

# Polytech'Tours (France)

## Urban and Regional Planning Department

# International Research Master

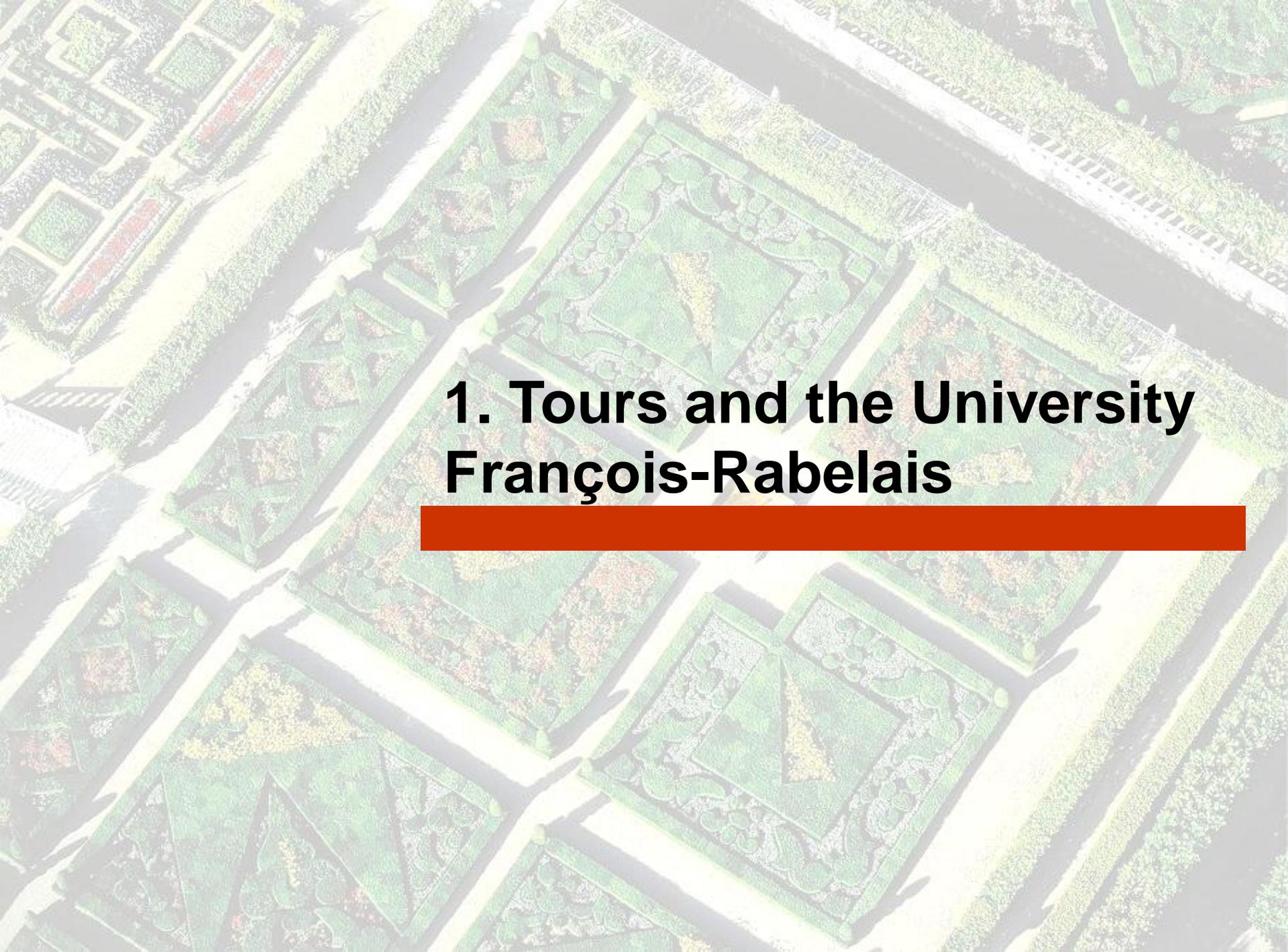
## Planning and Sustainability

### Academic Year 2012-2013



# Contents

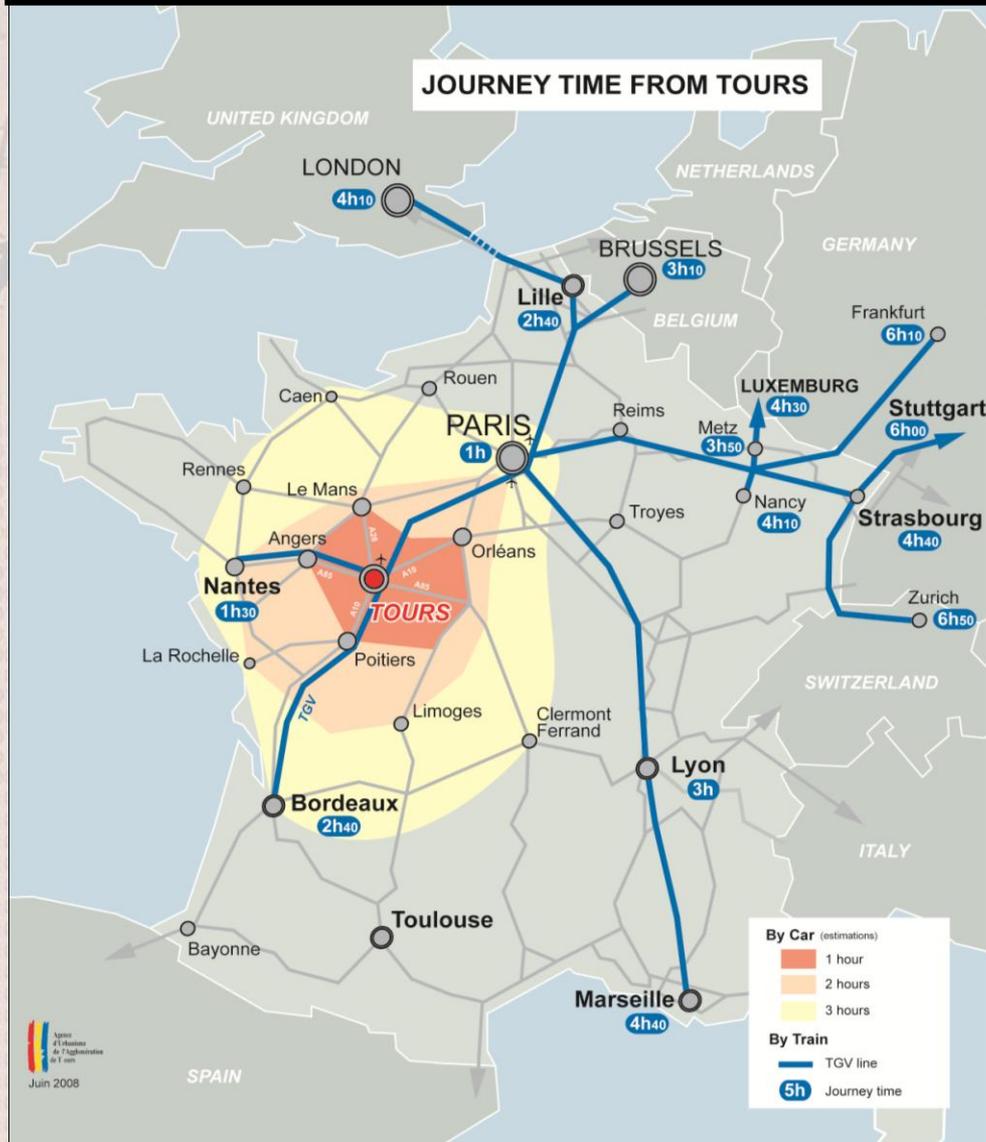
- 1. Tours and the University François-Rabelais in a few words**
- 2. The Urban and Regional Planning Department**
- 3. The International Master Planning and Sustainability: Urban and Regional Planning** <http://polytech.univ-tours.fr/m2ri-planning-sustainability>



# 1. Tours and the University François-Rabelais

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## Presentation of Tours

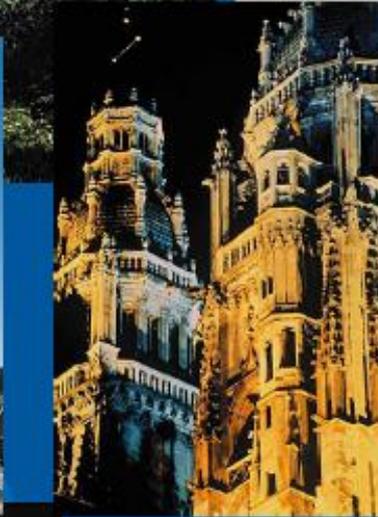


## An excellent accessibility

- Tours international airport (London, Manchester, Porto)
- Direct *High Speed Train* connections to international Airports: Paris Orly and Charles de Gaulle (less than 2h)
- Direct connections to France and Europe

# Tours: A brief photorama

An urban area of 345,000 inhabitants



Tours



# The François-Rabelais University

- A public, multidisciplinary university created in 1970 by the Ministry of Higher Education and Research
- Over **23,000 students** in 2012
- **2,700 international** students (about 12% of total students enrolled)
- 8,000 degrees issued per year
- 1,300 Faculty staff
- About **40 Research Labs** (CNRS, INSERM, etc.)

# Polytech'Tours: an engineering school within the University Rabelais

- **1,000 Total number of enrolled students**  
**Three-year curriculum** conferring the official qualification of engineer + **Research masters** (taught in English) + **PhD students**
- **80 Faculty members + 150** teaching and research staff from industry, public and private services
- **40 Administrative and Technical staff**
- **4 main research and training areas:**  
**Urban & Regional Planning, Computer Science, Mechanical Engineering, Electronics**

## 2. The Urban and Regional Planning Department



# The Urban & Regional Planning Department

*Urban and Regional Planning was set up in 1969 at the University of Tours, so as to:*

1. Provide a interdisciplinary training to planning
2. Train planners ready to join the work force (regular contacts are established with 5,000 employers in France and abroad)
3. Allow the conciliation of planning projects with respect for the natural environment (sustainable planning)

# The Urban & Regional Planning Department

## (some figures)

- **26 Faculty members, 50 teaching practitioners, 10 Administrative and Technical staff**
- **2,400 alumni**
- **Above 300 enrolled students in 3 curricula:**
  - a) Three-year curriculum** conferring the official qualification of **engineer (270 students)**
  - b) International Master Planning and Sustainability—**  
**started in Fall 2010 (15 students)**
  - d) PhD in urban and regional planning (25 students)**

# University-CNRS Research Centre: *Cities, Territories, Environment and Societies (CITERES)*



<http://citeres.univ-tours.fr/>

The Research Centre *Cities, Territories, Environment and Societies* gathers 80 researchers and 80 PhD students.

It organized on December 8-9, 2011, the international conference *Territory and Environment: from representations to action*

<http://citeres.univ-tours.fr/environnement/?lang=en>

All staff members of the Urban and Regional Planning Department are members of the Research group on Planning Projects, Landscape and Environment (IPAPE)

***IPAPE's Research axes:***

- 1. Planning systems and projects***
- 2. Risks and vulnerabilities***
- 3. Sustainable local and regional development***
- 4. Environmental and landscape dynamics***

# A node in an international network (1)



**APERAU**

- Tours is a **founding member of the French-speaking planning schools association (APERAU - 35 members in Europe, Canada, Africa and the Middle East)**
- Annual congresses in 1997 and 2009 organized in Tours
- Organisation of the APERAU Best Paper Prize since 2009
- Organisation of the Best PhD Award in Urban Studies

## A node in an international network (2)



- Tours is a founding member of **Association of European Schools of Planning (AESOP - 150 members)**
- Organisation of the annual congress in 1989
- Organisation of tracks for various annual congresses (including “Regional Change and Resilience: Plans, Institutions and Concepts” for Ankara 2012 Congress)
- Involvement in PhD workshops and thematic networks

# A node in an international network (3)

- **Through academic semesters abroad, international internships and field trips, every student experiences up to 3 journeys abroad in 3 years (master of engineering)**

***Example:* Field trips organised abroad in March 2012 for 5<sup>th</sup> year students (70):**

- **Genova (Italy)**
- **Porto (Portugal)**
- **Montreal (Canada)**
- **Birmingham (UK)**

# A node in an international network (4)

- **The Planning Department is partner in 2 European Intensive Programs:**

- Oradea (Romania)

- Ankara (Turkey, with ESDP Network)

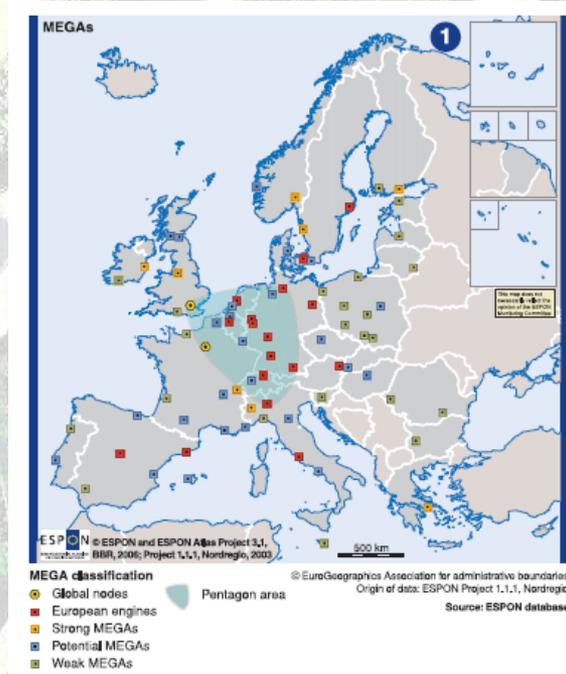
- **The Planning Department is partner in a European Master/PhD Program:**

European Module in Spatial Development Planning (Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium, ESDP Network), which received the **2011 AESOP Excellence in Teaching Prize** [http://www.aesop-planning.eu/awards/en\\_GB/2011/1/excellence-in-teaching](http://www.aesop-planning.eu/awards/en_GB/2011/1/excellence-in-teaching)

**esdp-network.eu/**



# 3. The International Research Master in Urban and Regional Planning: Planning and Sustainability



**Coordinator: Prof. Abdelillah Hamdouch**

<http://polytech.univ-tours.fr/m2ri-planning-sustainability>

# Objectives of the master

1. To offer a deep understanding of contemporary planning challenges for cities and urban regions, with a special focus on European-wide urban problems
2. To help students develop innovative concepts and strategies for qualitative interventions in urban territories
3. To prepare students for leadership roles in urban development and management, and strategic planning in the context of climate change
4. To train to data research issues and methods

# 9 training units

## 5 thematic course units:

Module 1: Urban and regional issues, planning institutions: a cross-national approach (3 ECTS)

Module 2: Cities, city-regions and strategic spatial planning (4 ECTS)

Module 3: Risks, decision making and planning (4 ECTS)

Module 4: Project, heritage and sustainable development (4 ECTS)

Module 5: Project sciences: Planning process and complexity (4 ECTS)

Each unit is organized around lectures, but also personal work (which includes reading, writing summaries and essays); some units include group work

## 3 methods & research training units:

- Module 6: Research Methods (5 ECTS)
- Module 8: French language and French culture (3 ECTS)
- Module 9: Research Training (30 ECTS)

## A field trip (Module 7) (3 ECTS)

The modules are based on research conducted by the Research Centre *Cities, Territories, Environment, Societies*, and more particularly by the research team:

“Urban and regional planning projects, landscape and environment” (IPAPE).

The courses and research topics proposed by the Master are referring to the current research themes.

# UE1 – Urban and regional issues, planning institutions and practice, a cross-national approach

Module leader: Dr Benoît Feildel

## The aims of the seminar are to:

- Help students to acquire the keys for understanding the European and the French institutional and planning framework
- Help lecturers to acquire the keys for understanding the institutional and planning framework of the country you come from

**We need to know and understand the main issues planners are facing in your countries... to find an agreement on the meaning of essential “Key words” in planning**



**POLYTECH  
TOURS**  
Département Aménagement  
[www.polytech.univ-tours.fr](http://www.polytech.univ-tours.fr)

Urban and Regional issues,  
Planning Institutions and  
Practices, a Cross-national  
approach

UE1

Master's Degree in Urban  
and Regional Planning

François-Rabelais University, Tours  
School year 2011-2012

Benoît Feildel  
Lecturer in Urban and Regional Planning  
Christophe Demazière  
Professor in Urban and Regional Planning  
Mathilde Gralepois  
Lecturer in Urban and Regional Planning

École Polytechnique de l'Université de Tours  
Département Aménagement  
35 Allée Ferdinand de Lesseps – BP 30553  
37205 TOURS CEDEX 3  
Phone : +33 (0)2 47 36 14 50  
[www.polytech.univ-tours.fr](http://www.polytech.univ-tours.fr)



## UE 2 - Cities, city-regions and strategic spatial planning (4 ECTS)

Module leaders: Prof. Abdelillah Hamdouch, Prof. Christophe Demazière

The unit provides an understanding of the rise of the notion of city-region. It highlights the connections to debates regarding spatial dynamics in Europe, metropolitan governance and competitiveness. The consequences of the city-region for urban planning theory and practice are discussed through a discussion of strategic spatial planning exercises in various European city-regions, especially in England and France.



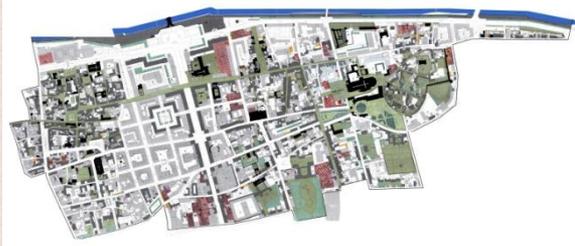
# ***Piece of research: Small and medium-sized towns – a multi-disciplinary approach***

## **International conference**

### ***Tours (France), 9-10 december 2010***

**Commissioned by** Région Centre

**Project leader:** Prof. Christophe Demazière



Attended by 200 scholars coming from France and abroad. 80 presentations were made from a broad range of disciplines (urban planning, geography, economics, sociology, etc.)

This conference was organised in close partnership with *Villes au Carré*, an interregional resource centre for urban policy. It has been followed by a research on small towns in the Centre of France. Two international bids are in preparation.

# *Pieces of research: Small and medium-sized towns: analysis and models of development*

## ◆ 2 ongoing major research projects:

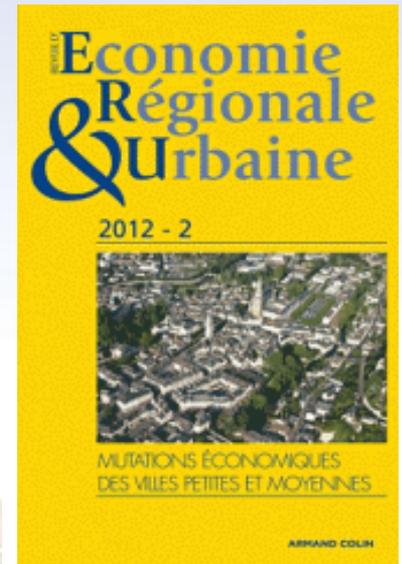
- 'TOWN': EU ESPON funded project (2011-2013)
- 'ODES': Region Centre funded project (2012-2014)

**Researchers:** Prof. Christophe Demazière, Prof. Abdelillah Hamdouch, Ksenija Banovac (PhD Student), and other researchers

## More on these projects within UE2 lectures!

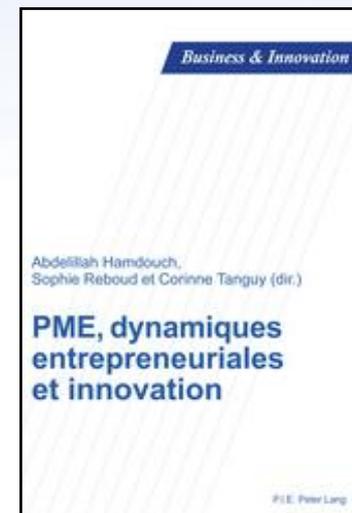
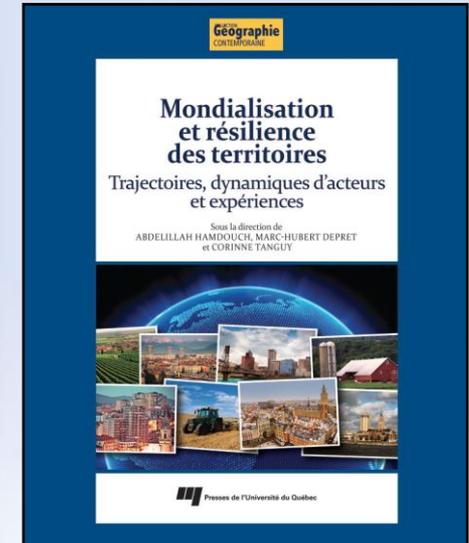
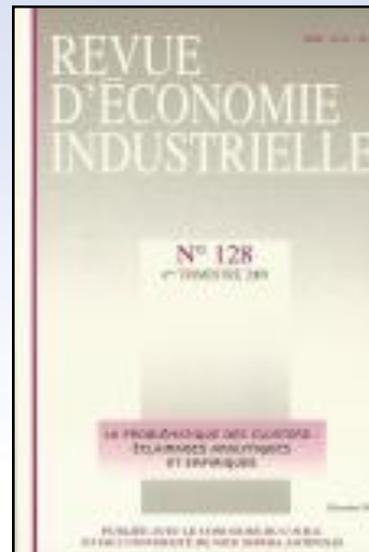
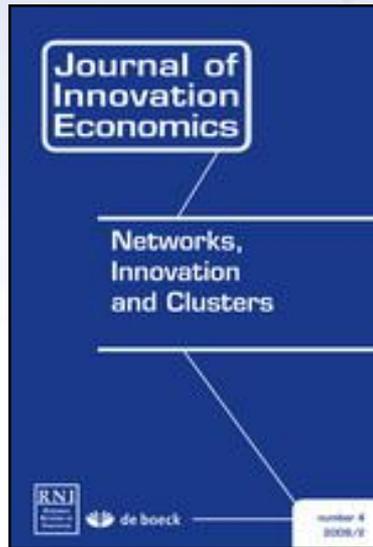
## ◆ 2 special issues of journals already published:

**Carrier, M., Demazière, C. (Eds.),**  
**"Socio-économie des villes petites et moyennes",**  
**Revue d'Economie Régionale et Urbaine, n°2, 2012.**  
**Demazière, C., Serrano, J., Vye, D. (Eds.),**  
**"Les acteurs des villes petites et moyennes ».**  
**Norois, n°222, 2012.**



# Pieces of research: Creative cities / innovative clusters / territorial resilience

A continuous stream of research and publications  
Theme coordinator: Prof. Abdelillah Hamdouch



# UE3 – Risks, decision making and planning

Module leaders: Dr Mathilde Gralepois,  
Dr Kamal Serrhini

This module focuses on the goals of risks management, defined as a cross-sectors public policy integrating civil security, environmental or health policies. It also defines a territorial approach of hazard mapping and planning as part of a complex urban network system.

# ***Piece of research: Improving Flood Risk Maps as a Means to Foster Public Participation and Raising Flood Risk Awareness (RISK MAP)***

Research commissioned by: **ERA-Net**

**Researcher:** Dr Kamal Serrhini

**Duration:** 3 years 2009-2011

This project aims at improving risk maps as a means to foster public participation and raising flood risk awareness. It develops rules for the appropriate stakeholder participation enabling the incorporation of local knowledge and preferences; it improves the visualisation of risk maps in order to produce user-friendly risk maps.



## ***Piece of Research:***

***Analysis methods of decision making process***

***within interfaces between flooding risk prevention and urban planning :***

***The case of public network services management in Nantes, Tours and Nevers.***

### **Research leader: Dr Mathilde Gralepois**

The research program offers a sociological analysis of local public action of a cross-disciplinary public policies often studied in an engineering and quantitative approach: flooding risk prevention in public network services management, specifically water distribution, waste treatment and sanitary sewer.

The program proposes a pragmatic analysis of daily work from local civil servants and representatives: how do they apprehend the other protagonists, the distribution of expertise, the rise of new legal standards and collaboration tools.

# UE4 – Project, heritage and sustainable development

Module leader: Dr Laura Verdelli

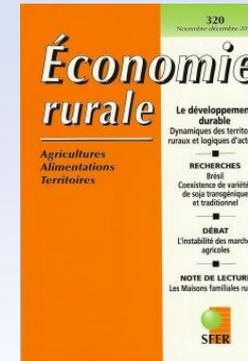
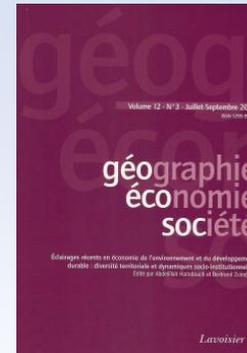
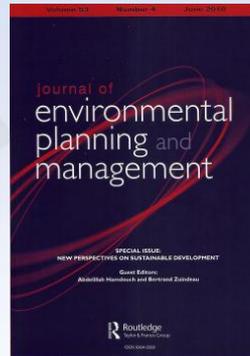
Heritage approach, territorial growth and attractiveness, innovation and sustainable development proceed from different theoretical perspectives and can be oriented by separated practices. The question addressed is: how could they be hybridised within spatial planning and local development projects?

The major purpose of this unit is to offer a multidimensional and interdisciplinary analysis of the social, economic, cultural and environmental dimensions underlying territorial sustainable development dynamics, at various spatial scales.

# **Pieces of research: Sustainable territorial development and Social innovation in a multiscalar perspective**

## **Leader or co-leader: Prof. Abdelillah Hamdouch**

- Special issues of journals that followed in 2010 the International Conference: *Sustainable Development, 20 years on* (Lille, Nov. 2008, co-organiser):



- *An International Handbook on Social Innovation* (Edward Elgar, 2013)
- A special issue of the journal *Développement Durable et Territoires* on "SD in Developing Countries" (March 2013)
- *The European Society of Ecological Economics International Annual Conference 2013*, Lille, June (as co-organiser)

## UE 5 - Project sciences and analysis of space: planning process and complexity

Module leaders: Dr Nathalie Brevet, Prof. Serge Thibault

The growing number of stakeholders has largely contributed to changing the planning process, while the socio-spatial analysis of territories has seen the emergence of “sensitive” approaches. In response, this unit offers a theoretical and methodological approach to address planning projects and space analysis through the prism of complexity.

# ***Piece of research: Designing an ecodistrict; The case of the Clichy-Batignolles ZAC in Paris***

**PhD student: Yilin Shi**

**Supervisor: Prof. Serge Thibault**

**Duration: 3 years 2008-11**

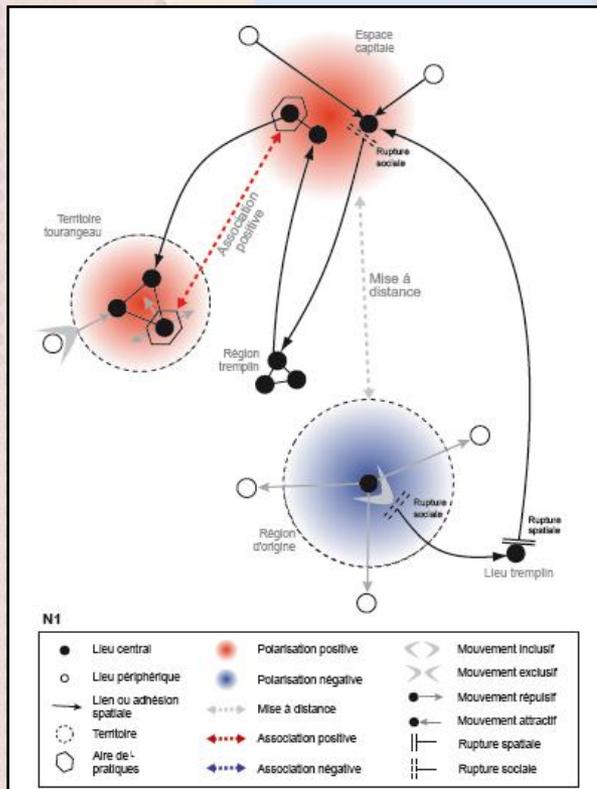
The PhD Student conducts her research within an office of civil engineering. She participates in the design of the public spaces of the ZAC Clichy Batignolles and provides the engineers with the multidisciplinary knowledge gained in the Planning Department. Her research work concerns the conception of this ZAC and the learning process.



# Piece of research: The hidden dimension of planning. Non-rational elements and their consequences on making plans

Project to be submitted (based on PhD thesis)

Project leader: Dr Benoît Feidel



More and more researchers are emphasizing the importance and the need to overcome the difficulty of taking non-rational aspects into account in urban and regional planning. Our project, fully endorses this goal and so is based on the following hypothesis: that the non-rational (emotionality, irrationality, bias...) provide useful knowledge for planning theory and practice. This project will attempt to highlight the non-rational mechanisms related to values, preferences and attitudes and the way they influence representations, decisions and ultimately the actions involved in planning practices.

## UE 6 - Research methods

Module leaders: Prof. Abdelillah Hamdouch, Prof. Pavlos Delladetsimas

The purpose of the unit is to help students to carry out research for the purpose of their Master's dissertation. It focuses firstly on how to conceptualize a research issue and how to carry out investigations. Second, it proposes methods for conducting a literature review as well as case-studies. It also prepares students to use quantitative or qualitative methods, according to the specific research questions they wish to investigate.

## UE 7 – Field trip

Module organizers: Prof. Christophe Demazière, Prof. Abdelillah Hamdouch, Prof. Serge Thibault

- The purpose of the field trip that will be organized in France is to offer to students the opportunity to visit a nice city or region, to get knowledge on the planning system in France, and to meet planners and scholars who have been involved in significant urban projects
- Place and exact schedule not decided yet, but things are on way; It could be Lyon in mid-January...

# **UE9 - Research training (30 ECTS)**

## **Research laboratory, CNRS UMR CITERES**

Module leader: Dr José Serrano

- The unit validates the research placement that will be conducted within the research laboratory.
- A tutor will advise each student or pair of students and supervise their research.
- Seminars will be organised in order to share the students' and staff's experience of research.

# General planning of the Master PS/URP for the Academic Year 2012-2013

- Welcoming and information meeting: 2012/9/26
- **Starting date for courses: 2012/10/1**
- Fall Holidays: Friday Oct. 26 evening to Sunday Nov. 4 evening
- Christmas Holidays: Friday Dec. 21 evening to Sunday Jan. 6 evening
- **End of 1<sup>st</sup> Semester (lectures and exams): 2013/1/26**
- Starting date of 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester: 2013/2/4
- **Research Seminar and Training (Dissertation work): 2013/2/4 to 2013/5/23**
- Easter Holidays: Friday April 12 evening to Sunday April. 28 evening
- **Deadline for research dissertation delivery: 2013/5/24**
- Presentation of research dissertation: scheduled around June 10 to 14
- **Jury and graduating ceremony: end of June / early July 2013**

# Administrative questions and website

- Pr. Abdelillah Hamdouch (Head of the Master PS/URP): for all pedagogical question, 'existential worries', etc.

[abdel-illah.hamdouch@univ-tours.fr](mailto:abdel-illah.hamdouch@univ-tours.fr)

- Claire Cazeaud (DA Schooling office): for all administrative matters (registration, certificates, etc.)

[claire.cazeaud@univ-tours.fr](mailto:claire.cazeaud@univ-tours.fr)

- Ksenija Banovac (PhD Student): for slight support this week (please don't disturb her afterwards as she has a lot of research work to do)

[ksenija.banovac@gmail.com](mailto:ksenija.banovac@gmail.com)

**Website: for getting weekly scheduled timetables of courses, administrative info and procedures, etc.: Ksenija will show you**

**<http://polytech.univ-tours.fr/>**

# Graduated Students from the Master in 2012: A picture from the ceremony at Polytech...



# And a Newspaper's article on the event!

la Nouvelle  
République.fr

Indre-et-Loire - Université

## Étudiants étrangers : 100 % de réussite

25/06/2012 05:30

Ils sont originaires d'Inde, de Croatie, d'Ukraine, d'Azerbaïdjan, de Syrie, d'Indonésie et d'Angleterre. Mercredi dernier, une vingtaine d'étudiants étrangers de l'université de Tours ont reçu leurs diplômes de Master.

L'université François-Rabelais présente la particularité de dispenser des enseignements en anglais, pour des masters en aménagements, en électronique et en mécanique. Les étudiants étrangers bénéficient des bourses entrantes mises en place par la région Centre dans le cadre de sa politique de coopération internationale. Cette année, ils ont obtenu un taux de réussite de 100 % aux examens. Une jeune Croate – Ksenija Banovac – est notamment sortie major de sa promotion d'aménagement-urbanisme. Lors de la remise des diplômes, son professeur – Abdel-Iliah Hamdouch – n'a pas manqué de souligner la nécessité d'accueillir des étudiants étrangers en France pour favoriser « *la circulation des idées et le dynamisme de la société* ».



Une vingtaine d'étudiants ont été diplômés avec 100 % de réussite.



# Why studying urban and regional planning in Tours?



**One-year Master  
totally taught in  
English**



**Beautiful place and  
welcoming  
students and staff**



**Welcome  
to Tours**