



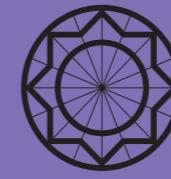
Università
degli Studi
di Palermo

Master's Degree

SPATIAL PLANNING

GUIDE
FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

**DA
RCH**
DIPARTIMENTO
DI ARCHITETTURA
UNIPA



**SI
NG**

CORSO DI LAUREA MAGISTRALE
IN SPATIAL PLANNING [LM48R]
DIPARTIMENTO
DI ARCHITETTURA DI PALERMO

The new master's degree in **Spatial Planning** is entirely in English. The course, inspired by the long-standing Italian tradition of urban and territorial design, looks at future issues related to the planning and design of cities and territories.

1st year

Planning Studio 1 (10 CFU); **Planning Theory** (6 CFU); **Landscape Design Studio** (8 CFU); **Geomatics** (6 CFU); **Social Geography and Participatory Practices** (6 CFU); **Economic evaluation for energy transition and sustainable development** (6 CFU); **Free subjects** (student's choice) (8 CFU); **Other knowledge useful for job placement** (2 CFU).

2nd year

Planning Studio 2 (10 CFU) + **Urban and Regional Policies** (6 CFU); **Technological Design for Settlements** (6 CFU); **Landscape Ecology** (6 CFU); **Energetic Policies for the Territory** (6 CFU) + **Sustainable Mobility Policies** (6 CFU); **Urban Design** (8 CFU); **Internship** (10 CFU); **Final thesis** (10 CFU).



Filippo Schilleci
Course Coordinator

“a planner has the ideas and tools to make the world better”

About SING

What is the objective of the course? What does it prepare for?

The Master Degree Course in Spatial Planning (SING) is inspired by the **long Italian tradition of urban and territorial planning** and addresses future issues related to the planning and design of cities and the sustainable development of territories. The Course is ideal for recent graduates and for professionals who wish to advance their education or to direct their career towards urban and spatial planning with opportunities for employment both in the public sector (municipalities, provinces, ministries) and in the private sector (real estate consulting firms, real estate companies, development industry, voluntary bodies and more).

The Course constitutes the **higher professional level of the Planner's university education**, in continuity with the Degree Course in Urban Design for the City in Transition or with access from other Degree Courses subject to verification of entry skills. There are various fields in which Spatial Planning graduates will be able to work: from the definition of **land uses** to the **conscious and sustainable use of natural resources**, from the **protection of the environment** to the **enhancement of landscapes**, from **infrastructural provisions** to **urban services** and **urban regeneration**.

The transversal skills of graduates in Spatial Planning can be spent in different areas ranging from the preservation and promotion of cultural heritage to the protection of ecosystem balances, from urban regeneration to the design of the smart city, from planning for renewable energy and sustainable mobility to European planning and the world of the Third Sector.

In short, one of the main objectives of the Master's Degree Course in Spatial Planning is to respond to the current needs of the world of work, which demands specific reference **figures for the construction of strategies, policies and projects of urban and territorial transformation**, acting as mediators between the political sphere, social dynamics and territorial realities.

Delivered entirely in English, also thanks to the presence of students from numerous countries around the world, the Course offers an **international training environment and actively promotes a global perspective** that offers graduates further opportunities for employment in the international sphere.

What do you learn?

The course of study envisages that students will gain as much experimental experience as possible with thematic workshops, lectures, seminars and meetings with experts and public administrators, internships in public offices, institutions and private companies that will enable them to grasp the various points of view on the transformation of the city and the territory, in economic and evaluative, social, environmental, landscape, infrastructural, historical and architectural and urban design terms. In particular, a thematic planning workshop is foreseen for each year of the course: that of the first year with predominantly urban values (Planning Studio I), that of the second year with predominantly territorial values (Planning Studio II), another workshops is instead dedicated to the in-depth study of topics related to landscape design (Landscape design Studio). In addition, the Master's Degree Course in Spatial Planning includes other disciplines oriented to deepening themes, methods and practices concerning Planning Theories, social geography and participatory practices in planning processes (Social geography and participatory practices), Geomatics, Economic evaluation for energy transition and sustainable development, Technological Design of Settlements, Landscape Ecology, as well as Energy Policies for the Territory and Sustainable Mobility Policies.

In 2025, the degree course received **QR Certification - Quality Recognition from AESOP (Association of European Schools of Planning)**.

In summary, during the course of the degree course you will be able to:

- Learn about the **pillars of planning**, developing the ability to think critically about space as a basis for project action.
- Understand the development of spatial planning within the **European urban and regional planning system, and beyond**, exploring the relationship between planning, economic growth and sustainable development.
- Build a conceptual understanding of essential spatial **planning theories**, including those of geography, sociology and economics, and apply qualitative and quantitative techniques, such as **GIS analysis, participatory mapping and field surveys**.
- Develop an **interdisciplinary approach** to spatial planning and new relational skills based on group problem-solving activities and peer teaching.
- Explore the challenges of spatial planning through a '**learning by doing**' approach, field visits, student-led seminars, case studies and workshops.
- Develop specific skills on complex and specialised diagnostics concerning cities, territories, landscapes and the environment and their interrelationships, as well as unique skills in **strategic environmental assessment** (SEA).
- To develop skills for carrying out **management activities, coordination and elaboration** of strategic environmental assessments and technical feasibility of urban and territorial plans and projects.
- Put the **theoretical concepts of strategic spatial planning into practice**.
- Obtain an accredited degree with QR Certification - Quality Recognition by AESOP (Association of European Schools of Planning).

What can one do afterwards?

The Territorial Planner works both as a **freelance professional and in public institutions or private and third sector entities** in the field of urban and territorial transformations, infrastructures and energy policies, landscape and environment as well as in the field of urban policies. The spatial planner can work as a **policy maker, consultant or project manager** for government, consulting companies, project developers or research institutes, as well as increasingly in international planning. The internship period takes place in organisations and institutions of different levels and allows students to explore various fields of planning, providing an important link to the world of work.

The Master's Degree in Spatial Planning takes on the professional qualification of Territorial Planner, in accordance with Presidential Decree 328/2001, following the State Examination and enrolment in the Order of Architects, Planners, Landscape Architects and Conservators, section A.

Spatial Planning Master's Degree Professors



GIUSEPPE BAZAN



MARCO MIGLIORE



MANFREDI LEONE



BARBARA LINO



MARIA LA GENNUSA



FRANCESCO LO PICCOLO



ANTONELLA MAMI



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THE DEPARTMENT OF ARCHITECTURE

The Department of Architecture (DARCH) is formed by: 89 teaching staff members, 36 PhD students, 10 Research Fellows, 18 administrative and technical staff members.

Except for PhD students and Postdoc fellows, teaching staff members are full-time professors of the University of Palermo. They belong to a wide range of academic fields, all in the realm of architecture. Therefore they offer different point of views as well as different approaches to the knowledge of physical transformation of natural and built space. Nevertheless their studies boast a common capacity to envisage, design, plan, represent and deal with these transformations.

Appropriate communication of the character and peculiarities of the transformations is also particularly sought after by DARCH.

DARCH'S research is focused on all the wide range of studies of physical environment: design, architectural design, urban design, urban and regional planning, landscape design, design management, preservation projects and preservation-oriented diagnostics.

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