Mohammed Seddik Benyahia University - Jijel
Faculty of Science and Technology
Department of Architecture

Laboratoire Cadre Bâti et Environnement

URBAN NEXUS team presents the

First National Seminar Public Space: Practices and Atmospheres

01 OCTOBER 2026

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Participation fees: Participation is free of charge, excluding travel and accommodation.

Preamble

Public space today represents a central field of exploration for architects, urban planners, and researchers in the social sciences. It is at once the place of living together, mobility, and social and political expression, but also a reflection of contemporary urban and environmental transformations.

Approaching the theme "Public space: practices and atmospheres" means questioning how individuals appropriate, perceive, and transform the places they inhabit and traverse. Social practices, everyday behaviors, informal uses, as well as sensory and atmospheric ambiances, all contribute to building the identity and quality of these spaces.

This seminar aims to open a multidisciplinary debate around new approaches to public space, at the intersection of architectural design, urban sociology, geography, environmental psychology, and cultural studies. It seeks to examine the conditions of production and management of these spaces, as well as the challenges of comfort, safety, inclusion, and sustainability they entail.

By bringing together teachers, researchers, practitioners, and doctoral students, this event aspires to foster diverse perspectives, enrich reflections, and highlight local and national experiences. Beyond theoretical reflection, this seminar also aims to be a space for exchange, sharing, and forward thinking, to collectively imagine public spaces that carry meaning, identity, and conviviality, adapted to the contemporary challenges of our cities.

Objectives

- Promote dialogue between researchers, practitioners, and doctoral students around interdisciplinary approaches to public space;
- Encourage the sharing of experiences and research focused on urban practices and sensory perceptions;
- Foster reflection on methods of design, planning, and enhancement of public spaces in the current context of Algerian cities;
- Highlight the social and cultural dynamics that shape contemporary public spaces;
- Strengthen cooperation between university institutions and territorial actors for better understanding and ownership of urban issues.

Contact info

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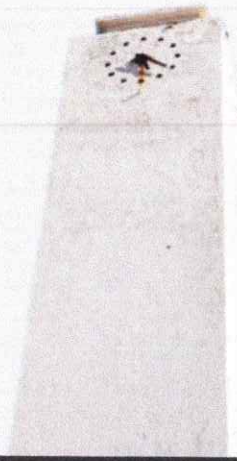
Thematic areas

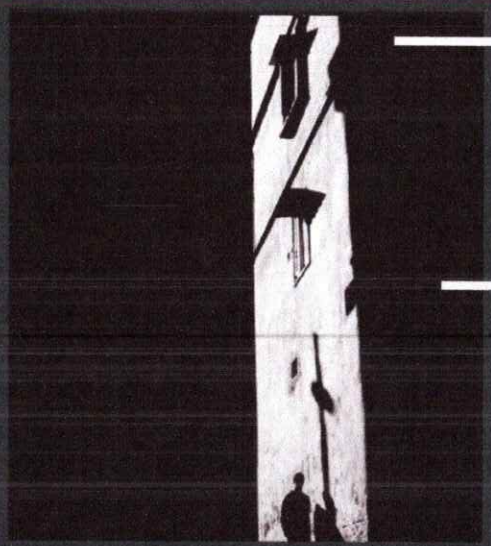
Axis 1: Public space between practices and uses

This axis questions the forms of appropriation and the social dynamics that unfold within public spaces. It focuses on everyday uses, interactions, and temporalities.

Axis 2: Public space, atmospheres, and materials

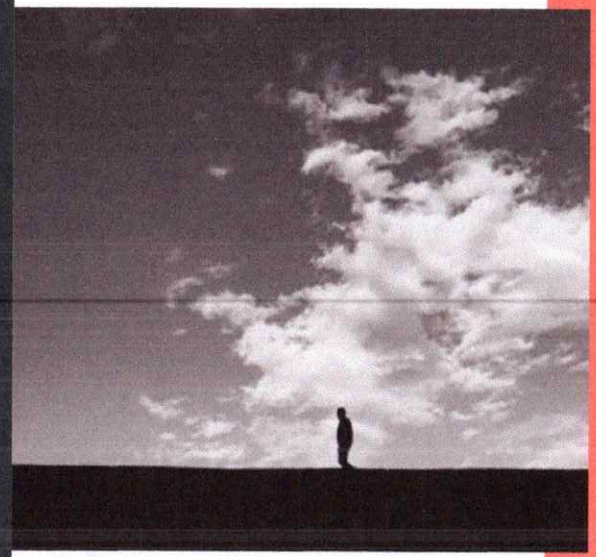
This axis explores the sensory and material dimension of public space through its atmospheres, textures, and physical components.





Important dates

- Abstract submission deadline: **30/06/2026**
- Notification of abstract acceptance: **15/07/2026**
- Final paper submission: **05/08/2026**
- Final acceptance: **15/09/2026**

Guid for authors

- **Abstract:** Maximum 300 words (Times New Roman, margins 2.5 cm). **Title:** 14 pt, bold, centered. **Text:** 12 pt, line spacing 1.5. **Authors and affiliations:** 11 pt, centered. **Language:** English, Arabic, or French.