

## **DESIGN INSTITUTES & DESIGN STUDIOS. Cases of permeability between teaching and practice (including research)**

Marco Trisciuglio - Li Bao

The aim of the contribution is describing an urban design teaching activity developed in the last eight years (2016-2023) at one of the top Schools of Architecture in China: the Design Studios “Urban morphology, architectural typology, contemporary settlement patterns” held at the School of Architecture in Southeast University Nanjing, China.

One of the main features of the teaching activity has been the strong connection with the practice activities developed within the Design Institute of the same University, such as the Urban Architectural Lab, founded in 2006 as part of the historic Architects & Engineers Co. Ltd. of the same university.

In respect with the European professional context, the role of the Design Institutes is specific of the Chinese context, where those public structures are the legacy of the process of collectivization of the professions promoted during the Fifties. The strategic role of the Design Institutes located in the universities allows nowadays not only high quality in design productions, but also the opportunity for students to face real topics of great complexity and to improve their competencies: in design as well as in socio-economic management.

The contribution describes some urban regeneration projects developed in Nanjing historical urban tissues where the connection between Design Institute and Design Studio was strong and fruitful, from the choice of the topic and the surveys to the exams involving stakeholders within the final jury.

Marco Trisciuglio is Full Professor at Politecnico di Torino where he is Head of the PhD Program “Architecture, History and Project”. He is Distinguished Professor at SEU.

Bao Li is Full Professor and Vice Dean of School of Architecture at Southeast University Nanjing (SEU), awarded by UIA and MoE for Innovation in Architectural Education.

Img. C06  
Hehuatang Area in  
Southern Nanjing.  
Model of the  
students' projects.  
Master and Bachelor  
level Design Studio  
at SEU, 2021.

