

Summerschool 2019, call for students

Productive Landscapes

2nd till 12th of September, Riba d'Ave and Guimarães (Portugal)

School of Architecture, University of Minho



The summerschool offers European master students in architecture, urbanism, and landscape design, alternative interpretations of the potentials, qualities and characteristics of a dispersed urbanity, manifested in the contemporary landscape. The summer school confronts the students with the exploration of alternative ways to use and value the dispersed territory. At the same time students are confronted with the ideas of researchers, professionals, civil servants, politicians and entrepreneurs and with the way they envisage the evolution of a diluted territory.

An educative project organised by University of Minho, School of Architecture, in collaboration with:

Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya, LUB/ETSAB, Spain.

Istanbul Technical University, Turkey.

KU Leuven, Faculty of Architecture, Belgium.

Vale do Ave is a dispersed and complex territory. It is composed of a set of fragments of agricultural areas, industrial plots and dwellings linked by an old productive system associated to the river Ave and connected by a dense network of roads and paths. This cultivated, adapted, transformed and completely humanized territory forms a Productive Landscape, but it is currently stagnant and reveals multiple states of abandonment. Specifically, we will explore Riba d'Ave, a small urban agglomerate marked by the River Ave and two large textile factories: Sampaio Ferreira and Oliveira Ferreira, closed and abandoned since 2008.

In this summer session, we will confront the state of abandonment to find alternatives based on new forms, processes, relations and production practices, capable of stimulating dynamics and investments, promoting employment, attracting population and qualifying urban space. The challenge is to design a new Productive Landscape composed of different scales, times and uses; a new landscape that does not deal with traditional oppositions - urban or rural; constructed or natural - but works and develops within its limits.

The aim of the summer school is to explore a new *Productive Landscape of Riba d'Ave*, to define the challenges this context is facing and to develop an answer to this by a designed project. This design can have multiple forms but serves an exploration of a possible future.

During a ten days summer school, students are confronted with this context and challenged to take position. Using the format of an international classroom the summer school will be a combination of fieldtrips, lectures, design studios, desktop critics and reviews.

Fee

Participation in the summer school is free.

Offer

All participants in the summer school are offered:

- Accommodation in Guimarães from Sunday evening 1st until Thursday morning 12th of September
- Lunch during working days
- All necessary materials to work (e.g. printing, cardboard, tracing paper,...)

Practical issues:

- A reader with more detailed information on the Summer school will available in July.
- The working venue will be the School (to be confirmed) in the historical city centre of Guimarães.