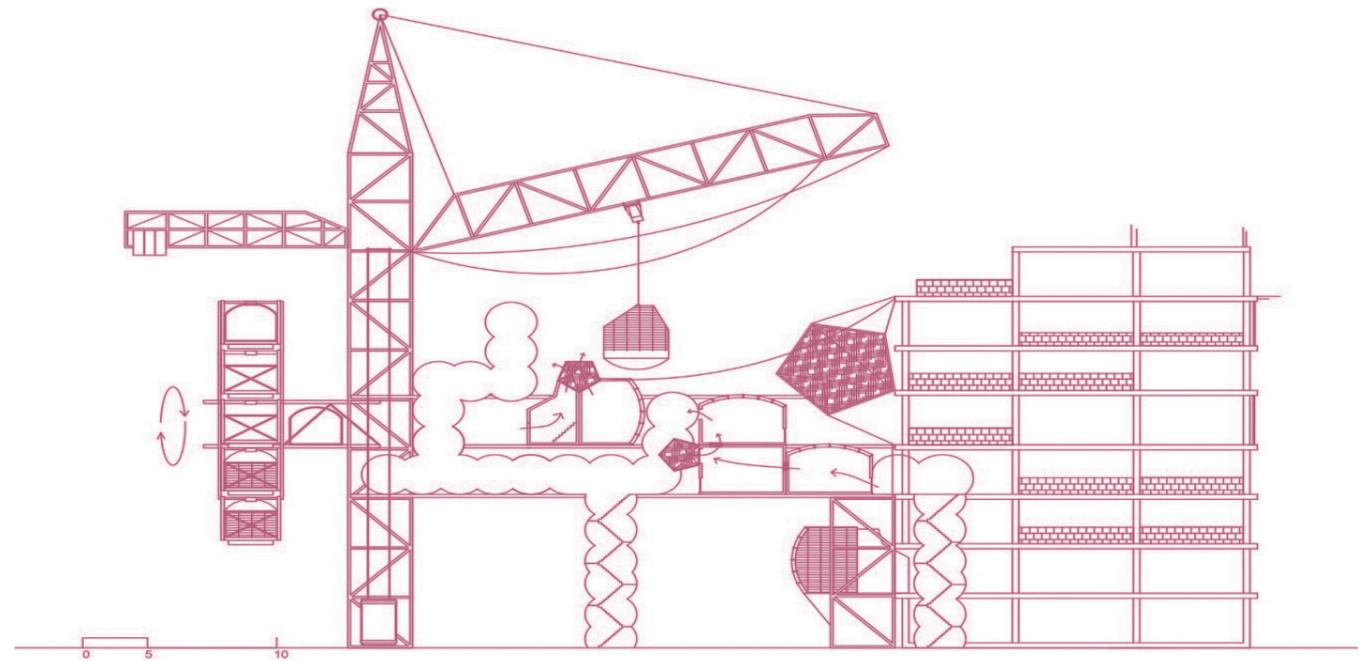


# 3 Questionnaires for UOU

Letter from the director



UOU 1st semester logo, by Salma Abdelrahman.

The last “Letter from the Director”, published in the issue *UOU sj #05 BORDERS*, already listed the series of collaborative experiences used at *UNIVERSITY of Universities*. It was an identification of methodologies that have appeared in parallel to the routine of the classroom based on the Crit system:

- *Festival of architecture in the City.*
- *Field trips.*
- *The UOU Reflection series.*
- *BIP.*
- *Summer course ProtoLAB.*
- *UOU Scientific Journal.*
- *New opportunities for international collaborations, such as participating in congresses or international weeks to prepare submissions for international projects, co-directing PhD students in international programmes, or even giving more meaning to the role of the Erasmus visiting professor working with local students.*

In this course 2023/24, apart from reinforcing all of them, we will add the celebration of the *EURAU* international conference in Milan, 19-22 June 2024. Our colleague Marco Bovati and the rest of the organizing committee members from *Politecnico Milano* are preparing intense days for PhD students and researchers

in this stimulating city, where all of us meet to exchange ideas as well as visiting memorable architecture. This is the call:

<https://www.euraumilano.polimi.it/>

Such a list of learning experiences grows in parallel to the list of participants: Welcome to Joanna Dudek from Politechnika Rzeszowska (POLAND), Luz Fernández Valderrama and Eva Luque from Universidad de Sevilla (SPAIN), Alessandra Swiny from University of Nicosia (CYPRUS), Won-joon Choi from Soongsil University (SOUTH KOREA), and hello again dear Doina Carter from the University of West London (UK).

Remembering the origins of UOU, back in 2020, when we were just seven members looking to enhance quality in education through inter-cultural collaboration, now is the moment to check again those levels of excellence. The new project consists of proposing a series of three questionnaires that will help us to get information on:

1. *The knowledge and skills acquired by the students who participate.*
2. *Also the attitudes developed by them in comparison to the groups that do not participate in this project.*
3. *The attitudes developed by the teaching staff will also be evaluated.*

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## QUESTIONNAIRES

To prepare these questionnaires, the first idea has been to formulate ten questions to students of architecture about how to improve their international education:

- What aspects of your current architectural education do you feel are lacking in terms of international exposure?
- In what ways can the curriculum be modified to incorporate more global perspectives and examples within the field of architecture?
- Are there specific regions or cultural contexts that you believe should be emphasized more in your architectural education to better prepare you for international practice?
- How can the integration of technology and digital tools enhance your understanding of international architectural trends and practices?
- Do you believe that language skills are adequately emphasized in your architectural education, and if not, how can language training be better incorporated to facilitate communication in an international context?
- What role can collaborative projects with students from other countries play in enhancing your understanding of diverse architectural approaches and fostering a global perspective?
- Are there opportunities for international internships or exchange programs that you believe would significantly contribute to your architectural education,

and if so, how can they be better facilitated?

- Do you think there is a need for more exposure to real-world international architectural projects and case studies in your coursework, and if yes, how can this be integrated into the curriculum?
- In what ways can the faculty incorporate more diverse perspectives and experiences from architects and professionals around the world into the classroom setting?
- How can the use of virtual reality, augmented reality, or other immersive technologies be leveraged to simulate international architectural environments and challenges within the educational setting?

The fascinating contribution of a former UOU student, Salma Abdelrahman, reminded us of the great importance that the learning format had for her and, of course, the diversity of cultures:

### Preferred Learning Format:

- *Traditional classroom setting.*
- *Online courses.*
- *Hybrid (combination of in-person and online).*
- *Workshops and hands-on experiences.*

### Culture and Diversity:

- *How should architectural education address cultural diversity and sensitivity in a globalised context?*
- *Would you be interested in collaborative projects with students from different countries?*

Upon reviewing all of those questions, it is imperative that our students not only understand the foundational principles of architecture but also grasp the diverse cultural, technological, and collaborative dimensions that shape the international architectural landscape. As we reflect on these questions, it becomes clear that exposure to real-world projects and collaborative opportunities are crucial components in preparing our students, incorporating diverse perspectives, and leveraging cutting-edge technologies in a dynamic and inclusive educational environment.

Furthermore, the integration of international exchange programs into the curriculum resonates with the UOU's commitment to providing students with hands-on experiences that transcend borders.

The answers to the following questions will be a reflection on Advancing Education in Architecture. In the ever-evolving realm of architecture, **UNIVERSITY of Universities** is committed to fostering an environment that not only responds to the needs of today's global architects but anticipates the challenges of tomorrow.

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## 1. Questionnaire on Knowledge and Skills Acquisition at UNIVERSITY of Universities

### 1. Demographic Information:

- Name (Optional):
- Gender:
- Age:
- University:

### 2. Academic Background:

- How would you rate the quality of academic programs at the University of Universities?
- In your opinion, how well do the courses align with education standards and demands?

### 3. Knowledge Acquisition:

- To what extent do you feel this intercultural experience has contributed to your knowledge in architecture design?
- Can you provide an example of a specific workshop that significantly enhanced your understanding of architecture?

### 4. Practical Skills Development:

- How has UOU supported the development of practical skills relevant to your interests in architecture?
- Have you had opportunities for hands-on experiences, internships, or co-op programs? If yes, please share your experience.

### 5. Critical Thinking and Problem-Solving:

- Do you believe your time at UOU has improved your critical thinking skills? How?
- Can you recall a challenging problem or project that helped you develop problem-solving abilities?

### 6. Communication Skills:

- How has UOU contributed to the improvement of your communication skills (both written and oral)?
- Have there been specific workshops that you found particularly effective in enhancing your communication abilities?

### 7. Teamwork and Collaboration:

- In what ways has UOU encouraged teamwork and collaboration among students?
- Can you provide an example of a team project that you believe positively influenced your ability to work in a team setting?

### 8. Research and Innovation:

- How has UOU fostered a culture of research and innovation among students?
- Did you have the need to research for any of your workshops, and if so, what did you learn from the experience?

### 9. Preparation for Future Career:

- Do you feel that the education and experiences at UNIVERSITY of Universities have adequately prepared you for your future career?
- Are there specific aspects of your UOU experience that you believe will be particularly valuable in your professional life?

### 10. Overall Satisfaction:

- On a scale of 1 to 10, how satisfied are you with the knowledge and skills you have acquired at UNIVERSITY of Universities?
- What recommendations do you have for UOU to further enhance the educational experience for students of architecture?

## 2. Questionnaire on Attitudes Acquired at UNIVERSITY of Universities

### 1. Demographic Information:

- a. Name (Optional):
- b. Gender:
- c. Age:
- d. University:

### 2. Personal Growth:

- a. In what ways do you feel your time at UNIVERSITY of Universities has contributed to your personal growth and development?
- b. Can you provide an example of a situation or experience that influenced a positive change in your attitudes or perspectives?

### 3. Cultural Awareness:

- a. How has UOU fostered cultural awareness and understanding among students?
- b. Have you had opportunities for cross-cultural interactions, and if so, how have they influenced your attitudes?

### 4. Diversity and Inclusion:

- a. To what extent do you think UOU promotes diversity and inclusion in the classroom?
- b. Have your attitudes towards diversity and inclusion changed during your time at UOU?

### 5. Ethical Considerations:

- a. How has UOU influenced your understanding of ethical considerations in your academic and personal life?
- b. Can you share an experience that challenged your ethical thinking and decision-making?

### 6. Leadership and Initiative:

- a. Do you believe UOU has contributed to the development of your leadership skills and initiative?
- b. Have you been involved in any leadership roles or initiatives that have impacted your attitudes towards leadership?

### 7. Resilience and Adaptability:

- a. In what ways has your UOU experience helped you develop resilience and adaptability in the face of challenges?
- b. Can you provide an example of a challenging situation where you demonstrated resilience?

### 8. Community Engagement:

- a. How has UOU encouraged students to engage with the local community or participate in social responsibility initiatives?
- b. Have such experiences influenced your attitudes towards community engagement?

### 9. Global Perspective:

- a. To what extent do you think your UOU experience has given you a global perspective on issues and challenges?
- b. Has your participation in this international program broadened your global awareness?

### 10. Overall Impact on Attitudes:

- a. On a scale of 1 to 10, how much do you feel UNIVERSITY of Universities has shaped your attitudes towards learning, collaboration, and personal development?
- b. What recommendations do you have for UOU to further enhance the development of positive attitudes among students?

## 3. Questionnaire on Attitudes Acquired by Teachers at the UNIVERSITY of Universities

### 1. Demographic Information:

- a. Name (Optional):
- b. Gender:
- c. Years of Teaching Experience:
- d. University:

### 2. Professional Growth:

- a. In what ways do you feel your experience at UNIVERSITY of Universities has contributed to your professional growth as a teacher?
- b. Can you share a specific example of how your attitudes towards teaching have evolved during your time at UOU?

### 3. Innovative Teaching Approaches:

- a. Have you adopted any innovative teaching approaches or methodologies learned at UOU? Please provide examples.
- b. How do you believe these innovations have positively impacted student learning and engagement?

### 4. Technology Integration:

- a. How has UOU influenced your approach to integrating technology into your teaching methods?
- b. Can you share specific instances where technology has enhanced your teaching effectiveness?

### 5. Research and Scholarly Engagement:

- a. To what extent has UOU encouraged and supported your involvement in research and scholarly activities?
- b. Have you published any research findings, and if so, how has this influenced your teaching methods?

### 6. Collaboration with Peers:

- a. In what ways has UOU promoted collaboration with international faculty members?
- b. Can you provide an example of a collaborative effort that enriched your teaching experience?

### 7. Diversity and Inclusion:

- a. How has UOU emphasized diversity and inclusion in teaching practices, and how has it impacted your attitudes as an educator?
- b. Can you share an experience where inclusive teaching positively influenced your students?

### 8. Pedagogical Innovations:

- a. Have you adopted any pedagogical innovations or teaching strategies learned at the university? Please provide examples.
- b. How do you believe these innovations have positively impacted student learning outcomes?

### 9. Student-Centric Approach:

- a. In what ways has your UNIVERSITY of Universities experience influenced your approach to a student-centric teaching model?
- b. Can you share an example of how focusing on students' needs has improved your teaching?

### 10. Continuous Professional Development:

- a. Has UOU fostered a culture of continuous professional development among its teaching staff?
- b. What recommendations do you have for UNIVERSITY of Universities to further support ongoing professional growth for its collaborators?

Thank you for sharing your insights and experiences!