

# ARCHITECTURE. HISTORY AND PROJECT

## Ateneo/DAD - 100 years of Architecture at Politecnico di Torino: A Research on the History of the School

<b>Funded By</b>	Dipartimento di Architettura e Design [Piva/CF:00518460019] Politecnico di TORINO [Piva/CF:00518460019]
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<b>Context of the research activity</b>	<p>The research focuses on the history of the School of Architecture of the Politecnico di Torino and is promoted in coincidence with its centennial anniversary. The candidate will make use of a plurality of sources to reconstruct specific aspects of the transformation of the school and its people over time. The research will be developed in close dialogue with the international research on the history of educational institutions within the field of architecture.</p>
<b>Objectives</b>	<p>The scholarship, offered by the doctoral program “Architecture. History and Project”, is co-funded by the Politecnico di Torino and the Department of Architecture and Design as part of a broader set of initiatives for the centennial anniversary of the School of Architecture.</p> <p>The core part of the research work will be dedicated to reconstructing the history of the School of Architecture and its various institutional articulations and incarnations (Faculties, Departments, etc.), with a special focus on the period after World War II. The research is not aimed at writing a comprehensive history of the school. The candidate will rather be called to define – in close discussion with the thesis supervisor – a more precise field of investigation, covering a specific topic and/or timeframe. Potential areas of investigation include the history of the organization of the school; the history of teaching and research activities, and of the changing practices of mutual collaboration between them; the biographies and prosopography of teaching and non-teaching staff; the social history of the students; the national and transnational exchanges with other schools and institutions.</p> <p>The thesis will be based upon a plurality of historical sources: archival, printed, oral, visual, material, and otherwise. The choice of the sources and the definition of a specific research methodology will be agreed upon with the thesis supervisor, in close connection with the questions behind the work and the definition of a research topic. It is expected that the thesis will make extended use of the archival and library collections of the Politecnico di Torino. One of the goals of the work will consist in strengthening these</p>

<b>Objectives</b>	<p>collections through specific research actions, for example by gathering new materials or by offering a public interpretation and diffusion of existing ones.</p> <p>The thesis will have a strongly interdisciplinary focus, as it will observe the evolution of the plurality of fields of knowledge that have actively contributed to the research and teaching activities of the school over time. Although focused on teaching and research in Architecture and other cognate areas, the thesis could also extend its analysis to other parts of the Politecnico, as well as to the local and non-local institutions with which the Turin school developed contacts and exchanges in various forms.</p> <p>The PhD scholarship is part of a broader set of initiatives for the centennial anniversary of the school to which the candidate will be called to contribute. Such initiatives might result in a publication and/or an exhibition to be held in Autumn 2026, as well as in a plurality of other events. The research will benefit from a constant exchange with the group of scholars and researchers involved in the initiatives.</p> <p>The thesis situates itself within an international context that has witnessed important evolutions in the research on the history of universities and architectural teaching over the last few years. It is expected that the work will bring a significant contribution to this global research trend. Some research activities will be carried out in Italian and non-Italian archives and institutions, either to investigate specific aspects of the history of the school or to present and discuss the research within specific scholarly contexts.</p>
<b>Skills and competencies for the development of the activity</b>	<p>Due to the nature of the research and the sources to be collected, the candidate is required to have a perfect knowledge of the Italian language (reading, writing, speaking).</p> <p>A good knowledge of English is also required due to the multi-language character of the PhD program and the need to disseminate the research in a plurality of contexts.</p> <p>Previous experience in archival and historical research on architecture-related fields, although not a compulsory requirement, is recommended.</p>