

specialization

Urban Social Development and Human Resources

This specialization focuses on public administration and capacity building in the context of urban development. The courses of this specialization can be divided into two categories: a) urban and social development, b) and building human and institutional capacities.

This specialization aims to fill a vacuum that exists in the current Albanian/Balkans labor market: the change of regime in early 1990s brought drastic changes in the attitude towards society and the human resources, followed by a social and intellectual crisis. This vacuum requires a greater emphasis on higher values to society and on human/administrative capacities.

Objectives:

Learning objectives for the social development and human resource specialization include:

- Familiarization, analysis and understanding of social and urban development theories;
- Ability to apply social inclusion and desegregation strategies;
- Familiarization, analysis and understanding of human behavior and organizational theories;
- Familiarization, analysis and understanding of different models and relationships among organizations, individuals and society;
- Familiarization, analysis and understanding of human resource development strategies strategies.

Content:

Focal subject areas include:

- Building and operating social cooperation networks;
- Capacity building programs and professional and scientific qualification;
- Better performance of individuals/communities/organizations and institutions through adoption of an integrated approach for more efficient policy-making and decision-taking processes.

Relevance:

Social & Political studies, Public & Business administration, Economy & finance, Law, Urbanism, Planning & management, Environmental studies, ect.

specialization

Housing and Land Development

Housing is a field that integrates real estate, planning, infrastructure and land development dimensions of the built environment; the architectural and engineering dimension of design; as well as other important dimensions such as finance, social integration, the fight against poverty, social equity and human rights. Housing is used as a tool for urban development and renewal, as a tool for the normalization of the construction market, to promote social integration, and as an economic/financial policy to redistribute wealth and fight poverty.

Objectives:

Learning objectives for the housing and land development specialization include:

- Familiarization, analysis and understanding of modern theories of planning, land use and infrastructure;
- Familiarization, analysis and understanding of modern theories of housing, urban renovation and management;
- Familiarization, analysis and understanding of modern theories of real estate development;
- Ability to apply real estate evaluation methods, as well as land development strategies.

Content:

Housing and land development are considered to be at the conjunction of urban/regional interests and policies. In this respect the courses of this specialization relate to four primary components:

- the physical-technical dimension (architecture, engineering);
- the territorial-spatial dimension (local governance, urban planning and environmental management);
- the economic dimension (economy, finance, real estate and maintenance);
- the social dimension (market equity, human rights, and the fight against poverty and segregation).

Relevance:

Architecture, Urban design, Urbanism, Planning & management, Civil engineering, Environmental studies, Economy & Finance, Real Estate evaluation, Management etc.

U_POLIS

MASTER COURSE BROCHURE

specialization

Spatial Planning & GIS Application

This specialization aims to equip students with the theoretical and the practical skills necessary to apply planning and technological concepts, with a special focus on the national, regional and inter-regional spatial scale, strongly related to the integration process of the Western Balkan region within the EU.

Objectives:

Learning objectives for the spatial planning and GIS specialization include:

- Familiarization, analysis and understanding of planning theories;
- Ability to critically assess a given space and territorial context;
- Familiarization, analysis and understanding of the relationship between local, regional, national and supranational spatial development policies;
- Familiarization, analysis and understanding of appropriate and sustainable planning strategies;
- Ability to apply computer & GIS technology.

Content:

The courses of this specialization consist of two main components:

- Sustainable spatial/regional/inter-regional planning;
- Effective geographic information systems and their efficient application in policy-making and decision-taking processes.

Relevance:

Architecture, Urban design, Urbanism, Planning & management, Environmental studies, Geography, Rural Development, etc.



Master program Admission

This Master Program is organized according the Albanian Law, as well as Quality Standard Systems both in Albania and in The Netherlands.

1. Based on Law nr. 9741, 21.05.2007 - on Higher Education in the Republic of Albania (amended), in order to get accepted into programs of the second cycle and into professional Master's programs, the applicant should hold a Bachelor's degree or a foreign equivalent of a Bachelor's degree.

2. In order to register, the student must present the following necessary documentation to the POLIS University secretariat:

- Completed application form
- Notarized copy of the Bachelor's degree
- Original student's transcript
- Curriculum Vitae
- Motivation Letter
- Document of identification
- Four passport-size photos
- Statement of tuition payment

Depending on previous formation of each applicant there are three possible degree tracks:

- For those previously holding a 180-240 ECTS Bachelor/M. Professional qualification, they might study a Professional Master's diploma in one of six specializations of urban and design studies of at least 90 credits (ECTS).
- For those holding at least an MSc 120 ECTS qualification, or a 5 year integrated MSc studies of 300 ECTS, (as well as old system 4-year university studies recognized as equivalent of MSc by Albanian Law), they might study a professional Master's diploma in one of six specializations of urban and design studies of at least 72 credits (ECTS).
- In addition to the other tracks mentioned above, there is also a "PhD" track whereby PhD students can take scientific/specialized courses of the joint degree program. Albanian PhD participants need to obtain at least 30 course credits in this track.

Under successful completion of studies participants will be rewarded a Joint Degree Professional Master Diploma cosigned by POLIS University and IHS/EUR. Those interested to extend studies at Master's of Science (MSc) degree level, they might continue to study an additional MSc studies semester of 30 ECTS near U_POLIS in Tirana, or IHS/Erasmus in Rotterdam, or Lawrence Tech' in Detroit, upon previous agreement and under condition of their qualitative participation/ results at Professional Master.



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CONTACT INFORMATION

POLIS MISSION & OBJECTIVES

U_POLIS aims to create, transmit, develop and defend the knowledge through teaching, scientific research activity and services in the fields of Applied Art-Design, Architecture, Urban Planning and Environmental Management, to prepare specialist and scientists. POLIS enables such education throughout professional life, helping the development of local economy and societies at national and regional level, by contributing to the progress of local democracies and sustainable societies.

The objectives of U_POLIS are to boost regional-international cooperation becoming a reference in the region for specific profiles through application of international standards. It runs studies, research, scientific and practical activities that are closely linked with academic activity and the programs of the studies it develops. U_POLIS believes in the moderated institutional growth philosophy which is firmly based on it. At present U_POLIS is running three levels of studying programs, helping students, professionals and researchers obtain best qualities of professional leadership in their fields of interest.

ACADEMIC STAFF

U_POLIS academic and research staff includes some of the country/region's most remarkable professionals in the fields of art-design and architecture; urban-environmental management; philosophy thinking; as well as natural, social and political sciences, etc.

Throughout academic years, it also invites a considerable number of foreign guest lecturers, from reputable of EU, North America and other international universities, etc.

POLIS academic staff includes:

- Qualified local/regional experts, with long stable academic and practical experience, open to the new ideas and willing to transmit the know-how to the new generations.
- Young professionals and assistant lectures educated internationally, who come back to Albania/Balkans committed to bring innovation and improvement to their own countries.
- International professors from western universities who collaborate institutionally and individually with POLIS University.

- Guest collaborates and exchange professors with: IHS/Erasmus University Rotterdam, TU-Vienna, 'La Sapienza' Rome; U-Teknion Israel & Bezalel Jerusalem; Bauhaus Anhalt, Mainz, TU-Darmstadt, Karlsruhe, and Kottbus Germany; LorenTech Detroit, GSD Harvard & GeorgiaTech in USA, Trieste, Trieste, Bari & Ancon Universities Italy, TU-Delft & U-Wageningen Holland; etc.

Dr. Besnik Aliaj; Prof. Antonino Saggio; Doc. Jan Fransen; Doc. Saskia Rujnsik; Prof. Artan Fuga; Dr. Paul Rabé; Dr. Peter Nientied; Dr. Vera Bushati; Prof. Luljeta Bozo; Dr. James Kostaras; Dr. Alonso Ajala; Prof. Judy Green; Dr. Carlos Morales; Dr. Liliane Geerling; Dr. Gulia Maci; Dr. Marco Van Hoek; Prof. Antonino Scarelli; Doc. Sibylla Zech; Dr. Thomas Dillinger; Prof. As. Marcus Tomaselli; Prof. Dr. Vezir Muharremaj; Doc. Sotir Dhamo; Prof. James Stevens; Doc. Laura Visser; Doc. Dritan Shutina; Doc. Olsi Lefe; Doc. Laura Pedata; Doc. Rudina Toto; Doc. Anila Gjika; Prof. As. Agim Muçaj; Dr. Arben Shtylla; Prof. As. Agron Dhima; Prof. Dr. Sherif Lushaj; Dr. Roberto Pasini; Dr. Philipp Rode; Dr. Gezim Qendro, Doc. Doris Andoni; Doc. Elvan Dajko; Prof. As. Merita Dollma; Dr. Loris Rossi; Dr. Antonino di Raimo; Prof. As. Diana Haxhihyseni; Doc. Skender Luarasi; Doc. Gjergj Simaku, Dr. Kristaq Qirko.



specialization Landscape and Urban Design

This specialization aims to provide participants with advanced concepts in landscape and urban design of urban/natural territories and public space that meet aesthetics, sustainability, functionality and safety criteria. The specialization conceives advanced planning and design knowledge as a way to properly address landscape and urban issues by bringing added value to space, heritage and quality of life.

Objectives:

Learning objectives for the landscape and urban design specialization include:

- Familiarization, analysis and understanding of landscape and urban design theories;
- Ability to critically analyze the territorial context and green knowledge;
- Ability to assess types of intervention according to the features of a given site;
- Development of design skills with creativity and sustainability logic.

Content:

Courses in this specialization fit into two categories:

- Landscape architecture, green and gardening (smaller scale)
- Landscape planning (larger scale), including the design of public space and park design.

Relevance:

Architecture, Urban design, Urban Planning and Management, Applied Design, Environmental studies, Geography, Agriculture, Forestry, Natural Sciences, etc.

specialization Aesthetic and Structural Design

The aesthetic and structural design specialization aims to equip participants with advanced engineering concepts, as well as with a better understanding of specific aesthetic features of the structural design of buildings and mechanical objects of everyday use that also meet functionality and safety criteria.

Objectives:

Learning objectives for the aesthetic and structural design specialization include:

- Familiarization, analysis and understanding of advanced structural concepts and their application in practice beyond the basis of civil and mechanical engineering;
- Familiarization, analysis and understanding of advanced aesthetic concepts and their application in practice;
- Ability to integrate structural and aesthetic aspects of design in concrete cases including: public buildings, infrastructure and industrial design;
- Further development of design skills and creativity.

Content:

This specialization integrates structural and aesthetic aspects of design, educating professionals for the labor market in Albania and region at EU standard, considering the lack of specialized expertise in this area which expects major public and trunk infrastructure investments after EU accession.

Relevance:

Civil & structural engineering, Mechanical engineering, Architecture, Industrial design, etc.

specialization Parametric Architectural Design

This specialization seeks to impart the awareness that design, like many other disciplines, is subject to a shift in the mindset indicated by the global shift towards simulacra, or the ultimate revolution of information technology.

Objectives:

Learning objectives for the parametric and architectural design specialization include:

- Development of a thorough understanding of the impact of the shift towards IT paradigms in design;
- Familiarization, analysis and understanding of the real potentials of parametric tools, and their application in practice;
- Development of a new approach and attitude towards the design process;
- Development of skills to create a new aesthetic.

Content:

The specialization aims to provide enhanced concepts as part of the latest patterns in design, including parametric design, digital design, space syntax and industrial and sustainable design, etc. It also aims to develop students' skills in technology and software applications, the use of which will re-shape the design process and provide a new methodology for industrial designers, architects and urban designers

Relevance:

Architecture, Urban Design & Applied Art-Design, etc.

