



## Final Urban and Architecture Lab (Laboratorio di Sintesi)

Facoltà di Architettura, "Sapienza" - Università di Roma

professore Antonino Saggio [V.](#)

Composizione architettonica e urbana,

### Title of the Lab

Aniene Rims

Water emergency and architectural and urban design in abandoned areas along both banks of the river Aniene

### Web Site of the Lab

[www.arc1.uniroma1.it/saggio/Didattica/Lab/Lab22/](http://www.arc1.uniroma1.it/saggio/Didattica/Lab/Lab22/)

### Collaborator to the Research

Researcher co Diap on Fiume Aniene

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This architectural design final lab (laboratorio di sintesi) is planned to engage students in the design of a building of medium-high complexity to be located in an empty urban space of the city of Rome. The peculiarity of this Design studio is the relationship that is established between the program and the project area, and between the expected occupants and the set of theoretical and practical aspects of architectural and urban design that are addressed in this course.

The program of the project lies in the large part on the concept of mixité. Therefore it proposes a combination of different activities organized from a strong idea of use, i.e. a driving force that motivates the project and its need in the contemporary city but also more specifically in the selected area. Each student will choose in fact a specific area for his/her project in a "Urban Voids" located in the east part of Rome along the areas located along the river Aniene between the Gra and its confluence on the Tiber river. It is a specific area of the larger project "UnLost Territories" located on the east side of Rome along the via Prenestina. In this area he/she will develop a program in close relationship with the teacher but also with the support of promoter or virtual client. [www.arc1.uniroma1.it/saggio/anienerims/](http://www.arc1.uniroma1.it/saggio/anienerims/)

The course will be organized in thematic cycles (the selection of the program, the spatial concepts, the spatial expressive and distribution organization). Each cycle will always provide one or more lessons, theoretical revisions and personal or collective presentations. The complex web of practices promoted by the course will be supported by the Course web site, by Google maps ([goo.gl/OPI6oY](http://goo.gl/OPI6oY)) to localize the urban voids, by a general blog and also by the individual blogs of each student. This system will create a dense network of shared experiences materials and knowledge. The course includes a pre-test in the beginning of February and closes with an exam session at the end of the month (see web page).

In short, the projects that are produced in this laboratory, which were widely published on paper (see Bibliography) and on the Web, are intended to promote the development of micro architectures that are based on six key features:

- The construction of a critical look on the periphery
- The creation of innovative programs to use based on the concept of "mixité"
- Enhancement of areas abandoned or underused city
- The study of new approaches in terms of bioclimatic and environmental
- The use of information technology in the dissemination and co-responsibility of the project
- The activation of concrete relationships with potential project partners considered as indispensable actors in the social and economic context of the city
- The contribution to the professional role of the designer as the carrier of a role "Pro-Active" in contemporary society.

Of course, the strength of three hundred projects to date with this approach lies not in the individual aspects listed above, but in their intertwining synergy that is the peculiar characteristic of every effort in the specification of Architectural and Urban Design.

### Theoretical aspects

In teaching, we believe central planning effort to bridge the separation between the analytical phase (knowledge) and a synthetic phase (design). The risk is to have one hand too specialist contributions, almost to the same ineffectiveness of their development decisions, and the other an "aura" of the designing process. Aim of the course is on the contrary make the students aware of the tools, techniques, concepts and "tools of the trade" of the project. From this point of view, the course inscribes in the category of

"instrumentality". An instrumentality that connects always the theoretical moment to the design tools to address the issues proposed.

The method of conducting the Laboratorio di sintesi is based on a teaching philosophy of dewyian origin whose base is the attempt does not sever the analysis phase (i.e. the transmission of a series of knowledge and issues related to the theme) from the phase of Synthesis (i.e. the development of the project). The method of hypothesis-synthesis allows the test of design decisions throughout the entire course period and throughout the entire design process. The collection of new informations (i.e. ex cathedra lectures, seminars, lectures, visits, etc.) are structured in thematic cycles to mature and deepen the design assumptions. The information thus create a moment of truth, a "test" for the design assumptions gradually formulated and require subsequent modifications and refinements of the project.

Derived from this framework, the course is divided into several thematic cycles. Each cycle consists of one or more ex-cathedra lectures, individual revisions, collective workshop with presentations of project ideas. The fundamental cycles are the following:

1. A critical vision of the periphery
2. The city the urban voids
3. The program will use the concept of mixité and promoter
4. The layout of the volumes and the Checkerboard design
5. System technology and territorial systems
6. the system of water management
7. The distribution system
8. The expressive and the five categories of vision
9. The Synthesis Project

### **Organizational Aspects and Design Modules**

The compulsory attendance by the students will be checked. The use of portable computer is considered particularly useful in this course. We recommend using the program Sketch up, which has a light version for free download <http://it.sketchup.com>. Creating an individual blog is required as a means of relationships with other students, and delivery interim presentation of the project. We recommend the creation through <https://www.blogger.com/>

### **Final Examination**

Attendance is required and students have to prove to have passed all the eight cycles. pre exam is at the beginning of February and Final exams at the end of the month.

The materials for the exam are:

1. A detailed portfolio that contains a summary of lectures, readings, studies and project ideas submitted in each Studio cycle.
2. A series of drawings, which will be detailed over the content, and that will synthesize, together with a model, with the proposed project.
3. A functioning blog which contains the products of the course and the basic researches conducted by each student.

The student will reveal a sufficient mastery of the material presented in the workshop and the preparation of a project proposal appropriate to the objectives.

### Bibliography

The more specific literature d will be provided together with the unfolding of the teaching.

#### Book of The course

- \* Antonino Saggio, **Architettura e Modernità, Dal Bauhaus a la Rivoluzione Informatica**, Carocci, Roma 2010 in biblioteca, libreria [Link](#)

#### Bibliographical supports

- \* **“Metamorfosi”**, (monografico **Digital borders: Frontiere digitali** a cura di Rosalba Belibani, Roberta Lucente) n. 09/10, settembre 2021
- \* **UnLostTerritories Ricostruire la periferia a Roma Architettura e società nei territori abbandonati** a cura di Antonino Saggio, Gaetano de Francesco, Vita nostra Edizione 2022 in biblioteca, [Link](#)
- **Urban Green Line. Progetti sistemici per una infrastruttura ecologica a Roma**, Lulu.com 2012
- **Tevere cavo una infrastruttura di nuova generazione per Roma tra passato e futuro** a cura di Antonino Saggio, Gaetano de Francesco, Itools-Lulu.com 2018
- UrbanVoids, **UrbanVoids™ Strategie nuove partnership per progetti sostenibili nella città di Roma**, lulu com 2010
- Antonino Saggio & Scanner@Nitro, **Roma a venire, progetti per una città dell'informazione e della storia vita**, Aracne editori, Roma 2009 anche <http://www.arc1.uniroma1.it/saggio/roma/>
- Gaetano de Francesco, **Infrastrutture dell'acqua Strategie adattive all'emergenza dei mutamenti climatici Progettare infrastrutture idriche di nuova generazione**, tesi dottorale, Roma 2017 disponibile on line [Link](#) and published by Quolibet in 2021as **Architettura dell'acqua. L'emergenza idrica come occasione progettuale nella città contemporanea**
- Gaetano De Francesco et al, UNSTudio, Lulu com, 2016
- Antonino Saggio, **Progettare La residenza**, Lulu edizioni 2013 [a stampa](#) e o in Biblioteca [LinkEpub](#)