capacity of 300 persons.

LIBRARY

The EPOKA University Library, which is located on the first floor of A-Building, was founded to support the education and research activities of the university by providing and organizing the needed documents.

With its 100-seating capacity, our library has 400 square meters area of use. Our University Library is composed of entrance, book and reading hall. In the entrance, there is a check out desk and research center. The periodicals, including the exhibition of new arrivals, are also shelved in this section. The reading hall is equipped for students to study and to do research.

EPOKA University is a member of Balkan Libraries Union which was founded on 29 July 2009 with the participation of 10 institutions from 6 Balkan countries.

EPOKA Library collaborates with academic staff to help students and faculties with vital content by reducing costs and increasing opportunities for better and more practical study, providing independent researchers with free and low-cost access.

Our library collection is enriched by purchases and donations. The books to buy are chosen in accordance with the needs and requests of the students, administrative and academic staff. Under the Department of Library and Documentation, the library has a total of about 7500 printed books.

Digital Databases

Epoka University has full membership in JSTOR, a shared digital library created in 1995 that includes more than 12 million academic journal articles, books and primary sources in 75 disciplines. JSTOR helps to explore a wide range of scientific content through a powerful research and teaching platform. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a non-for-profit-organization.

JSTOR was founded to help libraries and academic publishers transition their activities from print to digital operations, to expand access to scholarly content around the world and to preserve it for future generations. JSTORE is offered for free for our students and academic staff.

Every member of EPOKA staff can access to JSTOR's collections by going to http://www.jstor.org/ and searching or browsing for content.

Using the Library

Our library works on the open shelf system enabling you to reach the books directly. The books in the open shelves are topically sorted in the book hall according to LC classification method. To find the book you are looking for, you should follow these steps:

1. Through the catalog search computers in the library; you can search author name, book name, and publisher, topic, or keyword areas.
2. To get the book, you can go to the shelves with the classification and location numbers of the books appearing on the screen as a result of your search.

Example of LC number for the book: "Exchange rates and international finance", Laurence S. Copeland / Financial Times, 2008

HG
3821
.C78
2008

The first part of the LC number "**HG**" represents the category of the book by its topic. In the LC system, the first letter **H** stands for **Social Science** class. Each subsequent letter indicates next level of sub categories of the main topic. In the given example **G** stands for **Finance**, **3821** indicates subcategories included between 3810-4000 (Foreign exchange, international finance, International monetary system), C78 indicates the first letter of authors surname, **2008** indicates book publication year.

Regulations

Students of PHD, Associate Degree, Bachelor's Degree and Master Students and academic and administrative personnel are the members of the library. They can borrow library materials in accordance with the rules.
Researchers coming from outside the university are not lent books, they are only allowed to use them in accordance with the rules.
Readers in this group are requested to fill up the related form Lending Service.

Circulation Rules

Resource	**Patron**	**Loan period(days)**	**Maximum number of check-outs(items)**
Book	Pre-undergraduate/Undergraduate students	15	3
	Graduate students	15	5
	Staff	20	5
Bound Journal	Graduate students Staff	5	2
Visual/Audio Resources	Pre-undergraduate/Undergraduate students Graduate students Staff	3	3

C. The Curriculum

Undergraduate Teaching

First YEAR															
First Semester															
COURSES		Course	Compulsory	Weekly Course Distribution				Epoka	Semestral Lecture and studying hours						
Code	Course Name	Type	/Elective	Theory	Pract.	Lab.	Total	Credits	Lect.	Pract.	Lab.	Site W.	Other	Total	ECTS
ARCH 101	Basic Design	A	Compulsory	4	8	0	12	8	64	128	0	108	0	300	12
ARCH 105	Graphic Communication I	A	Compulsory	2	2	0	4	3	32	32	0	86	0	150	6
ARCH 121	Introduction to Architecture	A	Compulsory	3	0	0	3	3	48	0	0	52	0	100	4
MTH 125	Basic Mathematics	A	Compulsory	3	0	0	3	3	48	0	0	52	0	100	4
ENG 103	Development of Reading and Writing Skills in English I	D	Compulsory	3	0	0	3	3	48	0	0	52	0	100	4
Semestral Total				15	10	0	25	20	240	160	0	350	0	750	30
Second Semester															
COURSES		Course	Compulsory	Weekly Course Distribution				Epoka	Semestral Course and studying hours						
Code	Course Name	Type	/Elective	Theory	Pract.	Lab.	Total	Credits	Lect.	Pract.	Lab.	Site W.	Other	Total	ECTS
ARCH 102	Introduction to Architectural Design	B	Compulsory	4	8	0	12	8	64	128	0	108	0	300	12
ARCH 108	Graphic Communication II	A	Compulsory	2	2	0	4	3	32	32	0	86	0	150	6
ARCH 124	History of Art and Architecture I	A	Compulsory	3	0	0	3	3	48	0	0	0	52	100	4
ARCH 106	Free Hand Drawing	A	Compulsory	1	2	0	3	2	16	32	0	52	0	100	4
ENG 104	Development of Reading and Writing Skills in English II	D	Compulsory	3	0	0	3	3	48	0	0	52	0	100	4
Semestral Total				13	12	0	25	20	208	192	0	298	52	750	30
Second YEAR															
Third Semester															
COURSES		Course	Compulsory	Weekly Course Distribution				Epoka	Semestral Lecture and studying hours						
Code	Course Name	Type	/Elective	Theory	Pract.	Lab.	Total	Credits	Lect.	Pract.	Lab.	Site W.	Other	Total	ECTS
ARCH 201	Architectural Design I	B	Compulsory	4	4	0	8	6	64	64	0	122	0	250	10
ARCH 253	Building Construction Technology I	B	Compulsory	2	2	0	4	3	32	32	0	61	0	125	5
ARCH 231	Statics and Strength of Materials	B	Compulsory	3	0	0	3	3	48	0	0	52	0	100	4
ARCH 261	Building Materials	B	Compulsory	3	0	0	3	3	48	0	0	52	0	100	4
ARCH 223	History of Art and Architecture II	A	Compulsory	3	0	0	3	3	48	0	0	52	0	100	4
ARCH 211	Digital Graphics I	A	Compulsory	1	2	0	3	2	16	36	0	13	10	75	3
Semesteral Total				16	8	0	24	20	256	132	0	352	10	750	30
Fourth Semester															
COURSES		Course	Compulsory	Weekly Course Distribution				Epoka	Semestral Course and studying hours						
Code	Course Name	Type	/Elective	Theory	Pract.	Lab.	Total	Credits	Lect.	Pract.	Lab.	Site W.	Other	Total	ECTS
ARCH 202	Architectural Design I	B	Compulsory	4	4	0	8	6	64	64	0	122	0	250	10
ARCH 224	History of Art and Architecture III	A	Compulsory	3	0	0	3	3	48	48	0	0	52	100	4
ARCH 232	Structure Analysis	B	Compulsory	3	0	0	3	3	48	48	0	52	0	100	4
ARCH 240	Landscape Design	B	Compulsory	3	0	0	3	3	48	48	0	52	0	100	4
ARCH 254	Building Construction Technology II	B	Compulsory	2	2	0	4	4	32	32	0	61	0	125	5
ARCH 218	Digital Graphics II	A	Compulsory	3	0	0	3	3	48	0	0	52	0	75	3
Third YEAR															
Fifth Semester															
COURSES		Course	Compulsory	Weekly Course Distribution				Epoka	Semestral Course and studying hours						
Code	Course Name	Type	/Elective	Theory	Pract.	Lab.	Total	Credits	Lect.	Pract.	Lab.	Site W.	Other	Total	ECTS
ARCH 301	Architectural Design III	B	Compulsory	4	4	0	8	6	64	64	0	122	0	250	10
ARCH 311	Urban Design I	B	Compulsory	3	0	0	3	3	48	0	0	77	0	125	5
ARCH 380	Environmental Control Studio	B	Compulsory	2	4	0	6	4	32	64	0	54	0	150	6
ARCH 320	Theories of Architectural Design	B	Compulsory	3	0	0	3	3	48	0	0	0	52	100	5
ARCH 381	Structural Design	B	Compulsory	3	0	0	3	3	48	0	0	77	0	125	5
Semesteral Total				16	8	0	20	20	240	128	0	330	52	750	30
Sixth Semester															
COURSES		Course	Compulsory	Weekly Course Distribution				Epoka	Semestral Course and studying hours						
Code	Course Name	Type	/Elective	Theory	Pract.	Lab.	Total	Credits	Lect.	Pract.	Lab.	Site W.	Other	Total	ECTS
ARCH 302	Architectural Design IV	B	Compulsory	4	4	0	8	6	64	64	0	122	0	250	10
ARCH 312	Urban Design II	B	Compulsory	2	2	0	4	3	32	32	0	90	0	150	6
ARCH xxx	Elective Course	C	Elective	3	0	0	3	3	48	0	0	102	0	150	6
ARCH 332	Building Construction Management	B	Compulsory	3	0	0	3	3	48	0	0	52	0	100	4
ARCH 331	Building Systems	B	Compulsory	3	0	0	3	3	48	0	0	52	0	100	4
Fourth YEAR															

Seventh Semester

COURSES		Course	Compulsory	Weekly Course Distribution				Epoka	Semestral Lecture and studying hours						
Code	Course Name	Type	/Elective	Theory	Pract.	Lab.	Total	Credits	Lect.	Pract.	Lab.	Site W.	Other	Total	ECTS
ARCH 401	Advanced Design Studio I	B	Compulsory	4	4	0	8	6	64	64	0	122	0	250	10
ARCH 419	Advanced Detailing in Architecture	B	Compulsory	2	2	0	4	3	32	32	0	36	0	100	4
ARCH 411	Studio of Conservation and Restoration	B	Compulsory	2	2	0	4	3	32	32	0	61	0	125	5
ARCH 332	Building Construction Management	D	Compulsory	4	0	0	4	4	64	0	0	61	0	125	5
ARCH xxx	Elective course	C	Elective	3	0	0	3	3	48	0	0	102	0	150	6
Semestral Total				15	8	0	23	19	240	128	0	382	0	750	30

Eighth Semester

COURSES		Course	Compulsory	Weekly Course Distribution				Epoka	Semestral Course and studying hours						
Code	Course Name	Type	/Elective	Theory	Pract.	Lab.	Total	Credits	Lect.	Pract.	Lab.	Site W.	Other	Total	ECTS
ARCH 402	Advanced Design Studio II	B	Compulsory	4	4	0	8	6	64	64	0	122	0	250	10
ARCH 410	Research Methods	A	Compulsory	3	0	0	3	3	48	0	0	52	0	100	4
ARCH 414	Architect’s Market Structure and Real Estate	D	Compulsory	3	4	0	3	3	48	0	0	52	0	100	4
ARCH xxx	Elective course	C	Elective	3	0	0	3	3	48	0	0	102	0	150	6
ARCH xxx	Elective course	C	Elective	3	0	0	3	3	48	0	0	102	0	150	6
Semesteral Total				16	4	0	20	18	256	64	0	430	0	750	30

Fifth YEAR

Ninth Semester

COURSES		Course	Compulsory	Weekly Course Distribution				Epoka	Semestral Course and studying hours						
Code	Course Name	Type	/Elective	Theory	Pract.	Lab.	Total	Credits	Lect.	Pract.	Lab.	Site W.	Other	Total	ECTS
ARCH 505	Special Topics in Architectural Design	B	Compulsory	2	2	0	4	3	32	32	0	86	0	150	6
ARCH 515	Thesis Research	B	Compulsory	3	0	0	0	3	48	0	0	102	0	150	6
ARCH xxx	Elective course	C	Elective	3	4	0	3	3	48	0	0	102	0	150	6
ARCH xxx	Elective course	C	Elective	3	0	0	3	3	48	0	0	102	0	150	6
ARCH xxx	Elective course	C	Elective	3	0	0	3	3	48	0	0	102	0	150	6
Semesteral Total				14	2	0	13	15	224	32	0	494	0	750	30

Tenth Semester

COURSES		Course	Compulsory	Weekly Course Distribution				Epoka	Semestral Course and studying hours						
Code	Course Name	Type	/Elective	Theory	Pract.	Lab.	Total	Credits	Lect.	Pract.	Lab.	Site W.	Other	Total	ECTS
ARCH 310	Summer Practice at Construction Site	D	Compulsory	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	125	0	125	5
ARCH 409	Summer Practice at Architectural Studio	D	Compulsory	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	100	4
ARCH xxx	Non-Technical Elective	D	Elective	3	0	3	3	3	48	0	0	102	0	150	6
ARCH 500	Master Thesis	E	Compulsory	2	0	2	2	2	32	0	0	342	0	375	15
Semesteral Total				5	0	5	5	5	80	0	0	670	0	750	30

Graduate Teaching

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN ARCHITECTURE/OLD CURRICULA

Fist Year
First Semester

Courses		Course		Weekly Course Distribution				Epoka	Semestral Lecture and Studying Hours						ECTS
Code	Course Name	Type	Compulsory/Elective	Theory	Pract.	Lab.	Total	Credits	Lect.	Pract.	Lab.	Site W.	Other	Total	
ARCH 400	Summer Practice at Construction Site	A	Compulsory	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ARCH 401	Advanced Design Studio I	A	Compulsory	4	4	0	8	6	64	64	0	166	0	294	12
ARCH 421/431/461	Design Methods/Advanced Structural Systems/Urban Planning	B	Compulsory	3	1	0	4	4	48	0	0	92	0	140	6
ARCH xxx	Elective course	D	Elective	3	0	0	3	3	48	0	0	92	0	140	6
ARCH xxx	Elective course	D	Elective	3	0	0	3	3	48	0	0	92	0	140	6
Semestral Total				13	5	0	18	16	208	64	0	442	0	714	30

First Year
Second Semester

Courses		Course		Weekly Course Distribution				Epoka	Semestral Lecture and Studying Hours						ECTS
Code	Course Name	Type	Compulsory/Elective	Theory	Pract.	Lab.	Total	Credits	Lect.	Pract.	Lab.	Site W.	Other	Total	
ARCH 402	Advanced Design Studio I	A	Compulsory	4	4	0	8	6	64	64	0	166	0	294	12
ARCH 418/432/462	Case Studies in Architectural Criticism/Sunlighting in Architecture/Housing Systems	B	Compulsory	3	1	0	4	4	48	0	0	92	0	140	6
ARCH xxx	Elective course	D	Elective	3	0	0	3	3	48	0	0	92	0	140	6
ARCH xxx	Elective course	D	Elective	3	0	0	3	3	48	0	0	92	0	140	6
Semestral Total				13	5	0	18	16	208	64	0	442	0	714	30

Second Year
Third Semester

Courses		Course		Weekly Course Distribution				Epoka	Semestral Lecture and Studying Hours						ECTS
Code	Course Name	Type	Compulsory/Elective	Theory	Pract.	Lab.	Total	Credits	Lect.	Pract.	Lab.	Site W.	Other	Total	
ARCH 501	Supervised Independent Study and Res	A	Compulsory	5	0	0	5	4	38	0	0	254	0	292	12
ARCH 505/531/561	Special Topics in Architectural Design/Special Topics in Building Technology/Special Topics in Urban Planning and Design	B	Compulsory	3	1	0	4	4	48	0	0	92	0	140	6
ARCH xxx	Elective course	D	Elective	3	0	0	3	3	48	0	0	92	0	140	6
ARCH xxx	Elective course	D	Elective	3	0	0	3	3	48	0	0	92	0	140	6
Semestral Total				14	1	0	15	14	182	0	0	530	0	712	30

Second Year
Fourth Semester

Courses		Course		Weekly Course Distribution				Epoka	Semestral Lecture and Studying Hours						ECTS
Code	Course Name	Type	Compulsory/Elective	Theory	Pract.	Lab.	Total	Credits	Lect.	Pract.	Lab.	Site W.	Other	Total	
ARCH 500	Master Thesis	A	Compulsory	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	750	0	750	30
Semestral Total				0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	750	0	750	30

CURRICULUM OF PhD STUDY PROGRAM

Year I - First Semester		T	P	C	ECTS
ARCH 8xx	ELECTIVE COURSE	3	0	3	7.5
ARCH 8xx	ELECTIVE COURSE	3	0	3	7.5
ARCH 8xx	ELECTIVE COURSE	3	0	3	7.5
ARCH 8xx	ELECTIVE COURSE	3	0	3	7.5
Total:		**12**	**0**	**12**	**30**

Year I - Second Semester		T	P	C	ECTS
ARCH 8xx	ELECTIVE COURSE	3	0	3	7.5
ARCH 8xx	ELECTIVE COURSE	3	0	3	7.5
ARCH 8xx	ELECTIVE COURSE	3	0	3	7.5
ARCH 8xx	ELECTIVE COURSE	3	0	3	7.5
Total:		**12**	**0**	**12**	**30**

Year II+III		T	P	C	ECTS
ARCH 800	PhD Thesis	0	0	0	120
Total:		0	0	0	**120**

Notes: T – Theoretical hours
P – Practical hours
C – Credits according to American System
ECTS – Credits according to ECTS System

ELECTIVE COURSE LIST

Course List Code	Course Name	T	P	C	ECTS
Arch 801	Environment - Behavior Theories	3	0	3	7.5
ARCH 802	Informal Housing	3	0	3	7.5
ARCH 803	Discussions on Futuristic Architectural Design	3	0	3	7.5
ARCH 804	Culture and Space Studies	3	0	3	7.5

ARCH 805	Theories, Process, And Language Ratio in Architectural Design	3	0	3	7.5
ARCH 806	Aesthetic Phenomena in Architecture	3	0	3	7.5
ARCH 807	Paradigms on Architecture	3	0	3	7.5
ARCH 808	Interpretation of Meteorological Data in Urban and Architectural Design	3	0	3	7.5
ARCH 809	Cultural Diversities in Construction Sector	3	0	3	7.5
ARCH 810	Solar Radiation and Building Design	3	0	3	7.5
ARCH 811	Energy Management in Lighting	3	0	3	7.5
ARCH 812	Building Performance Simulation Methods	3	0	3	7.5
ARCH 813	Solar Architecture	3	0	3	7.5
ARCH 814	Urban Planning Law	3	0	3	7.5
ARCH 815	Transportation Planning	3	0	3	7.5
ARCH 816	Urban Historic Preservation	3	0	3	7.5
ARCH 818	Special Topics in Urban Design And Planning	3	0	3	7.5
ARCH 819	Advanced Planning Techniques	3	0	3	7.5
ARCH 820	Special Topics in Urban Design And Planning	3	0	3	7.5
ARCH 821	Effects of Climate and Energy on Settlements Design	3	0	3	7.5
ARCH 822	Day lighting System Design	3	0	3	7.5
ARCH 861	Urban Design and Planning Theory	3	0	3	7.5
ARCH 862	Landscape Urbanism	3	0	3	7.5
ARCH 863	Real Estate	3	0	3	7.5
ARCH 864	Research Methods	3	0	3	7.5
ARCH 865	Special Topics in Architectural Design	3	0	3	7.5

ARCH 866	Space Theories and Criticism	3	0	3	7.5

D. Teaching, Learning, Assessment & Research

Undergraduate Students' List of Theses

Name, Surname, Title of Thesis, Thesis Supervisor, Thesis Summary (150 words max)

Student: AURELA BALLA [Spring 2021-2022]
Thesis Title: A MULTI-SCALE APPROACH FOR URBAN WASTE MANAGEMENT: CASE OF TIRANA
Supervisor: Dr. Artan Hysa
Thesis Summary: The rapid growth of the population has impacted various urbanization challenges in Tirana, the capital city of Albania. One major problem is the pollution and management of the waste of this overcrowding. The current waste management system is believed to fail constantly since architecture and urban planning aren't involved during the design thinking process. The goal of this study is to propose solutions and interventions in a multiscale approach. The multilevel includes the macro level which belongs to the city level, the meso level which belongs to the neighborhood level, and the last level, which is the micro-level, which belongs to the zoomed-in part, the building itself. This research has followed an integrative method, where the social and physical investigation are mixed together with the best practices, otherwise known as case studies. These are made possible with the usage of software like QGIS, AutoCAD, Illustrator, and 3D Visualizers. An important key part of this research paper is the representation of the current chaotic state, what causes it and how can us intervene to prevent this problem. It explains some interventions in a current city, neighborhood, and building.
Keywords: circular city concept, cross-scale, investigation, material flow, multiscale, sustainability, waste management.

Student: TEJDI DUSHKAJ [Spring 2021-2022]
Thesis Title: MICRO-HOUSING WITHIN URBAN INFORMALITY
Supervisor: Dr. Artan Hysa
Thesis Summary: Entering the '90s, while facing the new events of the post-socialist period, Tirana had to deal with a rapid cycle of change, development, and interference. The quick pace of the urbanization was characterized with a boom in informal constructions affecting in urban plan and patterns. This study aims to generate a paradigm shift which consists in rearrangement of these informal implementations in terms of micro-housing with the purpose of keeping under control the urban sprawl, helping in housing crises and the inclusion of young demographics in the developed urban areas. Through mapping analysis and surveys this study shows the need for new implementations and rearrangements approved by the residents themselves. The thesis itself proposes and analysis the site criteria for the micro housing insertion and for respective designs. Regardless its utopic side, the ultimate questions regarding the efficiency of these implementations take answer.
Keywords: Post-socialist, urbanization, urban sprawl, informality, micro-housing, urban pattern, paradigm shift, Tirana.

Student: *OLISENA BILAJ [Spring 2021-2022]*
Thesis Title: *THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT AND ITS INFLUENCE ON CRIME AND FEAR OF CRIME IN THE HETEROGENEOUS CONTEXT OF 'ASTIR' NEIGHBORHOOD*
Supervisor: *Dr. Odeta Manahasa*
Thesis Summary: Environmental criminology is a field that finds more room in big cities such as Tirana where crime rates are higher. Not all parts of the city, have the same crime rates, depending on different factors such as the physical factors and social aspects. Parts of the city where the crime is higher are

considered 'hot spots'. The focus of the study is one of Tirana's neighborhoods, the 'Astir' zone. As a new neighborhood, 'Astir' had a rapid and mostly informal growth during the last decade but being part of the 'Big Ring' project, a lot of transformations are changing the neighborhood. The study evaluates the reasons for considering 'Astir' a 'hot spot' in terms of crime from the resident's perspective and environmental analysis.The study employs mixed methods, developing questionnaires of 'Astir' residents and visitors, observations, mappings, and photo shooting. The questionnaires include the 'Astir' residents and visitors who chose to pass time there, to understand what attracts the outsiders to approach the neighborhood. The results identify factors affecting the crime rates to be high, and how environmental design can be used as a tool to prevent crime. In a heterogeneous context the elements that affect crime rates are overpopulation, high commercial and residential density, presence of a high number of bars and night clubs, low maintenance and lighting problems, not enough open public spaces, unbalanced community stabilizers.
Keywords: *environmental criminology, defensible space, neighborhood, environmental Design*

.*Student:* *MAJLINDA LLOSHI [Spring 2021-2022]*
Thesis Title: *THE CONTRIBUTION OF "DURRËS YACHT AND MARINA" (PHASE 1) TO THE CITY AND QUALITY OF URBAN SPACE: EXPERTS' PERSPECTIVE*
Supervisor: *Dr. Odeta Manahasa*
Thesis Summary: Urban regeneration has been seen as a key process in transforming, designing, and planning territories during the late twentieth century. It was applied, especially in post-industrialized cities, to give life back to the "dead" sites. Beyond necessity, it is also seen as an aesthetically pleasing choice.Last year, a new project was approved in the local plan of Durrës, which also provides for the urban regeneration of the port. It consists of converting Durrës' waterfront into one of the most touristic spots in Balkan. Such a transformation is expected to have far-reaching implications not only for tourism, but also for the economy, environment, and human psychology.The Port of Durrës is one of our nation's most important connections to the rest of the world. Changes that may occur there should be given great attention. The purpose is to determine whether the city is prepared for such a significant change and what is expected to happen after the implementation of the project. Moreover, this research will focus on understanding the contributions of the project to the city and quality of urban space.It gives a comprehensive picture of the project and fulfills the goal of always being one step ahead of the

implementation process by conducting in-depth interviews with the experts. The researcher interviewed three experts from urban fields and one stakeholder familiar with the regeneration of waterfront cities in order to gain their perspectives on the topic. Their academic and professional

experience helped in analyzing the project on an urban scale to consider each potential or problematic aspect*of it.* Their responses generally emphasized the physical, social, economic, and environmental aspects of the project.Considering all these factors, the experts had many common opinions, as well as some controversial ones. Their contribution was important in determining that the project had great potential to improve the city and to directly contribute to the quality of the urban space of the area, even though on masterplan scale it should be reconsidered.
Keywords: experts's perspective, port of Durrës, urban regeneration, urban design, waterfront

Student: Andjol Bici *[Spring 2021-2022]*
Thesis Title: A COMPARATIVE REVIEW OF 3D PRINTING TECHNOLOGIES FOR THE RESILIENT HOUSING
Supervisor: Dr. Anna Yunitsyna
Thesis Summary: Architecture is related with the new improvements in technology since the beginning of the civilizations. With the social evolution several problems such as poverty, unemployment and immediate need for a shelter have arisen. These are just some of the difficulties families experience nowadays, the low-income ones. Thus, along with many new technologies that affect and improve individuals' life, one in particular related with architecture has bloomed. 3D printing for construction is the newest as well as one of the best solutions to fulfil the need for affordable housing in a short time. The first step to understand it is to study the state of art of 3D printed buildings and their respective printers. Thereafter, by reflecting the knowledge there are developed several housing prototypes, based on the

theoretical background, and adapted to the Tirana conditions. As a final analysis, the results depict which 3D printer is the best to fulfil this objective, along with the most appropriate house prototype.

Student: Amadea Toska [Spring 2021-2022]
Thesis Title: DAYLIGHT PERFORMANCE IN "JORDAN MISJA" ART SCHOOL.
Supervisor: Dr. Anna Yunitsyna
Thesis Summary: Daylight in architecture is a crucial aspect to a good design not only regarding space and aesthetics, but also physical and psychological health of people. It is a vital element especially in the environments where people spend considerable periods of time. This research seeks to understand the environmental quality elements such as daylight within art educational facilities. In Albania there are no studies for daylight and visual comfort concerning art schools. The selected building for this study is the art school of "Jordan Misja". The aim of this research is to assess the students' visual comfort in art classrooms. The method used is data gathering and analyses, made through the site observations, surveys and computational simulations. The daylight performance of the ten art classrooms is compared with the results of the survey and observations. Based on that, there are suggested some strategies and daylight design guidelines for art spaces. And some better light optimization strategies. Eventually, the classification of standards contributes on the improvement of educational spaces and students' productivity and attentiveness.

Student: Erediola Ibro [Spring 2021-2022]
Thesis Title: EVOLUTION OF DWELLING TYPOLOGY DURING THE LAST 50 YEARS IN BERAT.

Supervisor: Dr. Anna Yunitsyna
Thesis Summary: The dwelling was designed in rational and sometimes a sketchie way, based on the minimal housing standards. In periferied cities, houses were built even in more simple way, offering the space which do not fulfill even the minimal residential needs, such as separate bedroom, or private kitchen or toilet room. The study is focused on evolution of seven dwellings which were built in Berat during the '80s. The analysis aims to understand the spatial changes occurred during the las 50 years. With the changes in political regime of Albania.Space syntax analysis is used to evaluate the evolution of dwellings. The results show that the residents prefer to adopt their dwellings in terms of increase of the living area and in terms of organizing the space with a better privacy level.

Student: Indrit Vataksi [Spring 2021-2022]
Thesis Title: EVOLUTION OF THE STUDENTS' CAFETERIAS AND THEIR INFLUENCE ON THE STUDENTS' LIFE.
Supervisor: Dr. Anna Yunitsyna
Thesis Summary: The aim of the research is to demonstrate the importance and the influence of cafeterias on student's life, it starts from the historical overview of the cafeteria development. The study points out the concept and the role which cafeterias have in Albania. This study is based on the evolution of University Cafeterias on campus and City Cafeterias which are used by students. It is based on the comparison of the spatial and functional analysis of two cafeterias and their evolution by the students. To study the impact of the cafeteria on students' life, an online survey was prepared and distributed mainly among students and a small group of people with different occupation. Based on the answers to the survey was studied the importance that have cafeterias to the students, how it affects their life and how important cafeterias are for students. The study also took into consideration the importance of design in cafeterias, how this affects the improvement of cafeteria conditions and the increase of business benefits through a good design. This study also aims to compare the level of students' satisfaction with the existing cafeteria and what the survey tries to highlight by collecting opinions and possible suggestive measures from them. In order to analyze the trend, the dependence of students on cafeterias was also studied. Proposals for the introduction of additional activities to the cafeteria such as bookstores, work and entertainment facilities are also within the scope of the survey.

Student: Alba Kuçukali [Spring 2021-2022]

Thesis Title: Achieving Flexible Urbanism by integrating modules in a Pattern Language; The means towards Sustainable Development of Tirana
Supervisor: Dr. Fabio Naselli
Thesis Summary: This master thesis will dive into the concept of design by generating pattern language, intended as the basic element for creating spaces that properly satisfy requirements of a changing society. The case of Tirana is a specific one, because of the many patterns the city has adapted as a result of its complex historical background. The aim is to reinforce the idea of preserving and redefining patterns of the city as they make the identity of the people who inhabit it. Ultimately, the project explores the possibilities the units generate by combining with each other in a bigger scale. By doing so, they give shape to spaces for communities to exist. Since the unit itself is conceptualized as fluid, so is the nature of the community that occupies it. In a

society whose needs are never-ending and unpredictable embracing modular units can be regarded as an approach to give solution without weighing on the problem of land disruption.

Student: Sara Dine [Spring 2021-2022]
Thesis Title: Urban Tactics for the Third Landscape. The case of former railway in Tirana
Supervisor: Dr. Fabio Naselli
Thesis Summary: The process of continuous and unlimited growth in cities has produced negative effects, which materialize in the production of negative urban areas, abandoned spaces and waste landscapes, together with areas that appear without a proper character, as a result of informal non-designed human processes. Having such situations in Tirana, we can think of this third landscape as room for the continuous evolution future, important to biodiversity, climate, and pollution mitigation. Indeed, these third landscapes -involved and closely linked to urban metabolism- being transformed, can improve the quality of the urban environment, on the one hand, and on the other also raise the current lack in quantity of urban open areas by recovering neglected spaces. Tirana as an emerging city, in continuous change, being transformed every day and with a growing population day by day, the construction industry has followed no rules, with chaotic and dense buildings, without designing proper spaces for its citizens, no playgrounds for children, without green parks, connected roads and parking area.

Student: Shkelzen Subashi [Spring 2021-2022]
Thesis Title: Dwellers perception on tourism in cities with cultural and historical heritage:Thecase of Venice
Supervisor: Dr. Fabio Naselli
Thesis Summary: A city is not a set of infrastructure regulated by a practical plan but an articulated, living organism that needs to always be in line with the needs and tastes of the inhabitants. At the center there is the human being and the best unit of measurement for the city will forever be the human scale. These indicators constitute of the relation between people and environment, people's way of life and social relationships. Let's place the people of Venice at the center of the plan. Venice for years has been a city of a great focus, in terms of its rare construction and urban development. By means of that, a massive number of tourists visit Venice every day, exploring its values and experiencing the city. Therefore, the focus of the research is intentionally based on the effects, contrasts, and the way how the people's life is influenced. Is there a need for new quantitative tools, giving people of Venice a taste of what would be there if the city and the space is primarily for them then for the tourists? Considering the situation, numerous site investigations are carried out, a questionnaire for the inhabitants is prepared and based on the results possible scenarios are proposed.

Student: Albert Gjimi [Spring 2021-2022]
Thesis Title: The Deep Web of Tirana's Urban Layers Network; A strategy to enhance the accessibility to the historic urban fabrics
Supervisor: Dr. Fabio Naselli
Thesis Summary: As the AEC industry is focused on new buildings, the old ones are left behind in a poor condition. Leaving the old buildings in poor condition and destroying them to build new objects leads to the extinction of architectural heritage. This thesis analysis the situation and proposes a new approach where the main focus will be old buildings. Revitalizing the abandoned buildings in one of the oldest neighbourhoods in Tirana named "Selvia" and regeneration of the neighbourhood by improving walkability, safety, qualities of open spaces, increasing microeconomy and a new circulation plan designed by walking and bringing old buildings in the focus of pedestrians. A deep analysis is made through advanced software like QGIS and also in the site visit.

Student: Benjamin Isufi [Spring 2021-2022]
Thesis Title: The "15 min city" concept in your neighbourhood; Case Study: Tirana, Xhamlliku
Supervisor: Dr. Fabio Naselli
Thesis Summary: It is rare for a shift in social construct to be reflected in physical means. Consequently, fields such as architecture and urbanism hold great interest regarding the ongoing pandemic. The conditions that COVID-19 has brought about, impose a contradictory approach when seeking resilience: to physically maintain distance, to socially seek the lost connections. In these terms, we'll depict the shift in society's perception regarding the public spaces through comprehending the newly developed boundaries imposed on common spaces, and henceforth research the regeneration of human connectivity through urban means by applying the approaches of the "15-minute city" concept in the case study area of "Xhamlliku". As a finale, this thesis shall present the results of the theoretical outcome, if the implementations of the "15-minute city" approaches can improve the current COVID-19 situation, through remote working and digitalized public services, resulting in more active neighbourhoods, leading to a boost in local economies, thus by decentralizing core services.

Student: Gledisa Dani [Spring 2021-2022]
Thesis Title: CHILD-FRIENDLINESS EVALUATION OF THE EXISTING SITUATION IN ONE OF THE OLDEST NEIGHBORHOODS OF TIRANA.
Supervisor: Dr. Egin Zeka

Thesis Summary: Children are being failed by cities all around the world. 30 years after the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child was adopted, which attempted to prioritize children's needs and perspectives in policymaking, most cities are inhospitable, if not life-threatening environments for their most vulnerable residents. The basis for lifetime learning, behavior, and health is laid in childhood. Play is necessary for development. Childhood play is important for emotional, social, physical, and cognitive health. However, today's youths, particularly in cities, are either giving up or losing their childhood to other interests. One of the reasons why this is happening is that the great majority of urban planning choices and projects make no consideration of their possible influence on children and make no attempt to get children's feedback. This is also a common problem in the city of Tirana. This research studies one of the oldest neighborhood space quality, and collect data with an aim to find out if the city of Tirana has room for childrens, and if they are taken into consideration when planning. Moreover, if they have the possibility of: an appropriate brain development and ability to learn, interact with others, and adapt to everyday stresses and obstacles.
The primary objective of this paper is to conduct a comprehensive analysis and evaluation of children and caregiver's movement, stationary activities and the urban qualities. Additionally, referring to the main research question: Is the existing situation of neighborhoods in Tirana meeting the needs of children i or is resulting in communities which could be labeled as 'child-blind'(Woolcock & Gleeson 2010)?; a neighbourhood in Tirana, previous studies done in other countries together with the literature review, are analyzed.
The methodology used throughout this study integrates a detailed theoretical background with detailed physical analysis, which consists on data gathered from ASIG and site trips, and detailed physical and social analysis of the zoomed-in study area, based on a tool called "Toolkit; For measuring urban experiences of young children" accompanied by observations and data collection.
Keywords: *Child-friendly Cities, Neighborhood Design, Childhood Play, Development, Learning, Health, Urban planning.*

Student: Esta Hasa [Spring 2021-2022]
Thesis Title: POST-OCCUPANCY EVALUATION OF HUMAN BEHAVIORS IN URBAN PUBLIC SPACES. CASE OF DURRES WATERFRONT PROMENADE
Supervisor: Dr. Egin Zeka
Thesis Summary: This thesis aims to put forward a general framework assessment of an ex-industrial area situated in the urban context of Gramsh, by identifying the historical layers of the industrial landscape, the transformations of the urban form, while taking into consideration the factors affecting this transformation. Industrial heritage is often being imposed as an intentionally forgotten legacy, of decaying buildings that imply in the collective memory as a prompt of failure of a past system. Albania as an ex-communist country has a history of industry development, attributing to the economic growth, with different industrial sectors extensively dispersed, in account to whom it was facilitated the process of area selection and the generation of new urban zones.
The study will take on the case of Gramsh, a model of the towns established during communism,selected for the strategic position as adequate for the employing of some new industrial activities, which owning to the decline of the activity is now left with vacant industrial sites that have become over the years and along the transition inhabited areas of residential and commercial use.
The study uses a mixed-method research approach, by providing a collective atlas of mapping assessments, visualization of schemes and sketches, while drawing up a profile of analysis of the context. Identification of phenomenon attributes while drawing parallels to relating examples of the same-path transitory processes, is significant to the course of generating strategies relevant to the local community while leading to visionary urban development for future generations.
Keywords: *Industrial heritage, urban portrait, regional, transition*

Student: *Ylgerta Alija [Spring 2021-2022]*

Thesis Title: *SOCIAL AND PHYSICAL DIMENSIONS OF REPURPOSED EX-INDUSTRIAL SITES: CASE OF GRAMSH*
Supervisor: *Dr. Egin Zeka*
Thesis Summary: In the process of designing urban spaces, city planners, architects, and designers consider how these spaces will be used by people afterwards, predicting certain human behaviours. This research is focused on generating a post-occupancy and occupancy evaluation of an urban public space in the city of Durres, in context of liveability and conviviality. Moreover, the evaluation is made having in focus people with special abilities, to better understand if specific urban spaces provide satisfactory living and use conditions for this category of people, as well as the promotion of human interactions between them and the rest of the community. A theoretical background, which elaborates in a detailed way these principles, is provided. The aim is to discover how dominant is the presence of human dimension, regarding the above mentioned social aspects and principles. This study implies a mixed-method approach, combining qualitative and quantitative research design techniques. The data is collected through public observation, behavioural mapping and online survey. The observations are conducted during four time intervals in four different days. After analysing the results, the study identifies the main patterns of activities and people behaviour, as well as creates a framework to visualize the differences between each observation session. Thus, analysis of results is presented in a comparative way, for a better comprehension of those differences.
The research depicts people's experiences in public spaces by mapping their behaviour patterns, and provides the basis for further studies. Furthermore, the study establishes research framework with the potential to widen its scope including work of different parties such as urban planners, designers, social and environmental psychologists and policy makers, to achieve a better urban lifestyle.
Keywords: Post-occupancy evaluation, Human behaviours, Liveability, Urban Public spaces, Human Dimension, People with Disabilities, Social interaction

Student: *Arbesa Çeliku [Spring 2021-2022]*
Thesis Title: A PROJECT PROPOSAL FOR SOCIAL HOSUSING IN '5MAJI NEIGHBORHOOD', TIRANA
Supervisor: *Dr. Egin Zeka*
Thesis Summary: This paper addresses the approach to minimizing the cost of the house and it gives affordability to the people nowadays. The basic principle behind this is to reduce the cost of the house and to make some social spaces, not just for the houses of the site that are being analyzed but also for the other part of the 5 Maji neighborhood. The minimization of the housing cost will be reduced with the help of three main factors: i.e. time, materials used, and techniques. The selection of the building materials should meet the needs of local conditions in order to be more long-lasting. Hence, it has become a necessity to adopt cost-effective, innovative, and environment-friendly housing technologies for the construction of houses and buildings for enabling the common people to construct houses at affordable cost.

Keywords: Low-cost housing, social space, green space, environmentally friendly, affordable cost.

Student: Rejdi Pjeternikaj, *[Spring 2021-2022]*
Thesis Title: EARLY DESIGN EVALUATION OF HIGH-RISE NEIGHBORHOOD MORPHOLOGY ON OUTDOOR THERMAL COMFORT IN TIRANA, ALBANIA
Supervisor: Prof.Dr.Sokol Dervishi, MSc. Ina Dervishi
Thesis Summary: High-rise building construction has already become one of the most prominent global architectural trends, and while many governments were first opposed and even put a halt to it, it appears that it is now growing day by day. One of the major elements affecting the dispersion of this architectural style has been the expansion of the urban population. Because of their size, these

structures have a great influence, not just in terms of the amount of energy they consume, but also on a larger local scale. As a result, the early design process in these communities is critical. While many studies have proposed, evaluated, and analyzed high-rise buildings concerning various factors, there is a gap in the literature regarding whether or not a neighborhood morphology consisting of tall structures is related to outdoor thermal comfort, and if so, how much of an impact it has. This study will attempt to answer this question by first developing and proposing various conventional and commonly used layouts based on literature, and then analyzing the data using simulations to determine whether morphology has a significant impact on outdoor thermal comfort or not. The goal of this paper is to guide planners in Tirana and other cities with similar climate circumstances to assist them to make the right decisions when planning new high-rise neighborhoods. Because high-rise building is a relatively new topic in these cities, this study will be useful as a foundation for future research on the impact of high-rise neighborhood morphology on micro and mesoscale parameters.

Student: Ersa Duzha [Spring 2021-2022]
Thesis Title: THE EFFECT OF URBAN MORPHOLOGY AND VEGETATION ON URBAN HEAT ISLAND: CASE OF PREFABRICATED BLOCKS IN TIRANA, ALBANIA
Supervisor: Prof.Dr.Sokol Dervishi, MSc. Ina Dervishi
Thesis Summary: Urban Heat Island (UHI) is considered one of the significant problems in the 21st century because of the urbanization and industrialization of human civilization. Solar radiation and other heat sources create a substantial quantity of heat in metropolitan constructions (i.e., anthropogenic heat). Tirana, being a developing city, has experienced fast urbanization and population growth and, like other Mediterranean cities, has confronted various thermal challenges due to high urban temperatures. In this context, this work aims to examine how city density has evolved over the previous several decades and to identify the positive and negative aspects of these changes by comparing urban morphology (a fundamental determinant of UHI) during the socialist period and now. The findings recommend green roofs, green walls, and thick vegetation as optimization options. Different site sections with specific features have been selected for the analysis and mitigation strategies. Thermal comfort parameters of selected sites have been evaluated using ENVI-met software. The results are shown through graphs and heatmaps to observe value variability. A link between urban configuration and thermal comfort has been identified. The analysis shows that the optimization scenarios work better in courtyard zones than in linear layout zones.

Student: Venera Dushaj [Spring 2021-2022]
Thesis Title: ADAPTIVE SUSTAINABLE REUSE FOR AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES OF ABANDONED BUILDINGS IN MALESIA E MADHE DISTRICT, ALBANIA
Supervisor: Prof.Dr.Sokol Dervishi
Thesis Summary: Since ancient times, agriculture in Albania has been one of the most pivotal industrial sectors that drives the economy of the country consisting of various advantages regarding trade and commerce. However, this sector has been facing several problematics in terms of its organization and financial situation. “Malesia e Madhe” district in Albania is selected in this study in order to create a bottom-up approach to improve district the agricultural sector of the entire country. Based on the feedback gathered from questionnaires and statistical data from INSTAT, one of the main factors that influence the downgrade of the agricultural sector is indicated to be the absence of a well-organized trade. Several proposals are conducted on this study for the implementation of Agro-Logistics centers activity in old abandoned traditional dwellings of the district. As a result of the building materials and techniques on this building typology, the selected structures are very beneficial in terms of energy performance. The proposed structures are derived from simulations

computed in this study by means of Design Builder software. Variables such as the air temperature, relative humidity, building orientation, agricultural context, building materials and techniques are used utilized in order to perceive the most efficient simulation results. The outcome of the study indicates that this building typology associated with the proper retrofit measurements, can consume up to 65.8% less energy than a typical warehouse.

Keywords: *Agro-logisitc center, Energy efficiency, Agriculture, Sustainable development, Temperature, Relative Humidity.*

Student*:* Erga Tafaj [Spring 2021-2022]
Thesis Title: ROOM ACOUSTICS OF EDUCATIONAL BUILDINGS AND THEIR OPTIMIZATION
Supervisor*:* Prof**.**Dr.Sokol Dervishi
Thesis Summary:Acoustic has always been an issue for architects and engineers, which plays a significant role in the comfort of the occupants. It affects the performance of the students during the lecture. Although Albania provides some standards for the classrooms at educational buildings, the information in this field is limited to speech quality. Within this framework, this study investigates room-scale classroom typologies of two existing schools in Albania, Epoka University and Ernest Koliqi. Epoka University is a newly constructed building that offers many varieties, while Ernest Koliqi is a reconstructed building where the classrooms were adapted. The reverberation time (R60), speech transmission index (STI) of existing conditions and optimizations are evaluated through Odeon simulation. Odeon is a hybrid 3d modeling software that simulates acoustic conditions of rooms, buildings, and outdoors. The calculation is based on the room material surfaces model imported from SketchUp. The results are shown through graphs and grid maps to observe the problematic areas. The findings show a link between reverberation time and room geometry. Classrooms with a rectangular shape and wide volumetry had better results than the classrooms with high ceilings and irregular shapes. In the optimization scenarios, perforated gypsum board and curtains performed better in traditional classrooms and acoustic baffles in the open classroom.

Keywords: *R60, STI, sound quality, acoustic optimization, room shape, volume*

Student*:* Françeska Bardhoshi [Spring 2021-2022]
Thesis Title: EARLY-DESIGN EVALUATION OF SUBTERRANEAN HOUSING MORPHOLOGY ON ENERGY PERFORMANCE IN THE MEDITERRANEAN CONTEXT
Supervisor*:* Prof**.**Dr.Sokol Dervishi
Thesis Summary: Over the past decade, modern society has become increasingly reliant on sustainable housing design approaches. The rapid growth of the world's population and drastic climate changes, demand for housing units that require a larger footprint than before. The benefits underground has to offer from a passive strategy perspective stress the importance of evaluating the performance of subterranean housing from the early-design phase. The present research paper, implemented in three Mediterranean climate cities, brings a new comprehensive methodology on the energy performance of subterranean housing. Design variables include building morphology, orientation, presence of earth, shading device, green roof, and courtyard. The generated housing modules are simulated and assessed via Design-Builder software. The results gained from 180 simulations, emphasize the effectiveness morphology and orientation have in producing a maximum reduction of 45.7% on annual energy demand. In addition, results highlight a decrease in the indoor air temperature by an average of 5,3°C during summer, and an increment in indoor temperature by 2,5°C during winter, when compared to the above-ground floors. A set of guidelines and suggestions

is provided for each typology and climate context, thus generating an integrated framework for the evaluation of subterranean housing morphologies during the early-design phase.

Keywords: *subterranean housing, building morphology, orientation, early-design evaluation, simulations, energy efficiency, thermal comfort, climate*

Student*:* Denis Rustemi [Spring 2021-2022]
Thesis Title:EARLY DESIGN ENERGY EVALUATION OF MULTI-STORY COURTYARD HOUSING ON ENERGY AND THERMAL PERFORMANCE IN HUMID SUBTROPICAL CLIMATE
Supervisor*:* Prof**.**Dr.Sokol Dervishi
Thesis Summary: Energy consumption is a matter of great interest, and the construction industry is one of the major contributors to energy consumption. The residential sector consumes the most energy in the industry. As a result, the current conditions should be improved. The early design phase, which is often overlooked by designers in terms of energy performance, is very promising in terms of energy conservation. The majority of studies on the subject examine the topic's impact after fabrication. Although reviewing the status quo adds valuable knowledge to the scientific literature, it does not improve the current situation. The present study is design-based, taking into account various courtyard morphologies to analyse energy performance in humid subtropical climate of Tirana, and different orientations. Design Builder for Energy Plus is used to perform simulations. The goal of this research is to provide guidelines for architects at the early design stage, as well as to encourage further regional studies on the subject. According to the results, building height, geometry, and orientation all have a significant impact on energy performance. Despite the minor differences in morphology, the results show up to 13.7% difference in effectiveness. Recommendations on the most efficient tendencies of building shape and orientation are made based on the findings.

Keywords: *Morphology, Energy Conservation, Energy Evaluation, Residential Housing, Courtyard, Orientation, Geometry, Energy Efficiency*

Student*:* Andia Ulliri [Spring 2021-2022]
Thesis Title: EARLY ENERGY POVERTY AND ENERGY BUILDING RETROFIT: CASE OF 1958 MASONRY RESIDENTIAL STOCK IN FUSHE-KRUJE.
Supervisor*:* Prof**.**Dr.Sokol Dervishi
Thesis Summary: The growing phenomenon of energy poverty has contributed to the negative impacts of living standards and rights. This study aims to incorporate the energy poverty and energy retrofit strategies to resolve the common spread issues of low thermal comfort in households. As a post-communist country, Albania inherited several energy performance problems. During 1965 the need to build quickly followed with poor insulating properties and poor construction. With the right approach these issues can be assessed in creating a handbook of rules in which the legislative and construction intervention strategies will be proposed.
Although this might be true, establishing the exact minimum level of energy necessary relying on basic needs is hard. What are the indicators taken into consideration? Level of thermal comfort, energy efficiency, income, housing conditions will be taken into the study to offer broader information to be put into conclusion making strategies such as surveys and simulation analyses
Analysing the residential stock of the multiplied plan of household three-story high buildings undergoing simulations on construction-based plans.
The building will receive a higher energy efficiency performance and greater thermal comfort.

Keywords: *Energy poverty, Energy performance, Energy retrofit, Outdoor urban comfort, Sustainability through knowledge, Thermal comfort,*

Student: Berenis Karamuca[Spring 2021-2022]
Thesis Title: QUALITY AND COMFORT ASSESSMENT OF SOCIALIST UPPER-CLASS HOUSING IN TIRANA
Supervisor: Dr. Edmond Manahasa
Thesis Summary: This research focuses on the quality and comfort assessment of socialist period upper class housing in the central area of Tirana. The assessment is based on the subjective evaluation of the residents of the selected buildings. The focus of the study is to understand what makes an environment be qualified as qualitative according to its users. The study aims to measure the assessment by evaluating the physical and social elements of both indoor and outdoor spaces. To achieve this goal there are selected five residential buildings/blocks that were once considered housing for the upper class of the socialist period society, constructed between the years 1962 and 1990. The evaluation is done based on the answers from interviews conducted with the residents. The methodology used in this study includes archival research, redrawing and 3d visualization, questionnaires, and data processing. 115 interviews were conducted in total. The questionnaire was divided into three main parts: users profile and general characteristics, question about the physical and social elements of outdoor spaces and the indoor spaces.
Keywords: Socialist housing, quality assessment, indoor, outdoor, social environment, physical environment

Student: Albina Mehmeti [Spring 2021-2022]
Thesis Title: AN ADAPTIVE REUSE PROPOSAL FOR HOUSE OF KURT AHMET PASHA (HAXHISTASA) IN BERAT
Supervisor: Dr. Edmond Manahasa
Thesis Summary: This study focuses on a traditional dwelling in Kala neighborhood of Berat. This house belonged to Kurt Ahmet Pasha, who was the feudal lord that reigned Berat in the last quarter of 18th century. This house nowadays is known as Haxhistasa house.
The aim of this study is to re-evaluate/re-explore one of Berat's most important architectural assets, the Kurt Ahmet Pasha's house, which lacks maintenance and preservation. In order to achieve this goal, the study proposes adaptive reuse as a tool that can impact its building maintenance by transforming it into a tourist attraction. It could also serve as an example for conservation and adaptive process model for other buildings with similar historical and architectural merits.
The methodology used in this research includes archival research on the building's historical growth and overview of architectural characteristics through redrawing and visualizing. The archival research is used to provide original conditions and drawings of the building, from National Institute of Cultural Heritage (IKTK) and National Technical Construction Archive (AQTN). Redrawing covers the reproduction of the original work through plans, sections and facades based on archive. Visualization includes the exterior condition of the actual state of the building, based on site survey, as well as 3D presentation of the interiors with the new functions given.
The adaptive reuse proposal adheres to the building's repair criteria as well as its

distinct architectural character. Based on this, two scenarios are conceptualized to the proposing new spatial configuration of the house. The first one includes the permanent adaptation of the spaces with certain characteristics and the second one, the temporal adaptation for public or private events.

Keywords: adaptive reuse strategy, dwelling, heritage, Kurt Ahmet Pasha, preservation, traditional house, vernacular,

Student: Julia Dizdari [Spring 2021-2022]
Thesis Title: URBAN IDENTITY IN POST-SOCIALIST DURRËS: THE ROLE OF URBAN LAYERS
Supervisor: Dr. Edmond Manahasa
Thesis Summary: The change of the regime from socialist to capitalist had a deep impact in urban developments in Albania. Such impact is visible in the city of Durrës. This study focusses on the investigation of urban identity in post-socialist period Durrës, a city which has been subject of frenetic and dense informal urban developments.
The methodology used in the research includes mapping, urban morphological analysis, questionnaires, sampling, and archival research. This study has identified three urban layers and it measures the impact of the dwellers of each of these layers in urban identity and their attachment to the city.
The study found that the majority of the interviewed dwellers are attached and do identify with the city of Durres. Also, it was found that citizens that dwell in newer layers have expressed lesser values of attachment and identification. The most important landmarks that represent the city are reported to be historical buildings like Roman amphitheater, Venetian Tower, Royal Villa and the City Hall building.

Keywords: *urban identity, urban layers, post-socialist city, Durrës.*

Graduate Students' List of Theses

1. *Name, Surname, Title of Thesis, Thesis Supervisor, Thesis Summary (150 words max)*

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List of Incoming & Outgoing Students
(Student Name, & Surname: Name of Home & Host University, Country, Duration of Stay)

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Research Areas and Research Groups

Research Areas and Research Groups

Architectural Design:

Research on the impact of physical, social and cultural environments on human behavior. The main aim of this research area is to develop activities so that to create social awareness on design; to establish concrete ties between practice, theory and education in the design, architecture, urban and environmental issues. It aims to search and solve the problems related to physical, social and cultural environments that arise in the country and sharing these solutions with the community. It focuses on understanding, changing or maintaining the behaviour in the built environment as a complex inter-relationship and shared social practice.
Research on Curriculum Reform in Higher Education. The issue of curricular restructuring in architectural education in most institutions of the European Higher Education Area, has emerged as a concern to adapt to the Bologna framework of qualifications. The implementation of the Bologna reforms mostly focuses on how to provide minimum training requirements measured by subject-specific competences. However there is a lack of clarity on the nature and implementation of generic-competences, part of the "21st century skills".
This research area focuses on exploring and developing bottom-up, learner/human-centered approaches to curriculum development. The overall aim is to expand the learner's capabilities to adapt to the changing nature of

knowledge co-creation and sharing. The need to cultivate attitudes of knowledge-sharing in collaborative practices is ever growing to parallel the advancement in tools and corresponding technical skills. The conducted research has experimented on the intersections between design pedagogies and computational approaches to design.
Team: Assist.Prof.Dr. Anna Yunitsyna, Dr. Edmond Manahasa, Dr. Odeta Manahasa, PhD- candidate Desantila Hysa, M.Sc. Julian Beqiri

Building Physics and Building Ecology:

The research area provides coverage of heat transfer, moisture, sound/acoustics, and illumination in urban and building scale. In addition, interrelationships between different building physics phenomena are elucidated to develop performance specifications that inform the design process. The research activities cover a wide spectrum of work including computational-assisted building performance, building systems control, building ecology, human ecology, sustainable architectural design, and optimization.
The research investigates different methods in design and optimization towards a sustainable built environment. In addition, the studies are focused on estimation and prediction of innovative systems in various building/urban typologies. Different design principles are critically reviewed and compared via different range of systems and calculation methods to assess optimization.
Sustainability and system integration: The research area focuses on the development of urban sustainability assessment methods towards cities. The studies involve the sustainable neighborhood pattern and design, environmental impact on microclimate and ecosystems, urban form, land use and infrastructure. These indicators are instruments to direct sustainable development and select appropriate policies for achieving urban sustainability. The study identifies sustainable measures towards improvement of quality of life of city inhabitants through optimal management of its resources.
Team: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sokol Dervishi, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Miriam Ndini, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Huseyin Bilgin, PhD-Candidate Ina Dervishi, PhD-Candidate Artemis Hasa

History and Theory of Architecture:

The research area of history of architecture focus mainly in those architectural movements or styles which have been present in Albania until 19th century including Byzantine and Ottoman architecture, as well as the historical developments of 20th century like the influence of Italian styles (Novecento and Rationalism), Stalinist Soviet Union Neo-classicism and socialist period heritage.
The research area of theory of architecture focuses mainly in the 20th century architectural discourse especially after the fall of modernism as a paradigm. The influence of philosophical movements like phenomenology, structuralism and post-structuralism on architecture are the main research topics. Another sub-division of this research area are environmental behavior theories which earned importance after the criticism made to modernism for producing similar and monotonous architecture on a global scale, revealing the issue of place identity. This sub-division approach is based on the study of relation between individual and built environment.

Team: Dr. Edmond Manahasa, PhD-candidate Desantila Hysa, M.Sc. Kreshnik Merxhani, M.Sc. Julian Beqiri

Research on Urbanism and Landscape:

The main objective is to explore human settlements of different typologies and understand the relationships among urban, natural and social environments. The research tries to focus on challenges of contemporary urban habitat and find proper solutions for a sustainable development. It is on the scope of this research to study the city in different contexts and layers and develop a multidisciplinary approach to understand the complexity of urbanity. Some sub-themes of the research are: Strategic Urban Planning; Urban Morphology; Emergent Urbanism; Urban Revitalization; and Design of Public Space.
Landscape Research: The research motivation is based on the principles of European Landscape Convention designating landscape "as an area, as perceived by people, whose character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors". As the target focus it includes the entire territory of natural, rural, urban and peri-urban character. It concerns landscapes that might be considered outstanding as well as every day or degraded landscapes. The over compassing definition of landscape aims at building holistic analytical approaches towards real life complex problems of spatial development/ alteration at a gradient of spatial scales. A special concern is dedicated to the utilization of computerized and digital analytical means like Geographical Information Systems (GIS) technologies, not only as a tool but as well as a common ground for communicating in a trans-disciplinary working environment.
Team: Dr. Fabio Naselli, Dr. Egin Zeka, Dr. Artan Hysa, PhD-candidate Enkela Hasa

Housing and Parametrics:

The Housing Research: deals with social, psychological, political and economic regarding housing in today's global economy. The focus is upon how the research can impact the practice of design at the interior and architectural as well as the community and regional planning scale. The research is combined from the practical and theoretical parts based on the contemporary understanding of housing with reflection of such approaches, as House and Time, House and Culture and Economy, House and Aesthetics, House and Psychology, overview the guidelines and recommendations of the dwelling construction, such as Design with Environmental Levels, Universal Design, Lifetime Homes, Design for Disassembly, to see, how the dwelling can be evaluated both by architects and inhabitants. Parametric modeling and design: The research deals with the main principles of creation of the innovative design solutions using the techniques of parametric 3d modelling. The instrument of design is Grasshopper - a graphical algorithm editor tightly
integrated with Rhino's 3D modeling tools. The research is organized as a series of practical demonstrations of the software, which is supported by the theoretical and practical works of students. The work is devoted to the study of the new approaches towards creation of the algorithmic shape, which is responsible to the external factors at the final stage of design. It proceeds from the simple single objects and operations towards the complex sets of data and patterns study.
Team: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Albana Halili, Assist.Prof.Dr. Anna Yunitsyna, Dr. Edmond Manahasa, M.Sc. Teuta Kodra

National Initiative of the Academy of Scientific Research and Technology «Civilization Rights to Build Civilization,» Project No. 141 2020-2023, Farouk El-Baz Center for Sustainability and Future Studies at the British University in Egypt.
Dr. Fabio Naselli

List of Publications

The Academic staff of the EPOKA University, during this period of functioning (2021-2022) has published articles in different scientific journals, proceeding books, newspapers, etc.

No	Name Surname	Scientific Publications and Academic Activities
1	Dr. Odeta Manahasa	Manahasa, O., Manahasa, E.,(2022), Trained and Untrained Children Explore School Spaces in Albania: Assessment and Participation in Children's Well-being, Building Research & Information.
2	Dr. Odeta Manahasa	Manahasa, E., Manahasa, O.,(2022), "Nostalgia for the lost built environment of a socialist city: An empirical study in post socialist Tirana", Habitat International, Volume 119. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.habitatint.2021.102493
3	Dr. Odeta Manahasa	Manahasa, E., Özsoy, A. and Manahasa, O. (2021), "A hierarchical definitional framework for a heterogeneous context: housing typologies in Tirana, Albania", Open House International doi:10.1108/ohi-07-2021-0157.
4	Dr.Odeta Manahasa	Manahasa, O., Özsoy, A., & Manahasa, E. (2021). Evaluative, inclusive, participatory: Developing a new language with children for school building design. Building and Environment, 188, 107374. doi: 10.1016/j.buildenv.2020.107374
5	Prof. Dr. Sokol Dervishi Dr. Edmond Manahasa Dr. Odeta Manahasa Dr. Artan Hysa Dr. Anna Yunitsyna Dr. Fabio Naselli	Yunitsyna, A., Hysa, A., Manahasa, E., Naselli, F., Manahasa, O. D., & Dervishi, S. (2021). Current Challenges in Architecture and Urbanism in Albania (The Urban Book Series) (1st ed. 2021 ed.). Springer
6	Dr. Odeta Manahasa	Mehmeti, A., Bardhoshi, F., Manahasa, O., "Energy Efficiency Assessment and Retrofitting of Two Traditional Albanian Dwellings University of Tetova, 6th international Scientific conference of Applied Sciences, 18-19 May 2022, Tetova, Republic of North Macedonia.
7	Dr. Odeta Manahasa	Manahasa, O., "Understanding Geometrical Shapes' Role in Design Studio Creativity Processes", DAKAM, Spring '22 Social Sciences and Humanities Conference Education Studies '22 / VI. International Conference on Education and Learning, April 15, 2022, Istanbul-Turkey
8	Dr. Odeta Manahasa	Manahasa, O., Brika, S., "User's Daylight Perception in the residential buildings: Assessing Daylight in the Residential Buildings of Durres Waterfront", Epoka University,

		International Conference on Architecture and Urban Design,24-26 November 2021, Tirana, Albania
9	Dr. Odeta Manahasa	Manahasa, O., Muda., A., “Shared Spaces and User Satisfaction as Tools for Residential Complex Design: Three Case Studies in Tirana”, Albania, DAKAM, Cui ’21 / IX. International Contemporary Urban Issues Conference on Informality November 26, 2021, Istanbul-Turkey.
10	Dr. Edmond Manahasa Dr. Odeta Manahasa	Manahasa, O., Manahasa, E., Measuring the Place Memory of Tirana’s Main Boulevard During Socialist Period: A Perception of Dwellers, DAKAM, Social Sciences And Humanities '21 International Interdisciplinary Conference On Social Sciences And Humanities, 05. November.2021, Istanbul-Turkey.
11	Dr. Anna Yunitsyna	K., Yunitsyna, A., (2021): Optimization of Natural Light in Educational Buildings Through a Parametric Design Approach, Considering the Students' Visual and Thermal Comfort: a Case Study in Tirana, Albania. The 4th ICAUD International Conference in Architecture and Urban Design ‘NEW & OLD NORMALITY POST 2020’, Epoka University, Tirana, Albania, 24-26 November 2021.
12	Dr. Anna Yunitsyna	Yunitsyna, A., Marino, M., Tagliaro, C., Smejkal, K., Shtepani, E., (2021): Prototyping a Coworking Space in the Post-Covid Era. The 4th ICAUD International Conference in Architecture and Urban Design ‘NEW & OLD NORMALITY POST 2020’, Epoka University, Tirana, Albania, 24-26 November 2021.
13	Dr. Anna Yunitsyna	Yunitsyna, A., Marino, M., Tagliaro, C., Smejkal, K., Shtepani, E., (2021): Building Post-Covid Zero Net Energy Shelters with Shipping Containers. The 4th ICAUD International Conference in Architecture and Urban Design ‘NEW & OLD NORMALITY POST 2020’, Epoka University, Tirana, Albania, 24-26 November 2021.
14	Dr. Anna Yunitsyna	Yunitsyna, A., Laci, A., (2021): Potential Benefits of Application of Green Roofs on Buildings of Communist Period: Tirana Case Study. The 5th 5International Conference on Green Urbanism (GU), Sapienza University

15	Dr. Anna Yunitsyna	Yunitsyna, A., Shtepani, E., Raça, A. (2022): "Villa Moissi" - It's Influence in Modernist and Postmodernist Architecture - a Mediterranean Circle. INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON NATURAL, HEALTH SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY, Tetova, North Macedonia, 18-19 May, 2022
16	Dr.Anna Yunitsyna	Yunitsyna, A. (2022): Evaluation of contemporary housing in Tirana using space syntax visibility graphs. Journal of the Housing and the Built Environment. https://doi.org/10.1007/s10901-022-09964-y
17	Dr. Egin Zeka Dr. Artan Hysa	KUCUKALI, A., PJETERNIKAJ, R., ZEKA, E., & HYSA, A. (2022). Evaluating the pedestrian accessibility to public services using open-source geospatial data and QGIS software. *Nova Geodesia*, *2*(2), 42. https://doi.org/10.55779/ng2242
18	Dr. Egin Zeka Dr. Fabio Naselli MSc. Kreshnik Merxhani	MERXHANI, K., Naselli,. F., ZEKA, E., (2022)., Preliminary architectural survey for bottom-up rural development. Case study Përmet's villages Zhepova & Shelq, International Congress on Natural, Health Sciences and Technology, Book of Abstracts, p. 206, University of Tetova.
19	Dr. Anna Yunitsyna MSc. Ina Dervishi	Springer- The Urban Book Series Current Challenges in Architecture and Urbanism in Albania, pp 127-136 Book Chapter: "Infill Design in Informal Housing in Tirana, Albania: Transformations and Spatial qualities" *Ina Osmani*, A. Yunitsyna https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-3-030-81919-4_9
20	Prof. Dr. Sokol Dervishi MSc. Ina Dervishi	Journal of Building Engineering, 2021, 103423, ISSN 2352-7102, Energy performance optimization of traditional housing in Mediterranean climate S. Dervishi, F. Pashako, Xh. Dushaj, *Ina Osmani* https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jobe.2021.103423. (https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S235271022101281X)
21	Prof. Dr. Sokol Dervishi MSc. Ina Dervishi	Building Simulation 2021 Conference, Bruges, 1-3 September 2021 The impact of glazing on thermal performance of a hotel building in Zagreb, Croatia: An early based design R. Belba, s. Dervishi, Ina Osmani

22	Prof.Dr.Sokol Dervishi Dr. Anna Yunitsyna Dr. Artan Hysa Dr. Edmond Manahasa Dr. Fabio Naselli Dr. Odeta Manahasa	Yunitsyna A., Hysa A., Manahasa E., Naselli F., Manahasa O.D., Dervishi S. (eds) (2021): Current Challenges in Architecture and Urbanism in Albania. The Urban Book Series. Springer, Cham. https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-030-81919-4
23	Prof.Dr.Sokol Dervishi Dr. Anna Yunitsyna Dr. Artan Hysa Dr. Edmond Manahasa Dr. Fabio Naselli Dr. Odeta Manahasa	Hasa E., Yunitsyna A. (2021) Space Syntax Analysis as a Tool for Evaluation of Social and Cultural Values of Albanian Housing—Case Study of Tirana. In: Yunitsyna A., Hysa A., Manahasa E., Naselli F., Manahasa O.D., Dervishi S. (eds) Current Challenges in Architecture and Urbanism in Albania. The Urban Book Series. Springer, Cham. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-81919-4_12
24	Dr. Anna Yunitsyna	Hasa E., Yunitsyna A. (2021) Space Syntax Analysis as a Tool for Evaluation of Social and Cultural Values of Albanian Housing—Case Study of Tirana. In: Yunitsyna A., Hysa A., Manahasa E., Naselli F., Manahasa O.D., Dervishi S. (eds) Current Challenges in Architecture and Urbanism in Albania. The Urban Book Series. Springer, Cham. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-81919-4_12
25	Dr. Anna Yunitsyna MSc. Ina Dervishi	Dervishi I.O., Yunitsyna A. (2021) Infill Design in Informal Housing in Tirana, Albania: Transformations and Spatial Qualities. In: Yunitsyna A., Hysa A., Manahasa E., Naselli F., Manahasa O.D., Dervishi S. (eds) Current Challenges in Architecture and Urbanism in Albania. The Urban Book Series. Springer, Cham. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-81919-4_9
26	Prof.Dr.Sokol Dervishi Dr. Anna Yunitsyna Dr. Artan Hysa Dr. Edmond Manahasa Dr. Fabio Naselli Dr. Odeta Manahasa	Hysa A., Manahasa O.D., Naselli F., Manahasa E., Yunitsyna A., Dervishi S. (2021) Introducing the Architectural, Urban, and Landscape Challenges of Albania. In: Yunitsyna A., Hysa A., Manahasa E., Naselli F., Manahasa O.D., Dervishi S. (eds) Current Challenges in Architecture and Urbanism in Albania. The Urban Book Series. Springer, Cham. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-81919-4_1
27	Dr. Anna Yunitsyna Dr. Artan Hysa	Hysa D., Yunitsyna A. (2022) An Overview of Accountability as a Competence in Higher Education. In: Hysa E and Foote, R. (eds) New Perspectives on Using Accreditation to Improve Higher Education. IGI Global. https://www.igi-global.com/chapter/an-overview-of-accountability-as-a-competence-in-higher-education/310029 DOI: 10.4018/978-1-6684-5195-3
28	Dr. Fabio Naselli	Fabio Naselli, Cinzia Barbara Bellone, Mirjana Pali, Fabio Andreassi. (2022), Tirana as an Open Lab: A Pilot for an Integrated Research Tourism Vision Pre-/Post-Pandemic. International Journal of E-Planning Research, Volume 11, Issue 1, 1-18 xx

29	Dr. Fabio Naselli	Cinzia Bellone, Fabio Naselli, Fabio Andreassi. (2021), New Governance Path through Digital Platforms and the Old Urban Planning Process in Italy. Sustainability, n. 13, 6911, 1-11
30	Dr. Fabio Naselli	-Fabio Naselli, Mirjana Pali, Cinzia Barbara Bellone, Fabio Andreassi (2022), Morphology of city layers as a resource for an urban tourism offer. An integrated research tourism vision for Tirana, SCIRES it - SCIentific RESearch and Information Technology, Vol 12, Issue 1, 165-176
31	Dr. Fabio Naselli	-Mohamed Hany B. Moussa, Mohamed Tawfeek Essawy, Fabio Naselli, Islam Momtaz Mohamed (2021), Perceptions of Using Private Dwellings at Gamaleyah as Airbnb Rent Listings in Old Historic Cairo, Athens Journal of Tourism, Volume 8, Issue 1, 55-74

Participation of Academic Staff in Academic Events

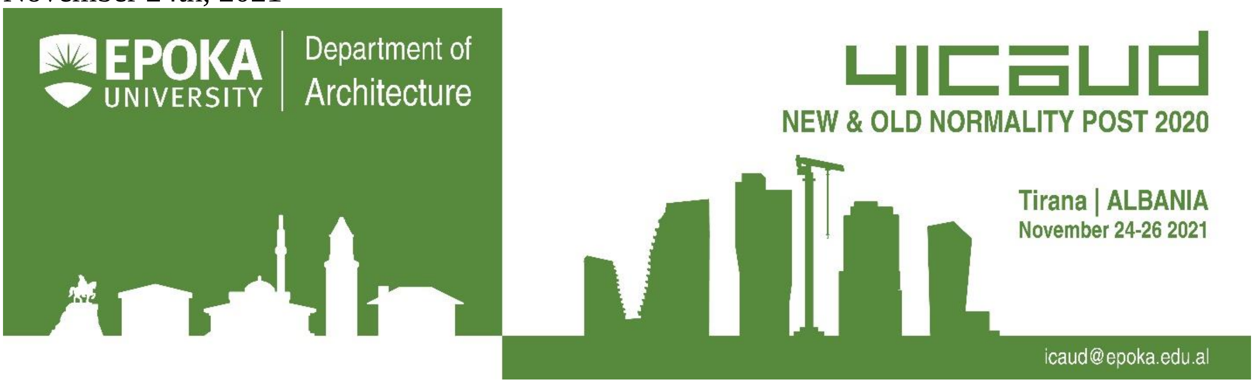
Dr. Fabio Naselli

-5th NMP2022 International Symposium “New Metropolitan Perspectives 2022. Post COVID Dynamics: Green and Digital Transition, between Metropolitan and Return to Villages’ Perspectives", Università Mediterranea of Reggio Calabria, May 25-27, 2022, Reggio Calabria, Italy
-6th International Scientific Conference on Applied Sciences, University of Tetova, North Macedonia, May 18-19, 2022
-6th International Conference on Structure and Civil Engineering Research (ICSCER 2022), ICSCER, Virtual Conference, June 24-26, 2022

-4th ICAUD 2021, International Conference on Architecture and Urban Design “New & Old Normality Post-2020”, Department of Architecture at Epoka University, November 24-26, 2021

Welcome to 4-ICAUD!

November 24th, 2021



The Department of Architecture at Epoka University, welcomes participants to the Fourth International Conference on Architecture and Urban Design (ICAUD), to be held on **24 – 26 November, 2021** in Tirana, Albania. Building upon the success of the previous three editions of ICAUD, the conference promises a wide range of topics on architecture and urban design and an international audience of academics and practitioners from around the world. The 3-ICAUD provided an international forum for knowledge exchange where 57 scientific papers and posters were presented by academics from 12 different countries. All contributions were reviewed from a scientific committee consisting of internationally acclaimed scholars. The keynote speakers comprised internationally renowned academics and local policy makers.

The Global Event that affected the world in early 2020 has had some huge reflections in many of the design fields, forcing architects and engineers, urban planners, and designers to rethink many of the consolidate knowledge in the designing approaches. Some of that changes will be temporary and destined to going-back in a short time; meanwhile other seem fated to become permanent and able to challenge our personal and social mindset, as designers as well as end-users. Those ongoing changes also stress the importance of a rising trans-disciplinary interaction among diverse field of knowledge, having affected the whole people real-life realm at the global scale.

The 4th International Conference on Architecture and Urban Design (**4ICAUD2021**) aims to animate a deep "think-tank" moment on how we have been challenged and on what we are gaining in the switch between **NEW & OLD NORMALITY POST 2020**. Taking advantage from the time experienced and ripened in one year later than the beginning of the pandemic era, to draft what it will be the after-pandemic era in the fields of design, and not only in that.
Best papers will be published in the Special Issue of **"The Urban Book Series", a resource for urban studies and geography research by Springer**.

Projects

Name Surname of Staff	Dr. Anna Yunitsyna, Dr. Desantila Hysa
COST Action No	CA17127
COST Action Title	Building on scientific literacy in evolution towards scientifically responsible Europeans (EuroScitizen)
COST Action Chair:	Dr Tania (Antoinette) Jenkins
Your role/position in the COST Action	MC Member
Duration of the Action	• Start of Action - 11.09.2018 • End of Action - 10.09.2022
Short Description (100-150 words):	As citizens, we are confronted with a deluge of information and misinformation from the internet and the mass media. Scientific literacy, i.e., the ability to critically evaluate, apply and understand scientific knowledge and how it is produced, is therefore vital for responsible citizenship. It is a prerequisite for generating a knowledge-based society and for allowing citizens to make informed decisions. One of the most important fields of science is evolution, the foundation of modern biology. Evolutionary biology has great societal relevance, and its findings have far-reaching implications for how we respond to climate change, drug resistance, issues of food security and controversies in modern medicine. However, it is frequently misunderstood or even rejected outright. This makes scientific literacy in evolution an ideal model to research approaches to improve the state of European scientific literacy. This Action will, for the first time,

	leverage the strengths of diverse stakeholders (evolutionary biologists, education researchers, educators, museum professionals and the media) to generate and analyse approaches used to improve public scientific literacy. Bridging differences in culture and education systems including participants from a wide range of countries and backgrounds is a source of innovation in itself. The expected result is to identify targeted strategies to raise levels of scientific literacy in Europe, thereby maximising Europe's innovation potential. The Action will contribute to a culture of responsible, research and innovation (RRI) and will result in a more scientifically literate European citizenship, instrumental to implementing Europe 2020's smart, sustainable, and inclusive goals.

Name Surname of Staff	Dr. Edmond Manahasa, Anna Yunitsyna, Dr. Odeta Manahasa
COST Action No	CA18137
COST Action Title	European Middle-Class Mass Housing (MCMH-EU)
COST Action Chair:	Prof Ana Cristina Fernandes Vaz Milheiro
Your role/position in the COST Action	MC Member
Duration of the Action	Start of Action - 3.04.2019 End of Action - 2.04.2023
Short Description (100-150 words):	The main challenge of this Cost Action is to create a transnational network that gathers European researchers carrying studies on Middle-Class Mass Housing (MCMH) built in Europe since the 1950s. This network will allow the development new scientific approaches by discussing, testing, and assessing case studies and their different methodologies and perspectives. MCMH has been generally underestimated in urban and architectural studies and there is still a lack of comparative analysis and global perspectives. The number of transnational publications and scientific meetings has also been scarce. By crossing different approaches focus on Architecture, Urbanism, Planning, Public

	Policies, History, Sociology new concepts and methodologies will arise. Therefore, the Action aims to produce a wider understanding of MCMH sprawl, deepening on-going research and focussing on the existing case studies. The current methodologies, surveys, catalogue, and contextualization allow an initial mapping of relevant case studies, their diverse degrees of resilience and how they have been adapted to current (urban and social) conditions. It is intended to develop the knowledge of the interaction between spatial forms, behaviours, and satisfaction and to combine methodologies of architectural and social analyses. The Action will be developed by three Working Groups, coordinated by a Core Group: Documenting the MCMH; Development of a specific set of (new) concepts for MCMH analyses; Leverage contemporary architecture interventions and Public Policies. In the Action will be involved researchers related to Mass Housing, MCMH Architecture and Urbanism, Planning and Public Policies, Sociological studies, Architecture History and Modern Heritage. •

Name Surname of Staff	Dr. Egin Zeka
COST Action No	CA18110
COST Action Title	Underground Built Heritage as catalyser for Community Valorisation (Underground4value)
COST Action Chair:	Mr Giuseppe PACE
Your role/position in the COST Action	**MC Member**
Duration of the Action	• **09.04.2019** • **08.10.2023**
Short Description (100-150 words):	The proposal will establish and implement an expert network, aiming at promoting balanced and sustainable approaches for the conservation of the underground heritage and, at the same time, realising the potential of underground space in urban and rural areas for regeneration policies. The experts will be organised in three working groups: 1. Underground space conservation and monitoring; 2. underground Heritage-Led urban and rural regeneration; 3. Planning and governance tools. Each expert will share best-practices, by reporting on governance mechanisms,

	planning framework, stakeholders' involvement management, financing mechanisms, technical needs, and their direct impacts on the underground built environment preservation, environment, society and economy, as well as potential negative externalities (i.e. 'gentrification', hard-branding, mass tourism, recreational villages, underground degradation…). Collected information will be the basis for developing new research and training, open and accessible to all parties interested in the underground regeneration, and it will provide knowledge on main technical and organisational barriers to the underground regeneration and correlated solutions. The proposal aims at guaranteeing continuity of use and significance to the underground historic fabric, revitalisation of the public realm and skills development for townspeople. It will disseminate knowledge on underground culture and assist local communities' decision-making with adequate cultural, scientific and technical knowledge of the underground built environment from many different aspects (i.e. archaeology, geotechnics, history, urban planning, cultural anthropology, economics, architecture, cultural tourism). Finally, it will contribute to other EU programmes implementation. *Action keywords* Underground Built Heritage - Heritage-Led Regeneration - Heritage Conservation Methods - Sustainability Transition - Technological and Social Innovation

Dr. Fabio Naselli

-COST Action CA19136, International Interdisciplinary Network on
Smart Healthy Age-friendly Environments (NET4AGE-FRIENDLY), 2020-2024
-Workshop, organized by the Department of Architecture, CoRDA and N`CEP club at Epoka University, and Shoqata Zhepova e Bashkuar: A new paradigm for rural development (for the future of two traditional villages in the south of Albania, Zhepova and Shelq); first step 02.05.2022; second step 27-29.05.2022; third step 11-23.09.2022

E. Support, Resources & Representation

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List of Students' Internships

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Participation in Academic Events

For each research publication provide the full reference associated by a short summary of 100 words max.
For participation in Academic Events, include international/ national conferences, workshops, trainings, roundtables etc. Similarly, provide full references and a short summary (100 words max) of each activity.

Research Projects

(Write a paragraph for each project applied and/ or awarded highlighting the area of the project, members, targeted group, grant used, expected outcomes). Associate the text with at least one picture.

Industry Projects

(Write a paragraph for each project highlighting the area of the project, members, targeted group, grant used, expected outcomes). Associate the text with at least one picture.

Community Projects

(Write a paragraph for each project highlighting the area of the project, members, targeted group, grant used, expected outcomes). Associate the text with at least one picture.

Student Club Projects

(Write a paragraph for each project highlighting the area of the project, members, targeted group, grant used, expected outcomes). Associate the text with at least one picture.

Student Best Success Stories

(Choose up to five best student success stories and write one to two paragraphs for each. Associate the text with a picture of the student)

Office Holders

The department would like to thank the following for their valuable contribution to teaching, administration, and management over the past year:

Dr. Edmond Manahasa (Head of the Department of Architecture)
Prof. Dr. Sokol Dervishi (Dean of Faculty of Architecture and Engineering)
Dr. Anna Yunitsyna
Dr. Odeta Manahasa
Dr. Artan Hysa
Dr. Fabio Naselli
Dr. Egin Zeka
Dr. Desantila Hysa
MSc. Ina Dervishi
MSc. Kreshnik Merxhani
MSc. Nerina Baçi
Coordinator Ms. Edona Gerbeti

Acknowledgements

In addition to the Office Holders listed above, the department would like to thank all the offices for their collaboration to make this department offer all the facilities needed for the students.

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