

RESEARCH THEME

XLII Cycle – a.y. 2026/2027

Title of the doctoral research	Ageing-Inclusive Placemaking for Everyday Life in Later Age
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Proponent professor	Silvia Maria Gramegna
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Abstract	The global demographic transition towards an ageing population demands a critical reconsideration of the interior environments that support everyday life in later age. In this context, ageing cannot be understood solely in relation to health or care needs, but rather as a multidimensional condition shaped by spatial, sensory, social, and emotional factors. Older adults' experience of spaces is shaped by comfort, accessibility, orientation, familiarity, autonomy, social interaction, and belonging. Yet interiors are still often designed through mainly technical or functional responses, overlooking experiential and relational qualities that are crucial to well-being. From this perspective, interior design offers a crucial field of inquiry and intervention, as it engages directly with the lived, material, and perceived dimensions of spaces. By integrating placemaking approaches into the design of collective, and shared environments, it becomes possible to explore how interiors may better support inclusion, dignity, participation, and quality of life in ageing societies. This research proposal therefore seeks to investigate the potential of interior design as a strategic and critical practice for fostering ageing-inclusive environments, with particular attention to the ways spatial experience can support well-being, social connectedness, and everyday life for older adults within contemporary urban contexts.
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Keywords	Ageing, placemaking, interior design
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