



QUALITY RECOGNITION AESOP

Master's Program in Urban and Regional Planning
Interuniversity Department of Regional and Urban Studies and Planning
Politecnico di Torino

EVALUATION REPORT

After an in-depth examination of its academic curriculum and teaching pedagogy, the MSc in Urban and Regional Planning which is offered at the Politecnico di Torino has been conferred the AESOP Certificate of Quality.

The Master of Science in Urban and Regional Planning delivered at the Politecnico di Torino has been evaluated by two members of the AESOP Excellence in Education Board (EEB) appointed by the Chair. The EEB certifies that the above program fulfils the Quality Recognition criteria.

Quality in Planning Education

The MSc in Urban and Regional Planning delivered at the Politecnico di Torino stands out for its two tracks: i) Pianificare la città e il territorio per la transizione ecologica (PCT) - Urban and Regional Planning for Ecological Transition - and ii) Planning for the Global Urban Agenda (PGUA); which are provided in Italian and English, respectively. The PCT track focuses on training professionals who mainly operate within the Italian regulatory framework but who are aware of international changes and policies, while the PGUA focuses on training practitioners able to operate within the world planning market, by focusing on current global challenges, which are identified by the UN 2030 Agenda.

Programme Curriculum and Identity

- The master program is recognized for its **high degree of interdisciplinarity** (ensured by the teaching staff from several disciplines) and offers a range of studios as **multi-disciplinary modules**.





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- The main characteristics of the study program (and its two tracks) are the following: i) an **extensive use of GIS in several courses** such as transportation systems and mobility, and ii) a **geographical lens to interpret socio-spatial phenomena**.
- Several **environmental and social issues are addressed in several courses and studios**. In addition, the contribution of public officers and stakeholders in the classes is relevant for framing and discussing about **real cases**.

Principles of Pedagogy

- **Learning by doing** is predominant in the program. Students are exposed to ethical dilemmas in close to real-life contexts. There is also a strong stimulus to independent and group learning, and to reflexive praxis in their pedagogical practices.
- **Learning from and with diversity** inspires students to group learning. Students are also stimulated to explore research and inquiry taking advantage of their background and of cross-disciplinarity.
- **Apprehending from different perspectives** occurs through students' exposure to spatial foci, through regional and urban scales, and in an inter-scalar approach; global contexts, providing in both tracks environments that stimulate global comprehension of spatial planning phenomena; contemporary socio-spatial challenges related to ecological transition and UN 2030 Agenda; transition from theory to practice stimulating practical reasoning and judgement.

Showcase Practices

- Students can learn from systematic knowledge, critical thinking, as well as dialogues and practical tasks which are developed in **close collaboration with groupmates, teachers and practitioners** (for example by using **applied exercises and practices**, as well as the **development of policies and actions** in the classes).



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- **Working on real-life cases** through traineeships and internships (20 credits) which are offered to all students as optional courses, and which will become compulsory in 2025-2026.
- **Launching labs/initiatives** which focus on **real-life cases and challenges** in which citizens are engaged, such as the "Aurora Lab", which involves a neighborhood under socio-spatial transformations. In the lab, the students can work on urban micro-regeneration workshops in the public space close to one of the primary schools in the neighbourhood. The challenges refer to a large spectrum of issues (e.g. sustainable development, circular economy and others).

The AESOP Certificate of Quality and this Evaluation Report are valid for a period of six years (2024-2030).

30 September 2024

Tijana Dabovic
Chair
AESOP

Excellence in Education Board

Giancarlo Cotella
AESOP Secretary General

Mina Di Marino
Assessor
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Excellence in Education Board

Paulo Silva
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QUALITY
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AESOP

After a thorough examination of its academic curriculum and teaching pedagogies, the

**Master's Programme in
Urban and Regional Planning**

offered by

**Interuniversity Department of Regional and Urban Studies and
Planning - Politecnico di Torino**

has been highly distinguished with the

AESOP CERTIFICATE OF QUALITY

We certify that:

This programme fulfils the European quality standards of planning programmes according to the AESOP Charter, complemented by an effective internationalization of teaching and learning processes. The AESOP Certificate of Quality is valid for a period of six years (2024-2030).

30 September 2024

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