

# **Buenos Aires UNLOCKED**

## **Infrastructures and Collectivities as Tools to Design the City**

**Studio Cecilia Chiappini**

Preliminary Brief - 24<sup>th</sup> Sept 2019

maib34 2019-2020, Semester 3

International Master of Science in Architecture

**Faculty of Architecture, Campus Sint-Lucas Brussels, KU Leuven**

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## Introduction

The design studio Buenos Aires UNLOCKED “maib34 2019-2020” lead by Cecilia Chiappini focuses on the value of infrastructures and collectivities as tools to design the city. These elements are articulations of urban processes at different levels: on the one hand, material and physical; and on the other, immaterial and socially-embedded. They both tend to generate spatial outputs, embracing qualities and fluctuant manifestations, emergent appropriations and unexpected processes. The aim is to explore those outputs in constant transformation and to use them to feed design, by for example, to trigger the development of alternative urban models that question the dialects between technical and a social-assemblages under specific circumstances.

During an intensive research-design studio, students will discuss conceptual issues, develop and test explorative tools to address the issues at stake, especially looking at “spatial configurations, marks of human presence and narratives” around infrastructures and collectivities;<sup>1</sup> deploying a “learning from...” approach.<sup>2</sup>

The students will produce an architectural-urban design-case proposal based on their enquiries on a specific location. This semester’s location is the inner-city transformations of Buenos Aires along its North-East coast-front (towards the La Plata River), along the Paseo del Bajo (new infrastructural corridor), particularly focusing on Catalinas Norte II, currently under development. The critical component of this case is the fact that the availability of the land for urban uses (formerly affected to transit, industrial and harbor-related uses) is UNLOCKED by an operation at infrastructural level: the rearrangement of the road corridor linking South and North of the City, fostered by the State and touching tangentially to the most consolidated and sensitive areas of the city.

The modality of the design studio is entirely remote, and the main objective is to generate urban design and architecture devices, and strategic plans, that particularly look at (inter)cultural dimension of urban fabrics. The skills to develop along the way are the capacity to deal with foreign, remote and highly complex contexts, to put in place a coherent research and design process. Each student is to define and prove a critical point of view, translated into design understood in broad sense.

1. As developed in close relation with the tutor’s PhD-research on Infrastructures under Transformation as Spaces of Collectivities”  
2. Inspired by Learning from Las Vegas and Made in Tokyo. See References.

## Buenos Aires North-East Coast-Front



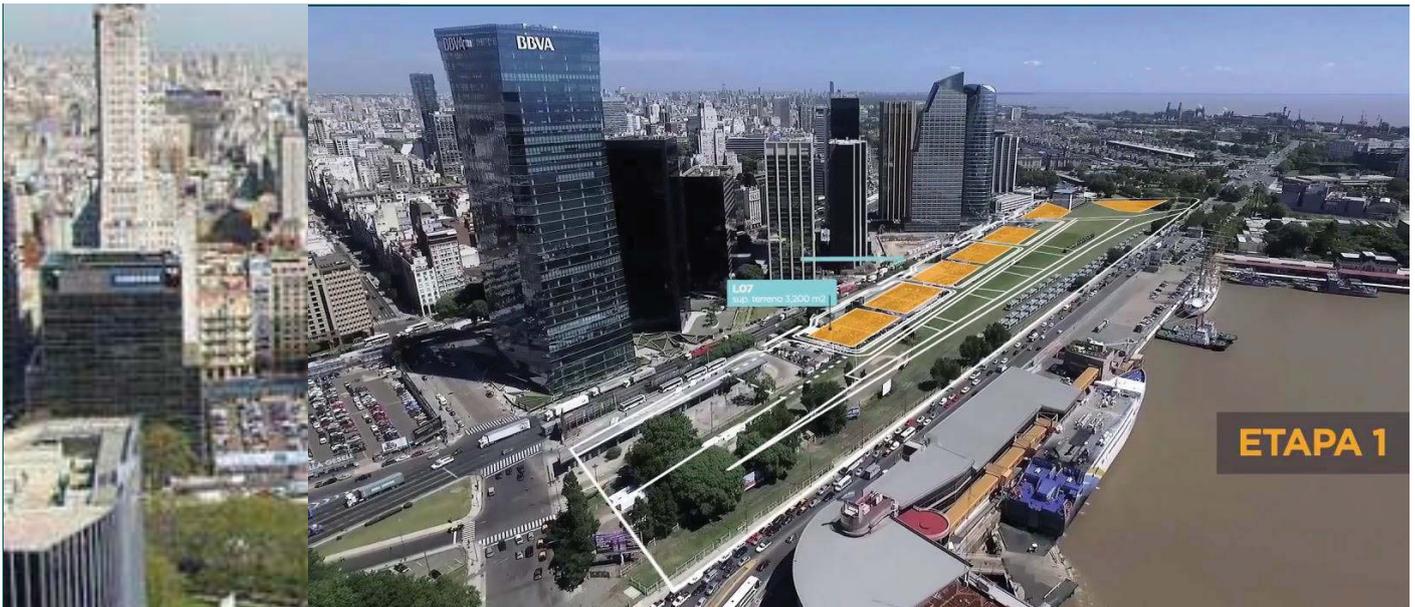
Source: <https://www.lapoliticaonline.com/nota/96849-riberena-larreta-quiere-recaudar-us250-millones-con-las-torres-de-catalinas-norte-ii/>

## Catalinas Norte II Focus Area



Source: [https://www.nueva-ciudad.com.ar/advl/imagenes/2017/12/5a3cted52c97d\\_800x600.jpg](https://www.nueva-ciudad.com.ar/advl/imagenes/2017/12/5a3cted52c97d_800x600.jpg)

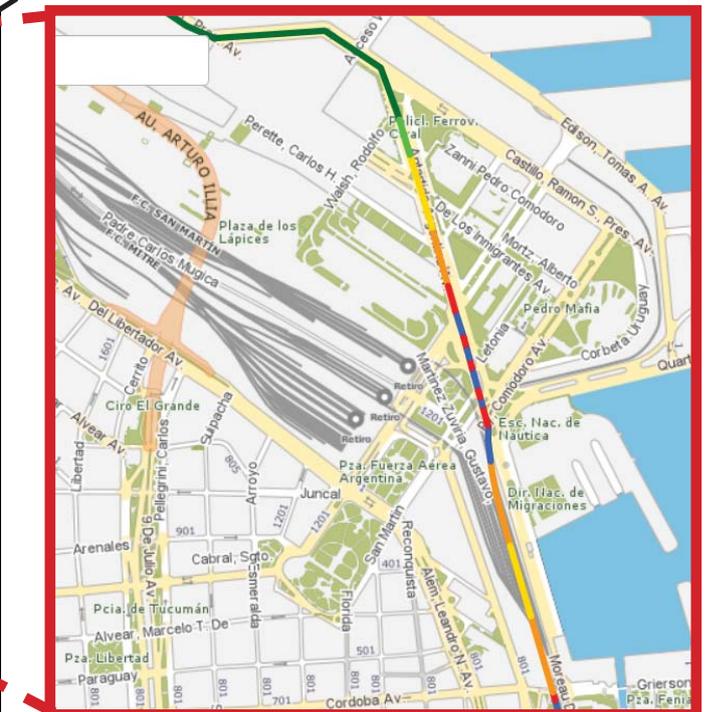
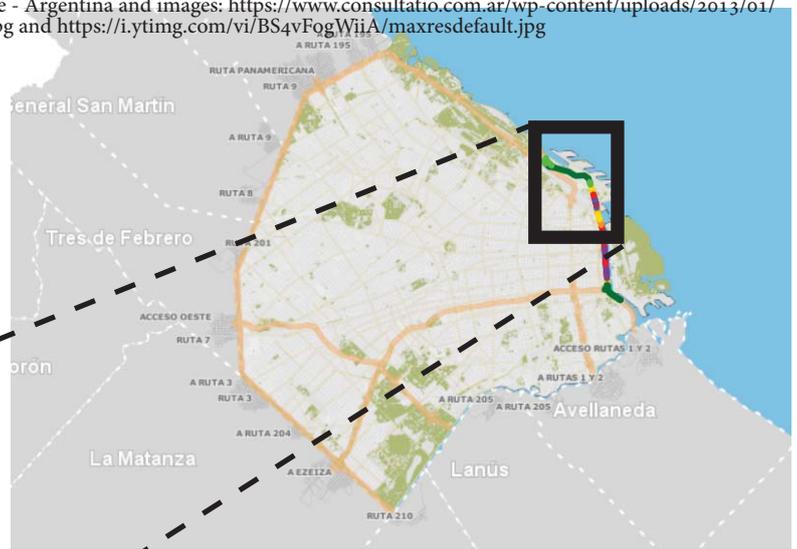
# Buenos Aires Transformations: Catalinas Norte II



Source: HIGH-RISE LIVING AND THE INCLUSIVE CITY Workshop 2018 - May 21-25 / Professor Arch. Julio Arroyo-Arch. Franco Giardino FADU / UNL - Santa Fe - Argentina and images: [https://www.consultatio.com.ar/wp-content/uploads/2013/01/nueva\\_torre-580x300.jpg](https://www.consultatio.com.ar/wp-content/uploads/2013/01/nueva_torre-580x300.jpg) and <https://i.ytimg.com/vi/BS4vFogWiiA/maxresdefault.jpg>



Source: <https://www.lanacion.com.ar/propiedades/inmuebles-comerciales/los-nuevos-proyectos-se-construiran-catalinas-12176729>



## Buenos Aires Transformations: Catalinas Norte II



Source: <https://ciudademprende.com.ar/wp-content/uploads/2017/maxresdefault.jpg>

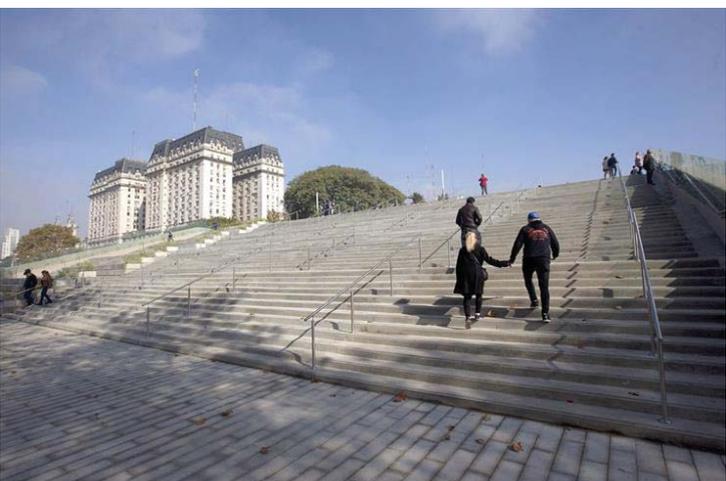
Source: <https://www.buenosaires.gob.ar/planeamiento/visionciudad/paseo-del-bajo>



## Buenos Aires Transformations: Paseo del Bajo

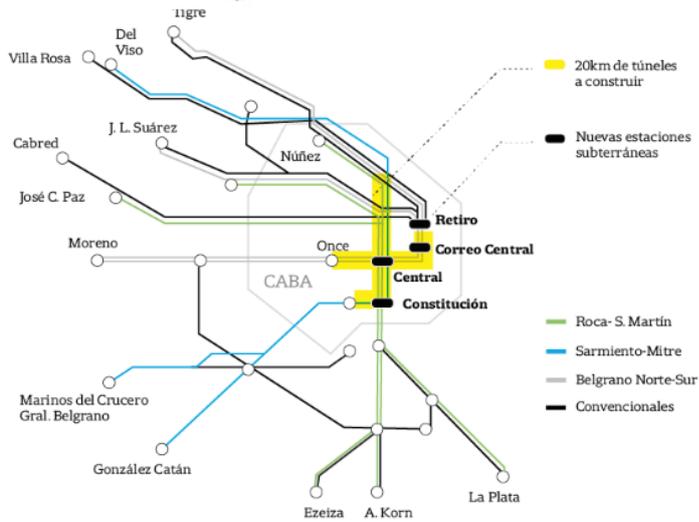
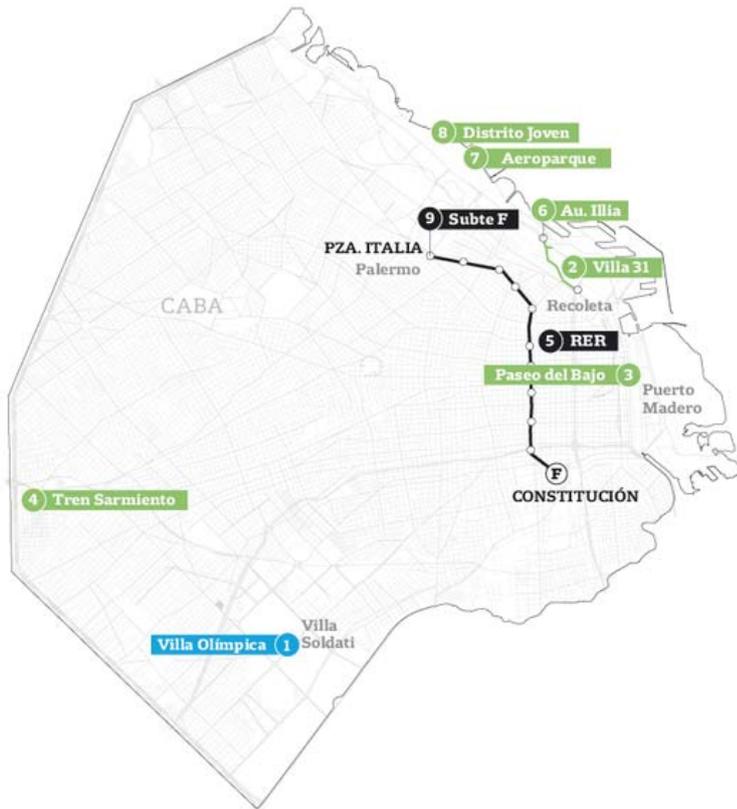


Paseo del Bajo. Source: La Nación, 2019.



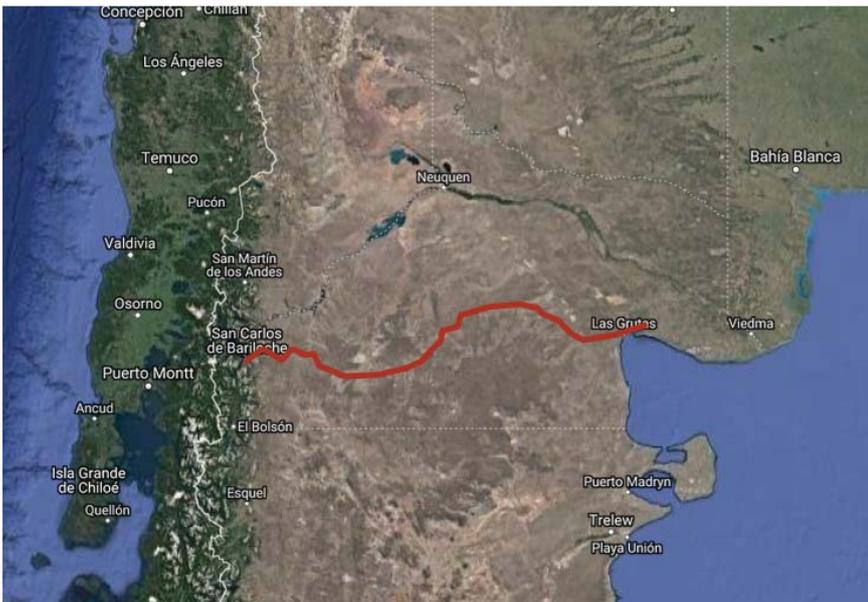


# Buenos Aires Transformations: Urban and Metropolitan Scales



Source: La Nación, 2018

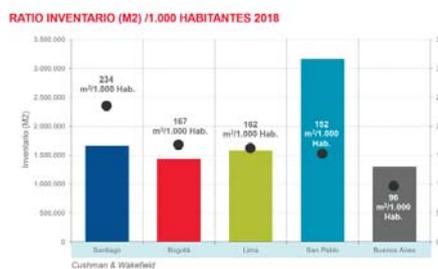
## Buenos Aires Transformations: National and Inter-Oceanic Scales



Source: <https://www.lanacion.com.ar/2185939-presentan-proyecto-autopista-navegable-campo-costaria-us3000>, <https://www.lanacion.com.ar/2207614-el-nuevo-tren-patagonico-ira-cordillera-playa>.

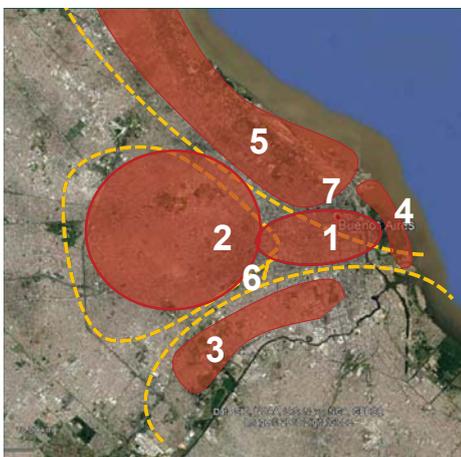


## Buenos Aires at Continental and Global Scale



Source: <https://cushwakeargentina.com/catalinas-el-centro-de-la-ciudad-comienza-su-transformacion/>

# Buenos Aires Transformations at the Core of Paradoxes and Complexities



- Areas of Densification Through History
1. Downtown
  2. Inner Neighbourhoods
  3. Periphery
  4. Riverfront
  5. Traditional Parks
  6. Urban Vacancies
  7. Real Estate Districts



- Gross Socio-Economic Distribution
1. High-Income Class
  2. Middle-Income Class
  3. Low-Income Class

Source: (top) varied / (bottom) HIGH-RISE LIVING AND THE INCLUSIVE CITY Workshop 2018 - May 21-25 / Professor Arch. Julio Arroyo-Arch. Franco Giardino FADU / UNL - Santa Fe - Argentina

## Context and Design Challenge

Buenos Aires' North-East coast-front possesses several questions at the architecture and urban levels to be addressed in the course of the design studio. The enquire on one or more of these is intended to become central to the argument lines for the development of design proposals. Even more, addressing the implications of the kind of operations gathered around them is to become central to the design process in broader sense. Some of these questions include: the qualities and conditions under which urban land is rendered available in relation to infrastructural processes, the operations around them, and the imaginaries projected by different stakeholders, the capacity of urban space to generate certain and processes in relation to the development of the public realm. All with question marks on "what kind of", "for whom", "under what conditions", on the relation between new interventions and consolidated and sensitive urban areas, the relations and processes condensed at urban edges (relations to existing fabric and natural environment), and the connections with other transformation processes.

The case triggers enquiries that are to be linked to a variety of scales, having them as background and general context, including for example Buenos Aires at urban and metropolitan, national or inter-oceanic/continental scales. Furthermore, urban processes are to be enquired at intermediate and micro-scales and dimensions aiming at identifying the different paradoxes and complexities (at material or/and social levels) that manifest in urban space. Proposing ways of embracing them are to be part of the design explorations.

Ultimately, the combination of these dimensions are to strongly inform the design processes and in consequence to broaden up the set of options for dealing with such urban developments in such critical urban areas. This means concretely that student may go for urban arrangements and models that question the originally proposed operations (in this case the arrival of several towers to the development plots), and include creative ways of combining densities, target users, lobbies-imaginaries, combinations of public-private operations, etc.

## Strategic Partnership

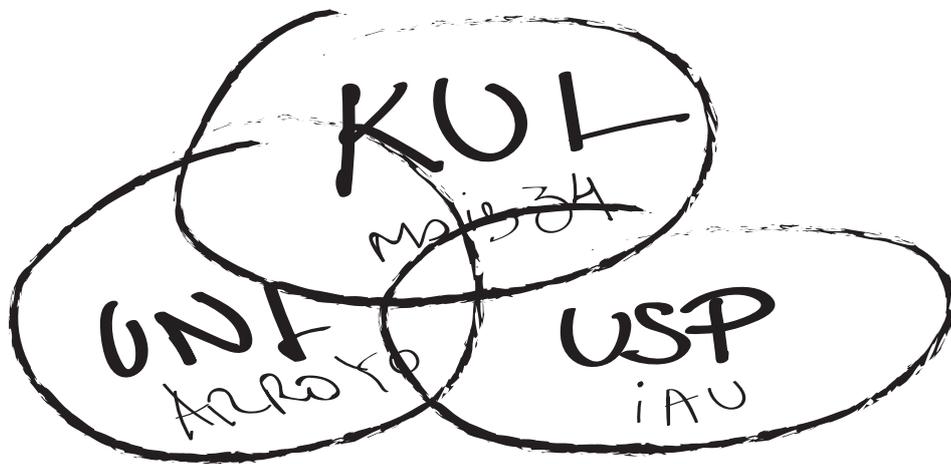
In order to assist students in such a complex remote case, the design studio will particularly focus on defining and developing remote-design skills. This will include the visit of experts in the matter to the working spaces in Brussels, the remote lecturing by local experts and the joint work with strategic partners. In this last respect, the research interests of three agents will be brought in: KUL-Cecilia Chiappini's ongoing research on infrastructures as spaces of collectivities, UNL-Prof. Julio Arroyo's work on public architecture and urban space, and UIA-UPS-Prof. Manoel Rodrigues Alves' interest on verticalization and urban quality of life under the impact of global-financial capitalism in cities.

KUL-Cecilia Chiappini's teaching and research focus on unveiling the capacities of infrastructures and collectivities to condensate urban processes and to put in evidence relations and contradictions of expectations-realization-appropriations, central and marginal actors and their spatial outputs at different scales, with a peculiar focus on temporality, intermediate and micro-processes. See: <http://www.collectivespaces-kuleuven.be/>

UNL-Prof. Julio Arroyo's research project focuses on the complex production of the public domain in the urban space of Argentinean cities. This is reflected in the contemporary debate about perception, understanding and appreciation of public space (more stable, normative, physically determinable socio-spatial processes) and the public (more eventual, contingent, indefinable socio-cultural processes). There is an enervated relationship between these terms which is observable in the conflicts of everyday life. The hypothesis states that recent public domain works of architecture in Argentine cities exhibit inconsistencies between the concept of public space and public practices. The historical context is the contemporaneity as defined by the interweaving of global scale processes (economic globalization, computerization, media influence, supra-national facts, migrations, environmental risk, etc.) and next scales ones (urban split, socio-physical segregation, environmental vulnerability, etc.).

IAU -USP Prof. Manoel Rodrigues Alves' research project focuses on processes of production of the contemporary city, particularly in the (re)signification of the notion of public space. This is reflected in his ongoing project "Highrise Living and the Inclusive City", a research about verticalization processes jointly developed with colleagues from Université Lyon 2, that recognizes the investment of private capital for the maintenance of urban space has become a usual practice - mostly with the counterpart of temporary or permanent branding and the partnership of municipalities -, stimulating uses and practices conditioned by consumption and privatization of the urban space, posing questions such as: are we witnessing a new form of build-in gentrification, of all-enclosed buildings as a sign of the growing exclusion in the so-called 'neoliberal' entrepreneurial city?

Around this core arrangement, some other agents will be partially involved, providing eventual assistance for a deeper understanding of the case, context and challenges. The collaboration is expected to include input information and data sources, external jury sessions, references and assistance in understanding other relevant processes in the city and country, references to articles and debates inputs. The exact manner in which this will take place will be jointly decided with the students (expected to take in hand the complexity implied) and arranged during the course of the design studio based on specific needs.



## Links of References for Preliminary Research\*

**Catalinas Norte II:** <https://www.lanacion.com.ar/propiedades/inmuebles-comerciales/los-nuevos-proyectos-se-construiran-catalinas-nid2176729>, <https://cushwakeargentina.com/catalinas-el-centro-de-la-ciudad-comienza-su-transformacion/>, <https://www.buenosaires.gob.ar/planeamiento/visionciudad/paseo-del-bajo>, <https://www.buenosaires.gob.ar/compromisos/paseo-del-bajo-conectar-illia-au-la-plata>, <https://www.lapoliticaonline.com/nota/96849-ribere-na-larreta-quiere-recaudar-us250-millones-con-las-torres-de-catalinas-norte-ii/>

**Other Public Works, infrastructure in Buenos Aires:** <https://www.lanacion.com.ar/2205723-ciudad-once-obras-mas-curiosas-2018-buscaran>,

**Paseo del Bajo:** [https://www.lanacion.com.ar/buenos-aires/mas-cruces-a-puerto-madero-y-nuevas-paradas-de-colectivo-en-el-paseo-del-bajo-nid2251129?li\\_source=LI&li\\_medium=li-nacion-recommended-item-template-1](https://www.lanacion.com.ar/buenos-aires/mas-cruces-a-puerto-madero-y-nuevas-paradas-de-colectivo-en-el-paseo-del-bajo-nid2251129?li_source=LI&li_medium=li-nacion-recommended-item-template-1), <https://www.lanacion.com.ar/buenos-aires/paseo-del-bajo-m-3x4-en-46-medium-henis-asd-mdo-sed-dipis-dit-kjhlkjh-paseo-del-bajo-debuta-la-conexion-norte-sur-esperada-por-mas-de-50-anos-nid2251831>, <https://www.lanacion.com.ar/buenos-aires/unir-norte-y-sur-en-10-minutos-una-meta-que-hizo-posible-el-paseo-del-bajo-nid2252037>

**Villa Olimpica:** <http://www.buenosaires.gob.ar/planeamiento/visionciudad/villa-olimpica>, <http://www.buenosaires.gob.ar/planeamiento/visionciudad/villa-olimpica>, <http://2014.biaar.com/realizaciones/viviendas-villa-olimpica-buenos-aires-2018/>, [https://www.clarin.com/deportes/polideportivo/sedes-juegos-olimpicos-juventud\\_o\\_Bk7TKBz8f.html](https://www.clarin.com/deportes/polideportivo/sedes-juegos-olimpicos-juventud_o_Bk7TKBz8f.html), <http://www.observatorioamba.org/planes-y-proyectos/caba/20-anos-de-concursos/villa-olimpica-comuna-8>, <http://www.buenosaires.gob.ar/noticias/villa-olimpica-la-ciudad-llama-concurso-para-su-construccion>, <http://www.buenosaires.gob.ar/planeamiento/visionciudad/villa-olimpica>

**Villa Soldati:** [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Villa\\_Soldati](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Villa_Soldati), <http://www.villalugano.com.ar/barrio/historia/evolucion2.php>, <https://www.barriada.com.ar/category/barrios/villasoldati/>

**Sanitation Riachuelo:** <https://www.infobae.com/sociedad/2018/06/09/riachuelo-el-nuevo-plazo-para-finalizar-las-obras-de-saneamiento-es-2025/>, <https://www.cronista.com/infoespecial/Viaje-a-lo-profundo-como-es-la-megaobra-para-el-saneamiento-del-Riachuelo--20180309-0092.html>, <https://www.cronista.com/infoespecial/La-realidad-del-Riachuelo-y-que-se-esta-haciendo-para-sanearlo-20180301-0060.html>, <https://www.cronista.com/infoespecial/Viaje-a-lo-profundo-como-es-la-megaobra-para-el-saneamiento-del-Riachuelo--20180309-0092.html>, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DcQNkofgTYY>, <http://old.acumar.gob.ar/>

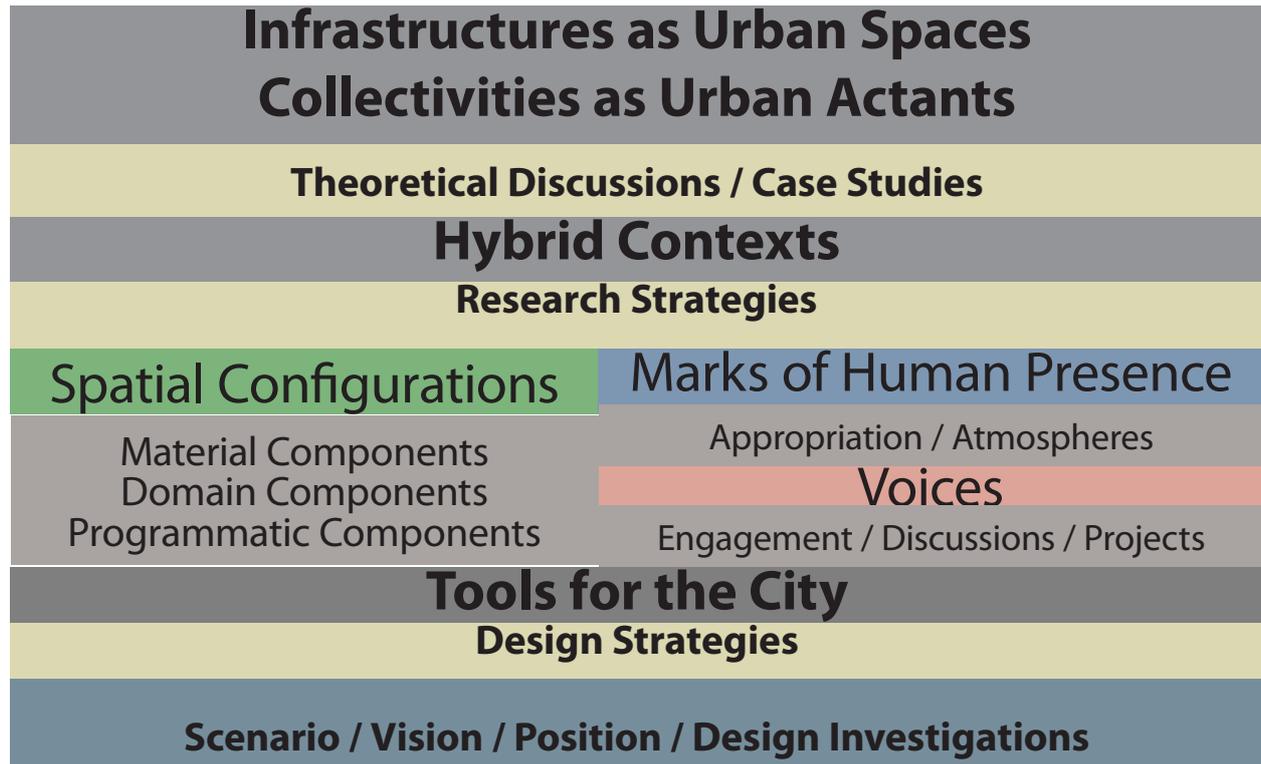
**Elevated Viaduct:** <https://www.lanacion.com.ar/2208530-habra-comercios-oficinas-publicas-y-espacio-verde-en-13-hectareas-que-hoy-ocupan-vias>, <https://www.infobae.com/sociedad/2019/05/10/el-gobierno-porteno-inaugura-el-nuevo-viaducto-mitre-y-elimina-ocho-barreras-ferroviarias-en-la-ciudad/>, <https://www.lanacion.com.ar/buenos-aires/viaducto-mitre-como-fue-primer-viaje-del-nid2246554>

**Slums, “Villas miseria”:** [https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anexo:Villas\\_de\\_emergencia\\_de\\_la\\_ciudad\\_de\\_Buenos\\_Aires](https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anexo:Villas_de_emergencia_de_la_ciudad_de_Buenos_Aires), <http://www.petitherge.com/article-les-villas-miseria-de-buenos-aires-113282972.html>, <https://www.ambito.com/segun-informe-se-instalaron-seis-nuevas-villas-capital-federal-n3257465>, [https://www.bbc.com/mundo/noticias/2010/12/101221\\_argentina\\_urbanizacion\\_villas\\_1f](https://www.bbc.com/mundo/noticias/2010/12/101221_argentina_urbanizacion_villas_1f), [https://elpais.com/internacional/2017/10/26/argentina/1508985742\\_852129.html](https://elpais.com/internacional/2017/10/26/argentina/1508985742_852129.html), <https://www.lanacion.com.ar/2200687-nunez-belgrano-y-colegiales-los-mejores-barrios-portenos-para-vivir>

**Illegal Street Trading:** <https://www.surenio.com.ar/2017/06/advierten-comercio-ilegal-abruma-al-pais-estiman-86-728-puestos-venta-informal>, <https://www.lanacion.com.ar/propiedades/inmuebles-comerciales/locales-afectados-venta-ilegal-nid2220345>

**Intercontinental Connections:** ORIGLIA, G. (2018) “Cómo es el proyecto de una autopista navegable para el campo que costaría US\$3000 millones”, La Nación (2018) “Cómo es el proyecto de una autopista navegable para el campo que costaría US\$3000 millones”, 29/10/2018, available at: <https://www.lanacion.com.ar/2185939-presentan-proyecto-autopista-navegable-campo-costaria-us3000>, La Nación (2019) “El nuevo Tren Patagónico irá desde la cordillera a la playa”, 03/01/2019, available at: <https://www.lanacion.com.ar/2207614-el-nuevo-tren-patagonico-ira-cordillera-playa>, DINATALE, M. (2018) “Avanza el gigantesco “proyecto del agua” que desarrolla Holanda en la Argentina”, Infobae, 09/07/2018, available at: <https://www.infobae.com/politica/2018/07/09/avanza-el-gigantesco-proyecto-del-agua-que-desarrolla-holanda-en-la-argentina/>

\*Most local references in Argentina are in Spanish, but they can be consulted by using Google Translate.



**Stage 1: Research Case**

1. **Infrastructures as Urban Spaces/Collectivities as Urban Actants:** Conceptual references and identification of examples. Definition of the main terms and focus spatial elements. (Group discussions) / **Case-Studies:** Study of international cases. The multicultural backgrounds of students will broaden the spectrum of cases. The cases will be restricted to infrastructural constructions with links to the site (mainly railways, stations and canals or waterfronts). (Individual)

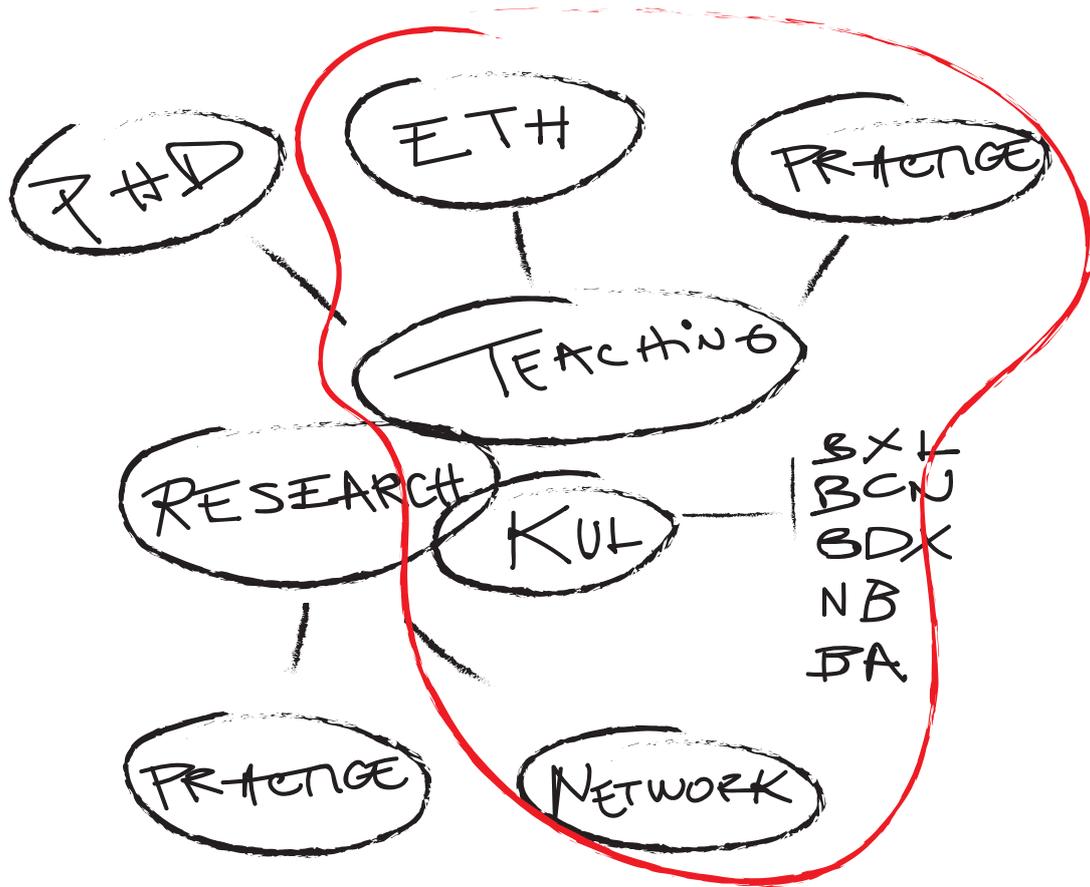
**Stage 2: Hybrid Contexts: Research Strategies**

1. **Spatial Explorations:** For this stage a specific methodology will be tested. The aim is to explore and unveil the multilayered, overlapping, unexpected, volatile and fluctuant character of collective spaces when linked to infrastructures through a series of themes. These are “Spatial Configurations”, that explores the physical-material, domain and programmatic components of spaces; “Marks of Human Presence” that explores ways of use and appropriation of these spaces, and the atmospheres created, focusing on their spatial outcomes; “Voices” that brings in the immaterial forces linked to engagement, discussions, projects and imaginaries with a spatial impact; aiming to understand the physical impact of these elements and how (micro) negotiations couple material and immaterial realms. (2/3 Students per Zoom-In Area)

**Stage 3: Tools for the City: Design Strategies**

1. **Scenario / Vision / Design Position:** Learning from... and identification of triggering elements for the definitions of a personal design position. The study of the Zoom-In Area is focused on the actual users and processes. This will lead to the identification of a design-case including programme, and location. Infrastructures as collective spaces are the key aspects.

2. **Design Investigations:** Design of an urban-architectural proposal within or around the site. (2/3 Students/ possibility individually)



≠ SKILLS



SXL BCN-BDX-NB DA

THROUGH  
SCALES

## Theoretical Background

The studio theoretical position recognizes collectivities and infrastructures as core elements of urban life and culture, in many cases merged together absorbing intensity, tensions and conflicts, ultimately becoming material-symbolic assemblages, namely compounds or devices that include emerging qualities and parameters. Spaces for collectivities are urban spaces shared or co-inhabited by different entities that relate to each other and to space itself in cultural-driven manners, with no-common ground. Infrastructures have always had a determined role in urban environments, and has nowadays become extremely complex: while heavily criticized, their growth and intensification of use is triggered by overall urbanization and sprawl. Collectivities and infrastructures embrace different logics, some of them are considered planned, stable, or institutionalized; others rather emergent, unstable, spontaneous, and incremental, the studio will study their hybridization processes.

## References

Articles to discuss during the semester:

o. EASTERLING, K. [2014]. *Extrastatecraft. The power of infrastructure space*. Verso, New York, London. 2016. Available at: <http://kellereasterling.com>. Chapters: 1, 2, 3, 6. (TO READ IN ADVANCED)

1. CHIAPPINI, María Cecilia; HEHL, Rainer; THOMIDOU, Alkistis, “*Cidade de Deus +20 Projecting alternative futures*” publisher: Ruby Press *Cidade de Deus – City of God. Working with Informalized Mass Housing in Brazil*, pag.: 152 - 165.

2. ANGÉLIL M. (Ed.) (2016). *Infrastructure Space*. Berlin: Ruby Press. (chose one article)

3. SCOTT BROWN, Denise. “On Formal Analysis as Research” In: *JAE*, Vol. 32, No. 4, Search/Research, 1979  
2. LEVITT, William. “Levittown 1947-1951” in Venturi, Schott, Brown and Associates *Learning from Levittown*. 1972

4. NANGO, Yoshikazu. “The Behaviour that Atelier Bow Wow Call Research. Made in Tokyo: a research prototype”. ([www.bow-wow.jp](http://www.bow-wow.jp), [archinect.com/features/article/56468/atelier-bow-wow-tokyo-anatomy](http://archinect.com/features/article/56468/atelier-bow-wow-tokyo-anatomy), [urban-sprouts.blogspot.com](http://urban-sprouts.blogspot.com), [ar/2010\\_09\\_01\\_archive.html](http://ar/2010_09_01_archive.html))

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## Calendar (preliminary)

### Week 2; Oct. 02:

Morning and Afternoon Sessions

- Start-up individual design-studio`s
- Launch Stage 1.1:
  - Further explanation of Methodological and Theoretical Frame
  - Launch Stage 2.1: Spatial Explorations in The Rounds

Introduction and assignment of research-design site in The Rounds and research methodology, group conformation to address the Zoom-In Areas, according to the 3 spheres (“Spatial Configurations”: physical-material, domain and programmatic components of spaces. “Marks of Human Presence”: ways of use and appropriation of these spaces, and the atmospheres created, focusing on the spatial outcomes. “Voices”: immaterial forces linked to engagement, discussions, projects and imaginaries with a spatial impact; aiming to understand the physical impact of these elements and how (micro) negotiations couple material and immaterial realms.)

### Week 3; Oct. 08

Morning Session

Individual work

Afternoon Session

Development of work under Tutor supervision:

- Stage 2.1: Spatial Explorations per Zoom-In.
- Launch Stage 3.1: Scenario+Vision+Design Position

Identification of programmes and sites for emergent design cases.

- Stage 2.1: Spatial Explorations, findings and transfer to design.
- Launch Stage 3.2: Design Investigations

### Week 4; Oct. 15

Morning Session

• **Internal Review**

- Stage 2.1: Spatial Explorations, findings and transfer to design. Internal review (presentations)
- Stage 3.1: Scenario+Vision+Design Position. Internal review (presentations)

Afternoon Session

**14hs: Input Lecture (Video Conference): Current Urban Processes in Buenos Aires by local experts**

### Week 5; Oct. 22

Morning Session

Development of work under Tutor supervision:

- Stage 3.2: Design Investigations

Afternoon Session

**14hs: Input Lecture (Video Conference): Current High-Density Urban Processes by international experts**

### Week 6; Oct. 29 **INTERNAL MID-TERM REVIEW**

Morning Session

- Internal Mid-Term Review: Stage 3.2: Design Investigations with peer-students as jury members.

Afternoon Sessions

Feed-back and action plan during the break to discuss with the tutor

### Week 7; Nov. 5 **NO DESIGN STUDIO - WORKSHOP WEEK**

### Week 8; Nov. 12 **MID TERM REVIEW - ALL STUDIOS (to confirm)**

Morning Sessions and Afternoon Sessions

- Mid-Term Review: Stage 3.2: Design Investigations

**Week 9; Nov. 19**

Morning Sessions and Afternoon Sessions

Development of work under Tutor supervision:

- Stage 3.2: Design Investigations

**Week 10; Nov. 26**

Morning Sessions and Afternoon Sessions

Development of work under Tutor supervision:

- Stage 3.2: Design Investigations

**Week 11; Dec. 3 **Internal Review****

Morning Session

- **Internal Review:** Stage 3.2: Design Investigations with peer-students as jury members.

Afternoon Sessions

Development of work under Tutor supervision:

- Stage 3.2: Design Investigations

**Week 12; Dec. 10**

Morning & Afternoon Sessions

Development of work under Tutor supervision:

- Stage 3.2: Design Investigations

**Week 13; Dec. 17 **FINAL REVIEW****

Morning Session

REVIEW All Stages

Afternoon Sessions

Exchange moment - more information to be provided towards the final reviews.

**Christmass Break**

**Week 14; Jan. 07 - EXTENDED REVIEW with Local Experts (To confirm)**

All students selected for this studio are kindly requested to become a member of the Facebook Group BA UNLOCKED-maib34 2019-2020-Cecilia Chiappini AND to send an email to the tutor: [mariacecilia.chiappini@kuleuven.be](mailto:mariacecilia.chiappini@kuleuven.be). Also, they are asked to on the International Master 's blog and check the previous studio work, particularly the COLLECTIVE PRODUCTION pdfs, available in the <http://internationalmasterofarchitecture.be/portfolio/cecilia-chiappini/>

## Course Specific Competences maib34 Design Studio (B-KUL-A43004) -15 ECTS

[https://onderwijsaanbod.kuleuven.be/syllabi/e/A43004E.htm#activetab=doelstellingen\\_idp1641920](https://onderwijsaanbod.kuleuven.be/syllabi/e/A43004E.htm#activetab=doelstellingen_idp1641920)  
or Google “maib 34+master of architecture ku leuven”

- 1A1 The student has insight in different aspects of the architectural process such as context analysis, conceptualisation, problem awareness and engagement, ethics and personal imagination.
- 5A1 The student is able to develop a relevant design project out of various spatial scale levels and the dimension of time.
- 3A1 The student is able to develop a critical argumentation on the position of his/her design project within the international architectural debate.
- 4A1 The student is able to act methodologically throughout the designing process in an independent manner.
- 5A3 The student is able to develop a relevant design project out of a conceptual-programmatic logic.
- 7,1 The student is able to develop alternatives from a multidisciplinary and intercultural perspective.
- 4A2 The student is able to act methodologically throughout the designing process in a creative manner.
- 4A3 The student is able to establish his/her own research or project strategy.
- 5A4 The student is able to develop an innovative design project.
- 7,2 The student is able to expand his/her knowledge continuously and creatively.
- 2C1 The student is able to develop a complex cultural-theoretical analysis.
- 5C1 The student is able to develop a relevant design, based on an complex cultural / societal context analysis.
- 2C2 The student is able to gather and compare cultural-theoretical information from a wide range of international sources, focusing on their practical application. for practical applicability, from a wide range of international sources.
- 3C1 The student is able to critically frame and place a complex architectural design.
- 6C1 The student is able to explicate a contemporary point of view out of a cultural-historical rhetoric within the disciplin.
- 7,3 The student is able to think and act interculturally.
- 3C2 The student is able to reflect on contemporary and innovative architectural-theoretical perspectives.
- 4C1 The student is able to assess the methodological limits of a design strategy.
- 4B1 The student is able to develop a constructional design strategy for a complex case.
- 4B2 The student is able to develop a relevant design, taking into account quality of comfort and sustainability.
- 1B1 The student has advanced insight in fundamental structural differentiations.
- 4B3 The student is able to develop a relevant design, taking into account fire safety, acoustics and other factors in constructional physics.
- 2B1 The student is able to think in a problemsolving manner, related to building technology.

Contribution to the generic competences:

The student is able to assimilate and integrate in critical way information through research and study in a way to act in a methodological, explorative and creative way in his architectural design in the UAD design studio. The student can interpret his personal frame of references in relation to architecture through the specific field of UAD (urban architectural design) and specifically in the field of cities in transition. He is able to describe, to evaluate and to apply key concepts on this field. The program focuses on designing architecture in a new urban context, taking into account the changing societal and spatial context, as well as the specific characteristics and regional and cultural identities of the European urbanity. The transformation and refocusing of the economic activity due to globalisation, knowledge economy, aging society, growth of the non-active population, tourism, the multicultural society... forces us to develop new working methods for the built environment. Students will be trained to cope with, plan and design architecture based on their understanding of the urban culture in those new conditions. The program emphasizes the specific combination of design and research, by exploring the impact of the complex urban processes on architectural design. Design is seen as a creative way to explore and look into those new societal challenges.