



Faculty of Economics and
Tourism "Dr. Mijo Mirković"



DICAAR

**INTERNATIONAL INTERDISCIPLINARY SPRING STUDENT SCHOOL
EUROPEAN FORTIFIED LANDSCAPES - SUSTAINABLE REUSE
PULA, April 21-26 2026**



Program Content:

- An interdisciplinary spring school offering a dynamic learning experience through lectures, study visits, discussions, practical work, and presentations on European fortified landscapes and their sustainable reuse.
- Lectures, guided tours, and workshops in Pula.
- Visits to local fortified system, and heritage sites, cultural institutions and community centers;
- Practical group work: creative, responsible, and sustainable revitalisation of fortifications and former military heritage.

Program Specifications:

- Blended intensive program under the Erasmus+ framework
- Suitable for students of all study cycles in architecture, culture and tourism, and economics
- Students receive 3 ECTS credits.
- The virtual component will take place before mobility (18 March, 15:00-17:00)

About Us:

Partner Universities: Juraj Dobrila University of Pula; University of Cagliari, TU Graz.

ACCOMODATION DETAILS



"Veli Jože" hotel ([Bečka ul. 9. 52100. Pula. Croatia](#))

Prices for April (B&B):

- 1/1 room 47,00 €
- 1/2 room 70,00 €
- 1/3 room 84,00 €

Insurance 0,07 €/person/day and tourist tax 1,60/person/day



EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMME

Online preparation: one online lecture on 18th of March (15:00-18:00)

Topics: local fortified system, its history and specificities, common elements with other similar European systems.

20/04 Monday	Transfer from Trieste Airport and Graz to Pula Arrival of all participants and accommodation	note
21/04 Tuesday	Registration and questionnaire Welcome Note Introductory lectures (FET, aula Istra) 11.00-13:00 13-00-14:00 - lunch break Afternoon: Site visits and Study Tour 14.30-16.30	Ancient Pula - from the Roman Amphitheater to the Venetian Castle with Fort Centre
22/04 Wednesday	Morning: Site visits and Study Tour - starting from the city port: 10:00 to 13:00 lunch at 13.00-14:00 Afternoon: Working session 14.00-17:00 (FET, aula Pula)	Fortifications on the St. Andrea Island in the city port
23/04 Thursday	Morning: Site visits and Study Tour - starting at 9:00 (bus pickup) until 13:00 Lunch: 13.45-14.45 Afternoon: Working session 14.45-17:00 (FET)	Study visit: Musil-Marie Louise- Fort Bourguignon - Verudela Aquarium
24/05 Friday	Working sessions (full day, FET) Break for lunch at 13:00 to 14:00 Optional visit to the Community Center Rojc	
25/04 Saturday	Final presentation of student works and exhibition in the Association of Istrian Architects (11.00-13.00)	
26/04 Sunday	Excursion to Veli and Mali Brijun - NP Brijuni	Bus pick up at 8:00 latest (boat departs from Fažana at 9:00, back at 14:15), bus back
27/04 Monday	Transfer from Pula to Trieste Airport and Graz	



[Bourguignon](#)



[Verudela Aquarium](#)

AIMS and METHODOLOGIES

The main aim of the spring school is to enable students to build skills in creative problem-solving by working in interdisciplinary teams; preparing them for professional practice through immersive cross-disciplinary experiences: study visits, lectures, workshops, and debates.

Topics include theoretical and historical preview of European fortified landscapes with the focus on the heritage of the former Naval Fortress Pula; European best practices in sustainable reuse, local examples of successful revitalization and proposals for civil reuse of former military heritage.

Methodology will include common architectural processing techniques, project-based learning, lectures, study visits and model-making; collaborative working by using the living-lab approach and adaptive reuse proposals as well as development of new cultural tourism products such as local cultural routes connecting fortified and former military sites.

Students will improve their skills in identifying and understanding tangible and intangible cultural values. Consequently, they will be asked to develop design concepts for sustainable reuse, and revitalization of the fortified places, preserving the historical significance of places.



MAIN TOPIC

Defence system of the former Naval Fortress Pula in the broader context of European fortified landscapes and their sustainable reuse: 30 major fortifications in 3 rings around the Venetian castle and the historic Arsenal in the city port.

Pula's fortifications are today mostly unused (besides the Venetian Castle - Historical and Maritime Museum; Fort Verudela - Aquarium, Fort Bourguignon - Archaeological Museum of Istria) and located in the former military areas.

The focus of the study are the fortifications in the city port: on the St. Andrea Island in the centre of the city port, recently open for visits, in comparison with fortifications on the northern and southern part of the port and in tourist zones (Musil, Bourguignon, Verudela): study visits, group work and proposals for new functions and reuse for civil purposes.

OUTPUTS

Design studio's final outputs will be part of a public exhibition and presentation to the local community of Pula. Results will be published in a dedicated monograph edited by UNICAPress, Sharing Series.

CONTACTS

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