BOKU
Institut für
Landschaftsarchitektur

ERASMUS Internship
BOKU University – Institute of Landscape Architecture *06.07.2026*

UNFOLDING LANDSCAPES –
Landscape Agency in Dispersed Territories

Are you driven by the connections between landscape architecture, urban design, environmental justice, political ecology, plants, soils, and socio-ecological transformation? Do you want to actively shape the conversation around the future of dispersed landscapes?

We invite you to take part in a dynamic research and design internship at the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna (BOKU), as part of the Unfolding Landscapes research project.

This internship places you within an ambitious and interdisciplinary team exploring Austria's dispersed landscapes in the context of socio-ecological transition. Working closely with young professionals and researchers in landscape architecture, urbanism, and design research, you will contribute to a project that examines how landscapes respond to, shape, and transform urbanization processes, ecological change, and socio-political forces.

The internship focuses on three locations: Wels, Weiz, and Leibnitz. Through these sites, the project investigates the agency of landscape — not only as a physical setting, but as an active ecological, spatial, cultural, and political actor. Particular attention will be given to plants, soils, water systems, land-use patterns, and local landscape assemblages as agencies that can inform and shape future design strategies.

WHAT YOU'LL BE DOING

As an intern, you will take an active role in supporting research-based design explorations for Wels, Weiz, and Leibnitz. You will help develop mappings, design narratives, visual materials, and small design outputs that communicate the potentials of landscape agency in dispersed territories.

Your work will contribute to the following key areas:

I. Mapping & Visualization

You will help create spatial narratives that reveal how landscapes, landscape assemblages, ecological systems, and urbanization processes intersect. This includes supporting the development of cartographic, analytical, and visual tools that make complex territorial relationships visible and engaging. You may work with GIS-based mappings, diagrams, indexes, visual inventories, layered drawings, and other forms of spatial representation.

II. Design Research & Landscape Agency

You will support design-oriented investigations for the three research locations: Wels, Weiz, and Leibnitz. Through drawings, mappings, diagrams, scenarios, and design narratives, you will help explore how landscape can act as an agent of transformation in dispersed territories. A central part of the work will be to think and design with plants, soils, water, topography, land-use systems, and ecological processes — not as passive background conditions, but as active agencies that shape spatial, social, and environmental futures.

III. Working with Student Design Outputs

You will assist in reviewing, organizing, synthesizing, and further developing student design outputs connected to the research. This may include working with drawings, models, mappings, texts, design strategies, and visual narratives produced in academic design studios or related teaching formats. You will help connect these outputs to the broader research questions of the project and translate them into clear, communicative, and visually compelling formats.

IV. Design Narratives, Publications & Small Design Outputs

You will contribute to the development of design narratives and small-scale research outputs such as atlases, poster books, visual indexes, diagrams, and other publication formats. These outputs will help communicate the research in accessible, experimental, and visually strong ways. This work may include layout design, image editing, graphic refinement, indexing, drawing production, and the preparation of materials for both internal research development and public presentation.

V. Exhibitions & Public Engagement

You will support the planning and preparation of exhibitions, public presentations, and other engagement formats related to the research. This may include curating visual materials, preparing exhibition layouts, developing posters or booklets, organizing content, and helping translate complex research findings into compelling spatial and visual formats. You may also assist with formats such as photographic atlases, short videos, participatory design workshops, and materials for exchange with local communities and project partners.

WHO WE'RE LOOKING FOR

We are looking for an internationally minded emerging designer or researcher who is curious, reflective, and open to exploring complex landscapes from multiple perspectives. You should have a background in landscape architecture, urban planning, urban design, architecture, environmental studies, or a related field.

We are especially interested in someone with:

- Strong design skills and a good eye for visual communication
- Experience with mapping, spatial analysis, and design research
- Skills in Adobe Creative Suite, especially Photoshop, Illustrator, and InDesign
- Experience with GIS and digital mapping tools
- Skills in vector-based drawing programs such as Vectorworks, AutoCAD, Rhino, etc.
- Good abilities in indexing, organizing, and structuring visual and research material
- Good plant knowledge and an interest in designing with vegetation as an active agency
- Interest in soils, ecological processes, and landscape systems
- Ability to work with drawings, diagrams, atlases, poster books, and exhibition materials
- Experience or interest in working with student design outputs
- Strong communication skills and the ability to work collaboratively
- Fluency in both German and English

What You'll Gain

- Experience in an innovative and interdisciplinary research environment
- The opportunity to contribute to a project focused on socio-ecological transition in peri-urban and dispersed territories
- Hands-on experience in research-through-design, landscape analysis, mapping, and visual communication
- The chance to work on three specific Austrian case study locations: Wels, Weiz, and Leibnitz
- Experience in developing design narratives, atlases, poster books, exhibitions, and other research-based design outputs
- Close collaboration with experts, researchers, and young professionals in landscape architecture and urbanism
- A stimulating environment for professional and academic development
- A supportive and friendly team
- Flexible working hours by arrangement
- Space to develop your own design and research interests within the framework of the project

Duration: 6–12 months, starting date to be discussed
Funding: via Erasmus Platform
Location: Vienna, Austria
Supervisors: Jennifer Fauster MSc & Dr. Cecilia Furlan

We Are Looking Forward to Hearing From You

To apply, please reach out to:

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