

# PhD in Architecture. History and Project

## Research Title: Action-research into the city

<b>Funded by</b>	Interdepartmental Centre Future Urban Legacy Lab. (FULL) Politecnico di Torino
------------------	--

<b>Supervisor</b>	Matteo Robiglio ( <a href="mailto:matteo.robiglio@polito.it">matteo.robiglio@polito.it</a> ), Francesca Frassoldati ( <a href="mailto:francesca.frassoldati@polito.it">francesca.frassoldati@polito.it</a> ) as DASP affiliates; co-supervisors selected among the members of FULL board and external advisors if appropriate
-------------------	---

<b>Contact</b>	Website under construction; please do contact the two supervisors for further information
----------------	---

<b>Context of the research activity</b>	<p>The urban realm is by its nature a complex and cross-disciplinary field of researches and practices. It configures both the key source of economic growth and the place of growing inequalities where challenging demands and organized potential to elaborate answers – in terms of social innovation and applied technologies – spatially concentrate. Studying the urban realm as a space offers the unique chance of rejoining the separated paths of human sciences, hard sciences and design sciences.</p> <p>FULL-The Future Urban Legacy Lab., based at Polito, aims at providing knowledge and action in the field of relevant global urban challenges and to support local decision-making processes. The acronym FULL welds legacy and future, which are intended as the socio-technical products of layering processes in space and time.</p> <p>For this very reason FULL participates in the objectives and research programs of DASP PhD Programme. The shared interest of FULL and DASP is to bridge knowledge of the past and visions for the future in the urban realm. FULL mission is to explore, imagine and design the future of global and local urban legacy embodied in city form by understanding and activating the potential of physical and organizational forms of inherited urban settings. Transformative attitude towards urban phenomena is the ideal testing ground of FULL research work. FULL added value is to boost established research experiences at Polito in order to integrate analytical and empirical methods together with evidence-based design.</p>
---	--

<b>Objectives</b>	<p>Within the FULL research framework, PhD candidates will define their specific research interests in accordance with the two general themes to which FULL devotes most efforts in this first year, namely: a) production, distribution and flow of goods and resources in urbanized areas and b) dynamics of difference, inequality and marginality in the city. Both research threads are approached by FULL fellowship at DASP in their interface with the existing urban built form and its historical layering, in terms of urban effects of innovation and interconnection of data governance with the urban built stock.</p> <p>Based on the two general themes mentioned above, PhD research work will pursue the three methodological objectives of FULL transformative research framework:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• exercising evidence-based design and research that is instrumental to transformative action-research based on critical understanding, explicit visualization, social responsibility, reflective practice, continuous monitoring and assessment;</li> <li>• grounding heritage discourse in present praxis, particularly be making explicit references to the processes of historical layering of innovation in the city and applying design as a research method;</li> <li>• understanding present global trends by balancing case-based research and broad comparative framework, also handling qualitative and quantitative methods and interfacing with multi-disciplinary problem setting.</li> </ul>
-------------------	--

<b>Skills and competencies for the development of the activity</b>	<p>DASP PhD candidates working in FULL should: hold a Master Degree in Architecture, Urban Planning or related disciplines that include specific training in design-based practice and familiarity with common professional software, including the Adobe Suite, parametric and 3D modeling tools; demonstrate independent and critical thinking in drafting their research statement, making competent use of references to academic literature, technical literature and design as a research method; have excellent knowledge of English as a work language (knowledge of another European language is appreciated; previous international experiences are also welcome); be able to work in multidisciplinary team; have some experiences with survey methods and/or spatial data collection and/or physical or digital archives; have basic competence in technical software such as database management, data analysis and visualization, and/or Geographic Information Systems.</p>
--	--