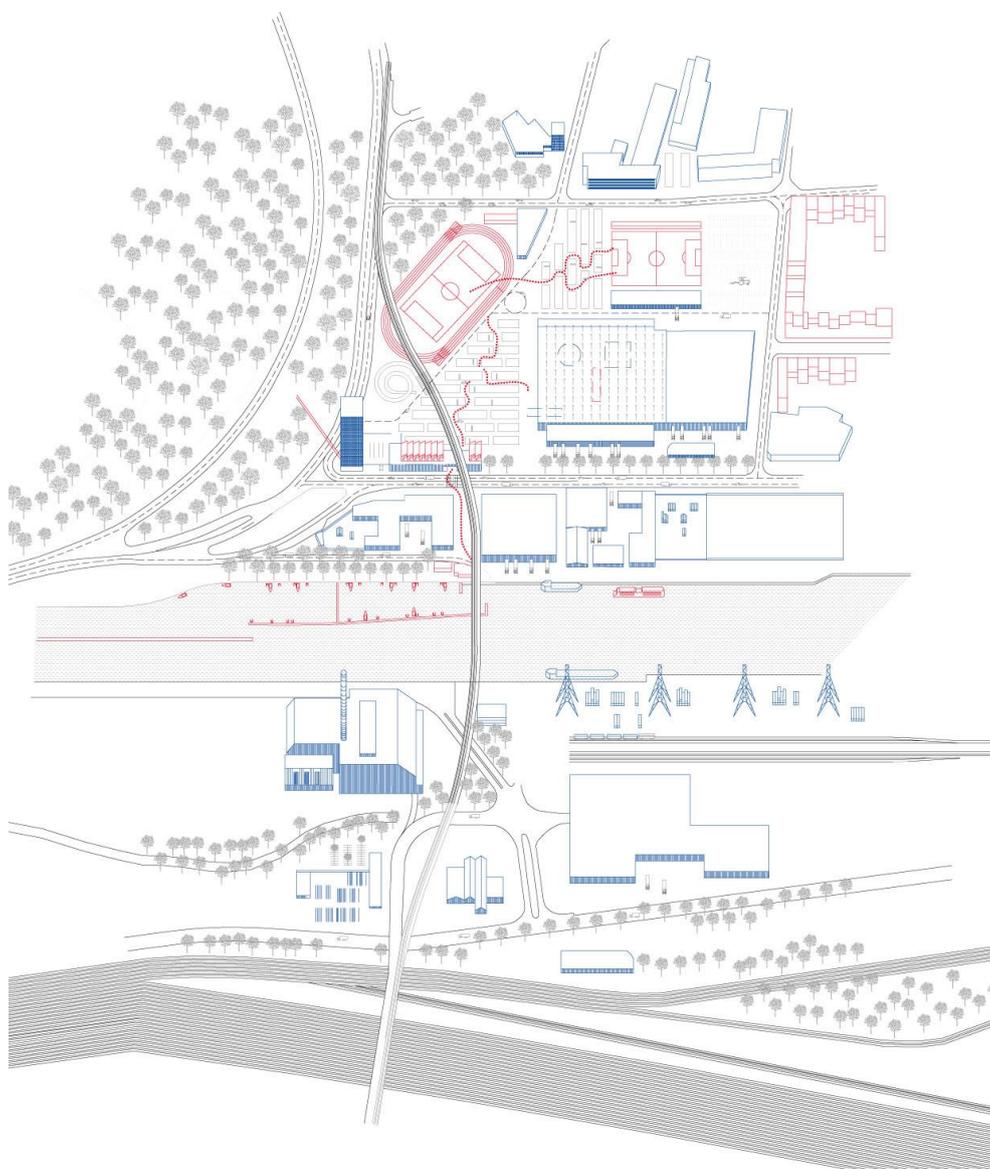


ADVANCED MASTER TRANSITION URBANISM

Geoffrey Grulois coordinator (FA)
Phillipe Bouillard co-coordinator (EPB)



Economic and living spaces around the canal in Neder-Over-Hembeek,
from *Rework, making place for industry, logistics and wholesale in Brussels*, 2012

This proposal aims to revise the former ULB 'Master de spécialisation en urbanisme et aménagement du territoire' organised by the Ecole Polytechnique de Bruxelles (EPB) by taking into account the practice and culture of urbanism of the Faculty of Architecture of ULB. It contains a proposal for a new one year bilingual (French-English) taught programme (60 ECTS) in urbanism with a strong focus on research by design and practice. The new programme will be jointly organised by the Faculty of Architecture La Cambre-Horta (FA) with the Ecole Polytechnique de Bruxelles (EPB).

BACKGROUND

In 1928, the Institut Supérieur des Arts Décoratifs – La Cambre founded the first Institut d'Urbanisme in Belgium. Until 1980, this institute played a leading role for the discipline of urbanism in Belgium. The tutors and students of this Institut d'Urbanisme are the designers of the first garden city in the 1920s (Louis Van der Swaelmen, Raphaël Verwilghen), the regional and sector plans (Brussels, Liège), new town (Louvain-La-Neuve) and neighbourhood units (Flémalle Haute) of the 1950s, 1960s and 1970s (Emile Parent, Paul Fitchy, Jean-Pierre Blondel, Alberto Vanderauwera). The Institute was close in 1980 but the tradition of urbanism was transfer to Institut Supérieur d'Architecture La Cambre that later on integrated the Faculty of Architecture of ULB. Since the founding of the Faculty in 2010, the discipline of urbanism as a research and design field is organized by LoUIsE research group and the filière territoire. The new master in urbanism is therefore an opportunity for the Faculty of Architecture to deliver an advanced curriculum in urbanism.

Since 1936, ULB created an Institut d'Urbanisme embedded in the Faculty of Applied Sciences (coordination by Adolphe Puissant, with a programme accessible only to civil (construction) engineers. In 1953, it became degree in planning (coordination by Alfred Ledent), welcoming architect-planner and engineer-planner. In 1962, the programme expanded and the 'Institut d'Urbanisme et d'Aménagement du Territoire' (IUAT) was created. In 1969, a collaboration was signed between ULB and l'Ecole Supérieure d'Architecture (Horta) resulting in curriculum revisions (coordination by Victor Martiny). In 1974, the PhD in urbanism was created transforming the IUAT into a research group. In 1980, the PhD was extended to architecture ('Art de bâtir et urbanisme') and the training programme was extended to restoration and urban renewal. In 2006, IUAT merged with 4 other research groups to create the BATir department dedicated to cover comprehensively the field of built environment. In 2008, after the Bologna reform, the programme becomes a Master Complémentaire en Urbanisme et Aménagement du Territoire, recently (2015) changed in Master de spécialisation.

In 2017, this new joint programme is proposed by the EPB and the Faculty of Architecture. The current proposal is a first attempt to deliver collaboratively a revised and upgraded Advanced Master in Transition Urbanism. **Fostering the EPB-FDA collaboration is strategic to ULB considering their complementarities in research by design and innovative practice of urbanism.**

NEW VISION & CONCEPT

The present revision relies on the following principles:

- Advanced Master: Transition Urbanism
- LANGUAGE of instruction: French and English. This choice has been made to simultaneously cover the local needs for highly trained people in urbanism and increase the international attractiveness of the programme using Brussels, European Capital, as an asset.
- INSTITUTIONAL profile / history: FA/IUAT Alumni & international network(s) as an asset
- PLANNING AND DESIGN STRATEGIES AS A CORNER STONE - with particular focus on linking RESEARCH BY DESIGN for strategic spatial planning with public policy

- FOCUS ON SUSTAINABILITY AND TRANSITION - climate and economic change, territorial ecosystem & urban metabolism, landscape ecology & public space, sustainable transport & urban mobility, transition planning & territorial development, etc.)
- STRONG RESEARCH BY DESIGN ORIENTATION – value of the programme as fertile grounds for prospective and research by design PhDs
- INTERNSHIP: compulsory internship (research lab or professional office)

PROGRAMME AIMS

This Advanced Master aims at training highly qualified professional and researcher to become cutting edge planner and urbanist. The need for such profile is not covered by any existing master at ULB, the Master in Urban Studies (VUB-ULB) and the master in urban management of ULB in Chalreroi. On the contrary, there is a strong need for such a programme to deepen the urbanism and research by design skills of master graduates with an initial training in architecture (MA Architecture, MA landscape architecture, MSc Architectural Engineering)¹.

LEARNING OUTCOMES²

1. Generate comprehensive and well substantiated spatial responses to the challenges of social, economic and ecologic transition.
2. Demonstrate how efficient resource management, economic redevelopment and social innovation is strongly linked with and transition planning.
3. Explain the political and methodological nature of sustainable urbanism and transition planning and reflect on how planners work effectively within democratic decision-making structures.
4. Recognise the contribution that planning can make to the built and natural environments and in particular the implications of climate and socio-economic change.
5. Integrate the principles of equality and social justice through participatory approach of urbanism in order to positively promote the involvement of different communities, and evaluate the importance and effectiveness of community engagement in the planning process.
6. Evaluate the principles and processes of design and participatory research by design for creating high quality places and enhancing the public realm for the benefit of all in society.
7. Demonstrate effective research, analytical, evaluative and appraisal skills and the ability to reach appropriate, evidence based decisions.
8. Recognise the role of communication skills in the planning process and the importance of working in a multidisciplinary and multi-stakeholder societal context, and be able to demonstrate negotiation, mediation, advocacy and leadership skills.
9. Distinguish the characteristics of a professional, including the importance of upholding the highest standards of ethical behaviour and a commitment to lifelong learning and critical reflection so as to maintain and develop professional competence.

¹ See the preparatory note by the Chambres des Urbanistes de Belgique concerning the need for a new master in Urbanism to educate professional.

² Inspired by 'Policy Statement on Initial Planning Education', Revised 2012, RTPi.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

BACKGROUND: An initial master degree (180+120 ECTS) in architecture, landscape architecture, architectural engineering or equivalent. Holders of a master degree in geography, urban studies, civil engineering or other subjects are encouraged to apply. They will need to do a preliminary 60 ECTS programme in design and architecture (course from the FA and EPB).

Students submitting an admission request should provide a

1. English MIN LEVEL B1. For the full english cursus (Option and Master thesis in english): ENGLISH MIN LEVEL B2.
2. MOTIVATION LETTER mentioning the interest to follow the english/french curriculum or the full english curriculum – 1 page max.
3. PORTFOLIO: demonstrating interest and skills in / towards urban design & regional planning (max. 20 sheets of A3 / A4)

Link for registration : <http://www.ulb.ac.be/enseignements/inscriptions/>

PROGRAMME (60 ECTS)

This curriculum consists of cutting-edge new theoretical, studio and seminar course tailored specifically for this master by high level academic and professional in the field of urbanism. It consists of an 20 ECTS theoretical core module (in English), a 16 ECTS project module with two options (English and French), a 16 ECTS master thesis and a 8 ECTS internship

TRONC COMMUN – CORE MODULE THEORY (20 ECTS)

- URBA-H9009 Urban sustainability and circular economy - Ahmed Khan - 5 ECTS - EPB
- CNST-H531 Infrastructure and mobility - Philippe Bouillard - 5 ECTS - EPB
- URBA-P9001 Global urban agendas - Luisa Moretto - 3 ECTS - FA
- URBA-H9002 Urban and construction law – (NN, Serge Peeters) - 2 ECTS - EPB
- URBA-P9003 Urban morphology and infrastructure - Nadia Casabella - 5 ECTS – FA

PROJET – OPTIONS (16 ECTS)

OPTION #1 : URBANISME ET TERRITOIRE DE LA TRANSITION (16 ECTS) - MODULE EN FRANÇAIS - FA

- URBA-P9006 Atelier urbanisme de la transition – (Geoffrey Grulois, NN) - 8 ECTS
- URBA-P9007 Description et projet du territoire - (Gery Leloutre et Victor Brunfaut) - 4 ECTS
- URBA-P9008 Pratiques contemporaines de l'urbanisme et du projet de paysage– (Serge Peeters, Julie Martineau, Didier Vancutsem) – 4 ECTS

OPTION #2 : SUSTAINABLE URBAN DESIGN (16 ECTS) - ENGLISH TAUGHT MODULE - EPB

- ARCH-H400 Design studio sustainable design - Ahmed Khan, Hera Van Sande - 8 ECTS
- PROJ-H502 Design project competition - Philippe Bouillard (ULB) - 4 ECTS
- ARCH-H502 Theory of architecture and urbanism – Ahmed Kahn – 4 ECTS

MASTER THESIS – MÉMOIRE (16 ECTS)

- MEMO-P9004 Mémoire de fin d'études/Master thesis – Philippe Bouillard, Geoffrey Grulois - 16 (ECTS)

The identification and allocation of the master thesis topics will be coordinated with the Master in Urban Studies in order to encourage and strengthen collaboration and joint supervision. The focus however should refer to Urban Design and Transition Planning.

INTERNSHIP – STAGE (8 ECTS)

- STAG-P9005 – Serge Peeters, Geoffrey Grulois – 8 ECTS

8 weeks internship in a cutting edge urbanism agency or research center in Belgium or abroad (Funding Erasmus + placement for foreign internship).

Alternatively, students can take part in a 2 weeks masterclass for 2 ECTS (Metrolab, etc.) and do a 6 weeks internship.