

POLYTECHNIC OF MILAN
SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE URBAN PLANNING CONSTRUCTION
ENGINEERING
INTEGRATIVE REGULATIONS FOR THE FINAL EXAMINATION OF THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN
ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN
APPROVED CCS DECEMBER 10, 2024

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With reference to Art. 3 and in relation to the Supplementary Regulations of the Final Degree and Master's Degree of the School of Architecture Urban Planning Construction Engineering, and premised that:

- _ Given that the study path for the Bachelor of Science in Architectural Design culminates in the Final Examination, designated as the *Final Thesis*, and to which 4 CFU credits are assigned;
- _ Given that the *Final Thesis* consists of the public defense of the *Final Paper* during the Graduation Session;
- _ Given that successful completion of the *Final Thesis* leads to the conferral of the Bachelor of Science in Architectural Design degree;

The following specifications are hereby established:

Art. 1. Typology and Characteristics of the Final Paper

The Final Paper focuses on the in-depth study of an architectural theme relevant to the disciplines of the three-year program, demonstrating the student's preparation and capacity for detailed analysis, critical awareness of the interconnections between the disciplines considered, and competence in the use of architectural language and forms. The Final Paper may be of two types: *Research Paper A* and *Curricular Paper B*.

Research Paper A

Research Paper A is developed with the support of a Supervisor selected by the student and can be carried out individually or, at most, by two graduating students.

The paper consists of an in-depth text, ranging from 40,000 to 80,000 characters in length, supplemented by examples and/or project-based case studies, on an architectural topic proposed by the candidate and previously agreed upon with the Supervisor, pertaining to the subjects of the three-year program.

The format of the paper shall not exceed A4 size (horizontal or vertical) and shall be organized as follows:

Cover Page:

The cover page shall include the title of the work (with an optional subtitle), which must succinctly and effectively illustrate the chosen topic, contextual information (University, School, Bachelor Program, Academic Year, name and surname of the candidate with student ID number, name and surname of the Supervisor and any co-supervisor, including those external to the Politecnico), and a significant and pertinent image.

Organization and Contents of the Paper:

1. **abstract:** Approximately 2000 characters in length, the abstract shall contain a concise rationale for the choice of topic and the disciplinary fields involved, as well as a brief commentary on the research and analysis methodology adopted and the objectives achieved.
2. **table of contents:** Structured as a summary, it shall list brief titles and any subtitles of the contents of each chapter or part of the paper.
3. **text:** The essay shall be developed in textual form with an appropriate iconographic apparatus, complete with necessary captions, and optionally accompanied by further original graphic elaborations; references and cross-references to examples and projects pertinent to the theme, or even developed by the candidate, shall also be presented through analytical readings and graphic elaborations; texts and iconographic material shall be freely composed by the candidate; given the typology of the paper, the

textual component shall, in any case, be dominant; the volume may be divided into parts, chapters, paragraphs, the organization of which must be consistent with the structure of the table of contents.

4. **bibliography, sitography, and image sources:** These constitute essential references for the evaluation of the paper.

Verification Procedure for Research Paper A

Research Paper A is subject to the approval of the Supervisor. To this end, it must be uploaded to the University's web portal according to the deadlines indicated in the academic calendar. The Supervisor will be responsible for approving *Research Paper A* and validating the registration for the degree examination within the deadlines indicated in the academic calendar. In the absence of the Supervisor's validation of the registration, the candidate will not be admitted to the degree examination.

The Bachelor Program has made available to the student a MOOC (Massive Online Open Course) providing training on the significance of the Final Examination, the modalities and rules for the compilation, uploading, and discussion of both types of Final Papers.

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Curricular Paper B

Curricular Paper B is produced individually and autonomously by the student, without a Supervisor.

The paper consists of an in-depth study of an architectural theme chosen by the candidate, relevant to the disciplines of the three-year program and developed from a limited number of project and study experiences deemed pertinent to the chosen topic, significant, and mutually coherent, and appropriately documented.

The paper consists of a dossier prepared in written and graphic form, in A3 horizontal format, organized as follows:

Cover Page:

The cover page shall include the title of the work (with an optional subtitle), which must succinctly and effectively illustrate the chosen topic, contextual information (University name and logo, School, Bachelor Program, Academic Year, name and surname of the candidate with student ID number), and a significant and pertinent image.

Organization of the Paper and Mandatory Contents of the Sheets:

1. **abstract:** Approximately 2000 characters in length, the abstract shall contain a concise rationale for the choice of topic in relation to the disciplinary fields involved.

2. **table of Contents:** Structured as a summary, it shall present brief reasoned syntheses of the contents of each chapter or part of the paper, highlighting their logical and thematic connections with the other chapters or parts.

3. **critical Text:** A textual elaboration of 15,000-20,000 characters, in which the candidate clearly presents the proposed topic as a key to interpreting the project experiences of the three-year program, explicitly stating the main architectural, project-related, and bibliographic references adopted.

4. **A3 Pages:** The chosen theme shall be developed in a minimum of 10/maximum of 15 pages prepared in written and graphic form. Each page must be reorganized with project images with relative captions, descriptive texts, and the indication of the Design Studio and group members.

References and cross-references to examples and projects pertinent to the theme shall be developed through analytical readings and graphic interpretations; texts and images shall be freely composed by the candidate; given the typology of the paper, the iconographic component shall, in any case, be dominant; the sequence of the sheets shall be consistent with the table of contents; the number of experiences to be reworked shall be a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 5 among courses and design studios.

5. **consulted bibliography, sitography, and image sources** constitute essential references for the evaluation of the paper. For the correct formatting of the bibliography, see Annex 1 to these Regulations.

Verification Procedure for Curricular Paper B

The Degree Program has made available to the student a MOOC (Massive Online Open Course) providing training on the significance of the Final Examination, the modalities and rules for the compilation, uploading, and discussion of both types of Final Papers.

Registration for the Degree Examination with the *Curricular Paper B* modality is contingent upon passing a test at the conclusion of the MOOC. Upon completion of the test, and only with its successful completion, the student will obtain a certificate necessary for registration for the Degree Examination.

The presence of all the parts required for *Curricular Paper B*, their completeness, and consistency with the requests formulated in Art. 1 of these Regulations (organization, structure, characteristics, and length of the parts, etc.) will be subject to verification and evaluation by the Graduation Board.

Art. 2. Language of Composition of the Final Paper

Both *Research Paper A* and *Curricular Paper B* shall be written in Italian or English, based on the official language of the candidate's study plan. If the paper is written in Italian, the title and abstract must also be written in English.

Upon request by the candidate to the Coordinator of the Bachelor Program (for *Curricular Paper B*) or to the Supervisor (for *Research Paper A*), the Final Paper may also be translated into an additional language of the European Union or, in the case of double degrees or joint degrees, into the languages provided for by the relevant agreements, but it will in any case be discussed in Italian or English.

Art. 3. Registration for the Final Examination

The candidate must register for the Final Examination by the deadlines provided, through the University's web portal. Admission to the Final Examination is in any case subject to the student's prior acquisition of the CFU credits provided for by the Didactic Regulations, and to the certification of successful completion of the MOOC (in the case of *Curricular Paper B*) or by the Supervisor (in the case of *Research Paper A*).

Art. 4. Presentation and Discussion of the Final Paper in the Graduation Session

The *Final Paper* shall be presented by the candidate and discussed during the Graduation Session, in the language in which it was written (Italian or English). The presentation and discussion shall take place at the table in front of the designated Graduation Board.

The Final Paper must be printed on paper in at least 2 copies to be presented to the Board at the time of the discussion.

During the presentation, the candidate may use paper and/or audiovisual and/or multimedia documents at the Board's table but not projected publicly in the hall.

The presentation and discussion of each work shall be limited to twenty minutes, and in any case according to a schedule regulated by the President of the Board.

Art. 5. Evaluation of the Final Examination

The score attributable by the Graduation Board at the end of the session ranges from -1 to +8 points, regardless of the type of Final Paper presented (*Curricular Paper B* or *Research Paper A*).

The attribution of the score by the Board is based on the evaluation of the paper produced, the oral presentation, and the candidate's responses to the questions posed by the members of the Board, and does not pertain to the candidate's study *curriculum*, which is already accounted for in the grade point average achieved by the graduating student in the courses.

The score attributed is the result of the discussion of the members of the Board, whose judgment is unappealable by the candidate. Only the AUIC School Dean Office can, in exceptional cases, evaluate a possible correction of the final score.

Art. 6. Formation of the Graduation Grade

Regardless of the type of Final Paper presented (*Curricular Paper B* or *Research Paper A*), the graduation grade, expressed in one hundred and tenths /110, is constituted by the sum of the grade point average achieved in the student's academic career, calculated according to the University's criteria, and the score attributed by the Board to the *Final Examination*.

Art. 7. Awarding of Honors

Honors, which may be requested by any member of the Board, including the Supervisor, signify a particular appreciation by the Graduation Board for the preparation and maturity achieved by the graduating student, for their brilliant *curriculum studiorum*, and for the mode of presentation, the ability to argue, and the quality and originality of the final paper.

Honors may be awarded only if the grade formulated is, as per Art. 6 of the University Regulations, before rounding, greater than or equal to 111 (one hundred and eleven) points centesimal.

Honors are awarded with the unanimous judgment of the members of the Graduation Board.

Honors may be awarded even if the Board's score does not reach the maximum (+8 points).

Art. 8. Composition of the Graduation Boards

The Coordinator of the Bachelor Program constitutes the Boards in agreement with the AUIC School Dean Office with a minimum number of three members, one of whom has the function of President and one of Secretary. A substitute member must also be provided for convened in case of impediment in forming a Board with at least three effective members.

For matters not covered in these Regulations, the provisions of the Integrative Regulations for the Final Examination of the Bachelor of Science and Master of Science of the School of Architecture Urban Planning Construction Engineering shall apply.

ANNEX 1

GUIDELINES FOR EDITING THE REFERENCES INCLUDED IN YOUR FINAL WORK

Notes

Students are requested to use “endnotes,” numbered in order of appearance and listed individually at the end of their critical text. Please use the guidelines of *The Chicago Manual of Style* (CMS) citation style for endnotes and bibliography. More information available at:

<https://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide.html>.

Bibliography

You should use the original language first edition of the volumes included in the bibliography. Only include the edition number if the volume included is not the first edition. If the volume has been translated, please use the name of the translator and the translated title as in the following guidelines.

Volume

One author

Doniger, Wendy. *Splitting the Difference*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press,

Two authors

Cowlshaw, Guy and Dunbar, Robin. *Primate Conservation Biology*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2000.

Three or more authors

Pearce, Susan et al. *Charles Robert Cockerell in the Mediterranean. Letters and Travels, 1810-1817*. Suffolk: The Boydell Press, 2017.

Editor, translator, or compiler instead of author

Lattimore, Richmond (ed.). *The Iliad of Homer*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press,

Chapter or other part of a volume

Wiese, Andrew. “The House I Live In’: Race, Class, and African American Suburban Dreams in the Postwar United States.” In Kruse, Kevin M. and Sugrue, Thomas J. (eds.).

The New Suburban History. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2006, 101–

2. Translated volume

Freud, Sigmund. *The Interpretation of Dreams*. Translated by James Strachey. Harmondsworth: Penguin, 1976.

Journal article

Article in a print journal

Smith, John Maynard. “The Origin of Altruism.” In *Nature* 393 (1998),

Article in an online journal

Irace, Fulvio. “Fascism in Ruins.” In *Domus* 659, no. 3 (1985). Accessed November 14, 2019. <<https://www.domusweb.it/en/architecture/2010/04/29/fascism-in-ruins.html>>.

Other sources

Thesis or dissertation

Steiner, Hadas A. “Bathrooms, Bubbles and Systems: Archigram and the Landscapes of Transience.” PhD dissertation, University of California at Berkeley, 1993.

Sitography

If the website does not list a date of publication of online content, please include the date on which you have accessed the content.

Website content

Atlas of Places. “Atelier Peter Zumthor & Partner AG. Neues Atelier 2011-2016.” Accessed November 1, 2019. <<https://www.atlasofplaces.com/architecture/neues-atelier>>.

Schuler, Timothy A. “The Middle of Everywhere.” In *Places Journal*, November 2019.

<<https://doi.org/10.22269/191112>>.

Image sources

Include a caption for each image you cite and insert it below or alongside the image. Number the images you have used and include a List of Figures at the end of your Bibliography as a separate section including the following: image number; caption; image source. Please use the same referencing style as in the bibliography when citing your image sources.