

# RESEARCH THEME

XL cycle – a.y. 2024/2025

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**Title of the doctoral research**                      Designing the Role of Acoustic and Sound Perception for the Well-Being of Users  
in Interiors for the Hospitality Sector

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**Proponent professor**                              Francesco A. Scullica

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**Abstract**

This research aims to innovate hospitality spaces through the study of perception. In contemporary times it is vital to design "places that heal", that stimulate a quest for positive experiences by creating new relationships between humans and the environment, both built and natural (Inghilleri, 2021); in this context designers must consider not only measurable components of interiors such as IEQ, but also address an emotional relationship with spaces (Norman, 2023) through immaterial elements, adopting perceptual models that do not refer to sight alone, but that instead enhance other sensory components - especially the auditory one - as the main feature of our interaction with space (Mocchi, 2020). A careful design of acoustics is traditionally a priority in entertainment and cultural places (Mahmoud, 2019), yet it is often neglected in hospitality ones (Di Loreto et al., 2023; Nering et al., 2022), resultin detrimental for users' comfort. Hence, the purpose of this research is to understand how auditory components can positively influence interiors for hospitality and beyond, with the aim of outlining new design paradigms that ensure the experiential well-being of the user. Tackling this issue requires a multi-disciplinary approach, both scientific and artistic, which starts from theoretical research and leads to new tangible scenarios – both low-tech and high-tech ones – that are not limited to mere considerations about soundproofing or insulation, but that instead understand sound as an integral component for welcoming interiors of the future.

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**Keywords**    Well-being, Auditory Perception, Hospitality Interiors