



**OLA**

**INTENSIVE COURSE IN ATHENS**

*What makes an urban landscape democratic?  
And for Whom?*

May 2024

# INTRODUCTION

Since the recognition of the Hellenic State in 1830, Athens has evolved into a contemporary Metropolis. The Intensive Course case study comprises of the campus of the Agricultural University of Athens (AUA) and surrounding area within a 1.5 km radius from AUA, including Elaionas, Votanikos and Akadimia Platonos. The study area since antiquity has undergone diverse landscape transformations and constitutes a complex landscape that is environmentally degraded and overlooked today by many. Yet the study area holds great historical, cultural and economic significance to the region and Hellenic State as well as great potential to restore the degraded environment and regenerate the landscape. Different stakeholders are active in the area and will reflect their own perspective about their landscapes, during the course.

Based on the above the objective of the course is to research, the elements, functions, and values of the studied landscape and introduce interventions based on various methods for landscape democratic transformation. Therefore, the research question addressed is:

What makes an urban landscape democratic? And for whom?

# COURSE DESCRIPTION


The participants will be assigned into one of the four main theme groups (“**Cultural and Industrial Heritage**”, “**Biodiversity and Environment**”, “**Daily life and Narratives**” and “**Social Economy**”) comprised by approximately 8-9 members. Each group will be supported by three tutors and one local coordinating tutor to facilitate the group tutors. The members of the groups will be divided and joined with members of the remaining divided groups to participate in scheduled visits on particular days visiting different locations of the study area. These mixed groups will “collect data” related to their main theme group.


The divided members will rejoin with their original group to brief each other on their collected data and work together on defining the aim, visioning the implementation (objectives) and determining strategies and/or design interventions for their proposed landscape democratic transformation.


On the 31st May each group will present their work. Each group will have 20 minutes to present their work and 10 minutes to address comments from the audience. It is expected that all members participate in the presentation of their group. Please rehearse the duration of your presentations to avoid potential delays or unpleasant interruption of your presentation on the actual day of your presentation.


# DELIVERABLES

The deliverables are different for each theme group, and are as follows:

 “**Cultural and Industrial Heritage**” Strategies and Design proposals to enhance landmarks and routes of cultural and industrial heritage interest.

 “**Biodiversity and Environment**” Strategies and Design proposals to regenerate green spaces, support biodiversity and mitigate the microclimate.

 “**Daily life and Narratives**” Strategies and Design proposals to enhance leisure/recreational activities, facilitate mobility and develop social cohesion.

 “**Social Economy**” Strategies and Design proposals to create a social economy center and introduce sustainable uses by developing a social business model.

Design proposals can be in any format, plan views, elevations/sections, sketches, 3D representations, drawings, models, etc.

Narratives can be written (e.g. comic, storytelling, etc.), illustrated (e.g. drawings, sketches, images, videos, etc.) or recorded (audio or audio-visual anonymously through editing).



**OPEN  
LANDSCAPE  
ACADEMY**

# THE INTENSIVE COURSE AGENDA

24.05.	25.05.	26.05.	27.05.	28.05.	29.05.	30.05.	31.05.
Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
09:30 - 13:30	9:30 - 13:00	09:00 - 12:30	09:00 - 12:30	09:00 - 12:30	09:00 - 12:30	09:00 - 12:30	09:00 - 12:30
OLA Multiplier Event	URBAN HEAT WATCH - Round table of Mediterranean cities	<p>09.00 - 10.00 Visit the scavenger bazaar (optional - free exploration)</p> <p>10:00 - 11.00 Joint start &amp; briefing. Research questions and outputs</p> <p>11.00 - 12.00 Study visit to Public Damalidokomeio, Public Rabies, and Disinfection Centre</p> <p>12.00 - 13.00 SSE &amp; Social innovation - Stakeholders meeting</p>	<p>09:00 Joint start &amp; check in</p> <p>09:30 - 11.30 Lectures about Elaionas</p> <p>11.30-12.30 Reflection and thoughts</p>	<p>9.00 Joint start from AUA. Survey 123 form testing - photos instructions</p> <p>9.45 Meet at Plato's olive tree</p> <p>10.00 - 12.30 <b>Elaionas Field Visit and Meeting with stakeholders on site.</b> Three routes with representative participants from each thematic group</p>	<p>09.00 - 10.30 <b>Collective reflection and ideas.</b> How would we like to present our results on Friday?</p> <p>10.30 - 12.30 <b>URBAN HEAT WATCH open-air participatory workshop</b></p> <p>collective mapping and participatory design workshop with the AUA community, locals &amp; grass root movements</p>	<p>09.00 - 10.30 <b>Story maps (how to):</b> let's create "landscape stories from Athens" (VGLOBAL Erasmus tools)</p> <p>10.30 - 12.30 Group work - final output</p>	<p>09:00 Joint start &amp; briefing</p> <p>09:30 Teams are preparing for their presentations.</p> <p>11 00 Teams are rehearsing their presentation</p>
13:30 - 14:30 Lunch & Networking	13:00 - 14:00 Lunch	13:00 - 14.30 Lunch	12:30 - 14:00 Lunch	12:30 - 14:00 Lunch	12:30 - 14:00 Lunch	12:30 - 14:00 Lunch	12:30 - 14:00 Lunch
<p>14.30 – 19.00 Participation in the Med_net open meeting “Vulnerable landscapes Promoting green living landscapes”</p> <p>_IFLA Europe Med_net Working Group Conference</p> <p>_Bauhaus4Med Conference and Roundtable</p>	<p>15.00 <b>START OF THE INTENSIVE COURSE</b></p> <p>15.00 - 16.00 Plenary session warm-up and pre-evaluation</p> <p>16.00 - 17.30 Walking tour on the AUA campus</p> <p>17.30 - 18.00 Welcome speech from Angeliki Paraskevopoulou about the history and the landscape of the study area</p> <p>18.00 - 18.45 Program Overview - Introduction to the intensive course (timetable, thematics, groups)</p>	<p>14.30 - 15.30 Reflection session (plenary)</p> <p>- What have we seen? - Themes, Contradictions, Surprises, wild ideas.....</p> <p>15.30 - 17.30 Working in groups - Co-create the group's research design: - Build a shared understanding of the theme - Democratic dimension &amp; questions - What to observe/map and how</p> <p>17.30 - 18.00 5-minutes presentations per team to the plenary</p>	<p>14:00 - 15:30 Group work continues, deepening understanding of the local landscape system. Mind map of workflow towards the collective vision</p> <p>15.30 - 16.15 Data collection methods and tools (preparation for the fieldwork of the next days)</p> <p>16:15 Departure Acropolis visit</p>	<p><b>Collective visioning session:</b></p> <p>14.00 - 16.30 Group work on data collected, co-create thematic narrative and basic components of the final thematic output</p> <p>16.30 - 17.30 Update the collective mosaic of the area (plenary). A collective statement</p>	<p>14.00 - 15.00</p> <p>15.00 - 17.30 Group work: each group decides the output's prototype</p> <p>17.30 - 18.00 Check-out: What have we learned from the prototyping session?</p>	<p>14.00 - 18.00 Free group work according to group process</p>	<p>Presentation of results: Vision and group results</p> <p>Mini-expo 14:00-14:20 Cultural and Heritage Routes 14:20- 14:30 Discussion 14:30-14:50 Biodiversity &amp; Environment 14:50-15:00 Discussion, 15:00-15:20, Narratives and daily life 15:20-15:30 Discussion, 15:30-15:50 Design of the surrounding area of Public Rabies n Centre/ Center of Inovation and Social Economy 15:50-16:00 Discussion 16:00-16:50 Democratic encounters of landscape architecture and fine art in the Anthropocene 16:50-17:00</p> <p>17.00 Post-evaluation &amp; reflection</p>
19:00 Drinks & Networking	19:00 Free evening	18:00 Free evening	17:00 Acropolis evening	18:00 Food Tour (optional)	19:00 Akademia Platonos event	18:00 Free evening	Farewell Event

## USEFUL LINKS AND QRs

### ONLINE MAP WITH USEFUL INFORMATION

<https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=1b9G2yPg-9fvL12CqONUMXNLkXhNRNODk&usp=sharing>



### FOLDER DRIVE WITH DATA

[https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1g60o\\_J6vqY9OAPQpsbcQfqVXjqwIZYB7?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1g60o_J6vqY9OAPQpsbcQfqVXjqwIZYB7?usp=sharing)



In this folder you find basemaps, useful files and links with data for the study area.

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

### Knowledge

- Recall landscape design processes (i.e. site analysis, landscape character, environmental and visual impact assessment) to identify the features and elements that comprise the complex landscape and determine their status and determine the key stakeholders.
- Understand the concept of democracy in relation to how public participation and democracy are related and realised in landscape design, planning and policy making.
- Learn and understand the context and purpose of various methods for democratic landscape transformation.
- Understand the landscape democratic transformation process key stages: defining the aim, visioning the implementation (objectives) and determining strategies and design interventions.

### Skills

- Determine the most appropriate method for democratic landscape transformation to obtain information from the key stakeholders.
- Organise the implementation of the selected methodology/ies within a set schedule.
- Apply the methods for democratic landscape transformation to analyse a complex landscape -stakeholder relationship.
- Compile the various findings from the applied democratic landscape transformation methods.
- Prepare presentation of the implemented landscape democratic transformation process.

### Competences

- Ability to evaluate the various findings from the methods for democratic landscape transformation.
- Compose democratic landscape transformation strategies, and design interventions based on the findings from the methods for democratic landscape transformation.
- Develop both intra- and inter- disciplinary teamwork efficiency.
- Develop empathy to all identified landscape stakeholders.
- Adapt to potential unpredicted situations.





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