

# INAAD Neuroscience Applied to Architectural Design

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Università Iuav  
di Venezia



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# What is NAAD Master

NAAD is the first International Postgraduate Annual Course working on the relationship between Neuroscience and Architecture.



## Duration | Teaching

The program is divided into three modules:

Module 1 | From 28 November 2022 to 13 January 2023

Module 2 | From 06 February to 07 April 2023

Module 3 | From 15 May to 14 July 2022

**Lessons:** One week per month (40 total hours).

**Degree thesis:** Will be presented in Venice at the end of September 2023.

## Admission requirements

Admission procedures, the required qualifications and any additional requirements, including access to individual training activities:

master's or three-year degree in **architecture and engineering, psychology, philosophy, medicine, or neuroscience, good knowledge of the English language**, a CV and a description of the motivations are required.

## Registration fees

**Attendance in Venice** is € 13.500 **full course** / € 4.500 **single modules**.

**Digital course**, in live streaming, is € 10.000 **full course** / € 2.500 **single modules**.

## Deadline for admission

**Open only for single modules:**

till January 06th for second module / till March 30th for third module

## Goals

Addressed to **architects, designers and consultants of companies** the Master aims to train people capable of completing projects and services centred on **improving the human experience of architectural and urban space**, to be included within design firms, real estate development groups and private and public services management companies.

**01 |** NAAD transmits the scientific knowledge aimed to favor an architectural design able to create attunement between users' pre-cognitive expectations and multi-sensorial experience of space, according to the perception models developed by the neurosciences. Urban spaces, and transitions inside/outside buildings, is a crucial topic our course looks carefully, intending to integrate scales of perception, through an emotionally-driven approach, with significant outcomes on the health.

**02 |** The PostGraduate Master creates the basis for students to understand how to make the conditions, through the composition of architectural elements (topological and proxemic relationships, geometry, light, rhythm, texture, color, materials, sound), for a regulated development of the emotions in the experience: this, to strengthen attention, memory, learning and the quality of social relations.

**03 |** The course developed its program with particular reference to Airports, Factories, Hospitals, Hotels, Parks, Prisons, Retails Malls, Schools, Senior Residences, Social Housings, Student Housings, Urban Spaces, Workplaces, to provide the tools to create architecture suitable to its use, and also able to improve the economics figures (ROI, SROI, Asset Value) of private and public companies.

# Programs

## FIRST MODULE

### ANATOMY AND PHILOSOPHY OF THE ARCHITECTURAL PERCEPTION

During the first three months, students will be given the fundamentals to understand how our body is provided with a uniquely evolved range of systems able to receive signals from the outside world, focusing on body movements. Next, we will analyze each element involved in the architectural process and the human sensory system. Light, topology, organization, and use of space, geometry, rhythm, texture, matters, sounds, and smells: all these elements, prior individually and then through their integration, will be analyzed concerning the physiology of the human sensory system along with the interaction into architecture. Also, students will deal with the evolution and nature of emotions and feelings, up to the arising of conscience. All this, inside a philosophical framework grounded in neuro-phenomenology and pragmatism.

## SECOND MODULE

### ARCHITECTURE AND THE BODY-BRAIN SYSTEM

Students will work on the nature of the human pre-cognitive emotional expectations surging from daily activities. From February to April, students will focus on the link between the body and its movements and, consequently, deriving from these underpinnings, developing the different patterns of interaction with space. Finally, students will learn how to translate awaited emotions in a dynamical perception of shapes able to attune humans' needs with architecture. Related consequences in cognitive performances, health, well-being, and improved social relationships are all the classes' outcomes will focus on in the course's module. Some lessons will also be directed to gain knowledge of physiological and brain activity measurements.

## THIRD MODULE

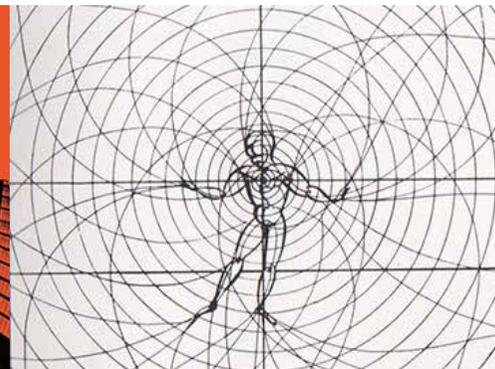
### PRE-COGNITIVE HUMAN DEMANDS AND THE DESIGN OF ARCHITECTURE

The third module will give the students the instruments to transform and erect buildings in cities, taking care of users' needs. NAAD will organize fifteen days on some study cases: Airports, Factories, Offices, Malls, Furniture, Hospitals, Prisons, Schools, Social Housings, Student Housings, Senior Residences, Sacred Spaces, Parks and City Planning. In the first part of the daily lessons, for each of the investigated fields, the course will address the expected emotional mixtures featuring the specific typology. Then, in the second slot of each class, some key projects will be introduced by firms, managing companies, or designers who developed these actual study cases.

## FOURTH MODULE

### DESIGNING THE ATTUNEMENT

It will be divided into two parts. A 260-hour internship, during which the participants of the Master will develop an architectural design as part of the thesis path. Within the companies invited to present their works in the Third module or other selected companies, each student for her/his typology or field of research.



## Faculty

The Faculty is made up of more than 90 teachers from different parts of the world.

### SCIENTIFIC RESPONSIBLE

Davide Ruzzon

### BOARD

Renato Bocchi, Agostino De Rosa, Harry Mallgrave, Juhani Pallasmaa, Alberto Perez-Gomez, Sarah Robinson, Giovanni Vecchiato.

### FACULTY

[www.naad-master.com](http://www.naad-master.com)

## Job description and final assessment

Thanks to neuroscience and environmental psychology studies, the mechanisms of interaction between spaces and men have been deepened. In recent years, real estate operators have shown themselves to be increasingly attentive to people's psychological and physical well-being. In the future, more positions will be opened, within public and private companies, for professionals who have gained skills and knowledge that allow them to operate in a multidisciplinary perspective.

This **Master's mission** is to develop knowledge inherent in the relationship between neuroscientific research and human responses within the built environment.

The first graduates have been embarked on research paths within university institutions, have been hired within design companies, or have started their consultancy activities related to the specific educational path.



INAD

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## Classes

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