

COURSE

INTEGRATED URBAN

INTERVENTIONS

The training course **Integrated Urban Interventions** explores in detail modern strategies for achieving sustainable and integrated urban development, as well as actions aimed at preserving and developing cultural heritage in urban areas with cultural and creative potential. Participants will gain an in-depth perspective on economic and cultural impacts in a multidisciplinary approach including green infrastructure sector, digitization, energy renewal and the development of strategies for urban interventions, impact on local communities, as well as the development of communication strategies and community partnerships to capitalize on and enhance the attractiveness of urban areas with cultural and creative potential.

Date: 22– 26 June, 2026
Location:
Erasmus University
Langeveld Building, Room
5.22, Rotterdam,
The Netherlands

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The **Integrated Urban Interventions** course aims to provide a comprehensive overview of contemporary approaches to understanding and managing integrated, sustainable urban development. Participants will explore the topic from both an empirical and policy-oriented perspective. The course includes teaching modules, group tasks, and field excursions to local destinations and attractions.

COURSE TOPICS:

- Implementation and development of integrated urban strategies, European territorial cooperation actions, and development of communities involved in the implementation and monitoring of strategies
- Principles of integrated urban development approach
- Drafting plans for the interpretation and enhancement of heritage objectives
- Characteristics of localities with cultural, creative potential
- Policies and strategic approach for localities with creative cultural potential
- Protecting urban cultural heritage
- Citizens' well-being and coexistence with visitors in urban areas
- Sustainable transport and mobility in cities with cultural and creative potential
- Quality of life in cities with cultural and creative potential
- Development of integrated community-based urban development strategies and involvement of local residents
- Local authenticity and protecting cities' identity
- Digital technologies in cultural heritage management
- The role of local policies in the development of areas with cultural creative potential
- Case studies and examples of best practices

Course venue

Erasmus University,
Rotterdam, The
Netherlands

Langeveld Gebouw
Burgemeester
Oudlaan 50, 3062 PA
Rotterdam, the
Netherlands

TARGET GROUP

Specialists in public administration and urban planning, who will acquire essential knowledge for the integrated development of cities through sustainable local and regional strategies, promoting a balanced and resilient development model and including cultural and creative potential in the strategic approach.

COURSE MATERIALS

- Syllabi
- Reports
- Published papers
- PowerPoint Presentations
- Videos

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Accommodation & Travel:

- Accommodation and travel costs for participants are not included in the course fee and will be arranged separately by the participants or their organizations.

Registration & Payment:

- Participants must confirm their registration and make prior payment to secure their place in the course.

Registration/participation Fee:

- 2500 euros per person for a full week. For administrative reasons, a cancellation fee of €300 will be charged if cancellations are received within 15 days of the course start date. Substitutions are allowed without penalty.

PROGRAM

DAY 1

Theme: *Foundations of Integrated Urban Development and Interventions*

Time

09:00–09:30

Introduction to the course structure, themes, objectives, and participant expectations.

09:30–10:45

Explores systems thinking and urban strategies that link environment, economy, and society to manage complex urban transformations. Discussion of strategies that help achieve the broader goals of integrated urban development such as smart cities and the 15-minute city. Examples of applications in Europe and Romania.

11:00–12:15

Provides an introductory lecture on how policy databases and instruments can be used to monitor and assess integrated urban development, inter alia through the use of dashboards.

12:15–13:30

13:30–15:30

Explores the relationship between well-being and the built environment. We start defining well-being and then provide a framework on how different aspects of the built environment can potentially affect well-being.

15:30–16:30

Groups are created and briefed on the core course assignment: to design an integrated urban development strategy for a specific case area. This can be done from the viewpoint of a city council, tourist manager, or urban developer angle.

17:00–

Activity

Welcome & Course Overview

Peter Nijkamp
Karima Kourtit

Lecture: Principles of Integrated Urban Interventions

Peter Nijkamp

Lecture: Policy Databases and Instruments

Karima Kourtit

Break

Lecture: Quality of Life and the Built Environment

Martijn Burger

Group Formation & Assignment

Karima Kourtit
Peter Nijkamp

Social gathering ‘Bitterballen’

DAY 2

Theme: *Leisure and the City*

Time

09:00–10:30

Explores the intersection of urban economics, spatial planning, and the experience economy. Starting from urban economic theory, it is explained how clustering of amenities, attractions, and services attracts residents and not only. Subsequently, the spatial dynamics of leisure activities in cities are discussed as well as their economic impact.

Activity

Lecture: Leisure and the City

Peter Nijkamp

10:45–12:00

Discusses how the exploitation of the cultural and creative potential of cities can both support and threaten urban environments, focusing on crowding, housing pressure, and identity loss.

Lecture: The City as a Magnet

Karima Kourtit & Peter Nijkamp

12:00–13:00

Break

13:00–14:15

Examines urban wellbeing frameworks and how policy can mitigate negative impact of leisure activities on residents. Explores models of citizen participation and co-creation in sustainable initiatives through interactive case discussions.

Lecture: Citizens' Wellbeing through Participation

Martijn Burger

Breakout session for teams

Time to work on group assignment
Guided tour to heritage project

Group Assignment

DAY 3

Theme: *Cultural Heritage, Mobility and Integrated Urban Interventions*

Time	Activity
<p>09:00–10:30</p> <p>Showcases models of transport planning that reduce environmental impact while improving visitor and resident experiences. How can we improve accessibility while preserving the local environment and quality of life?</p>	<p>Lecture: Sustainable Urban Mobility, Urban Green and Well-being</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Martijn Burger</i></p>
<p>10:45–12:00</p> <p>Presents key frameworks for interpreting heritage meaningfully, addressing urban authenticity, memory, and adaptive reuse. Introduces digital heritage platforms, participatory tools, and storytelling techniques that improve access and engagement.</p>	<p>Lecture: Cultural Heritage and the City</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Peter Nijkamp</i></p>
<p>12:00-13:00</p>	<p>Break</p>
<p>13:00-17:00</p> <p><u>Guided Tour in Rotterdam – Urban Guides</u>, followed by time to do field research in Rotterdam</p>	<p>Rotterdam Tour and Research</p>
<p>17:00-</p>	<p>Social gathering with port tour on boat</p>

DAY 4 (UTRECHT)

Theme: *Tools for Integrated Urban Interventions*

Time

Activity

09:00–10:30

Lecture: Dashboards for Integrated Urban Interventions

Discusses the use of urban dashboards and how they can support decision-making when using integrated urban development frameworks.

Karima Kourtit

10:45–12:00

Interactive Class: Constraints to Sustainable Development

Class discussion on constraints to sustainable development and how tools can help to solve these issues. Participants will bring in their own cases.

Peter Nijkamp & Karima Kourtit

12:00-13:00

Break

13:00-14:30

The Citizens Platform: Measuring and Monitoring a Healthy Living Environment

14:30-

Utrecht tour and group assignment

DAY 5

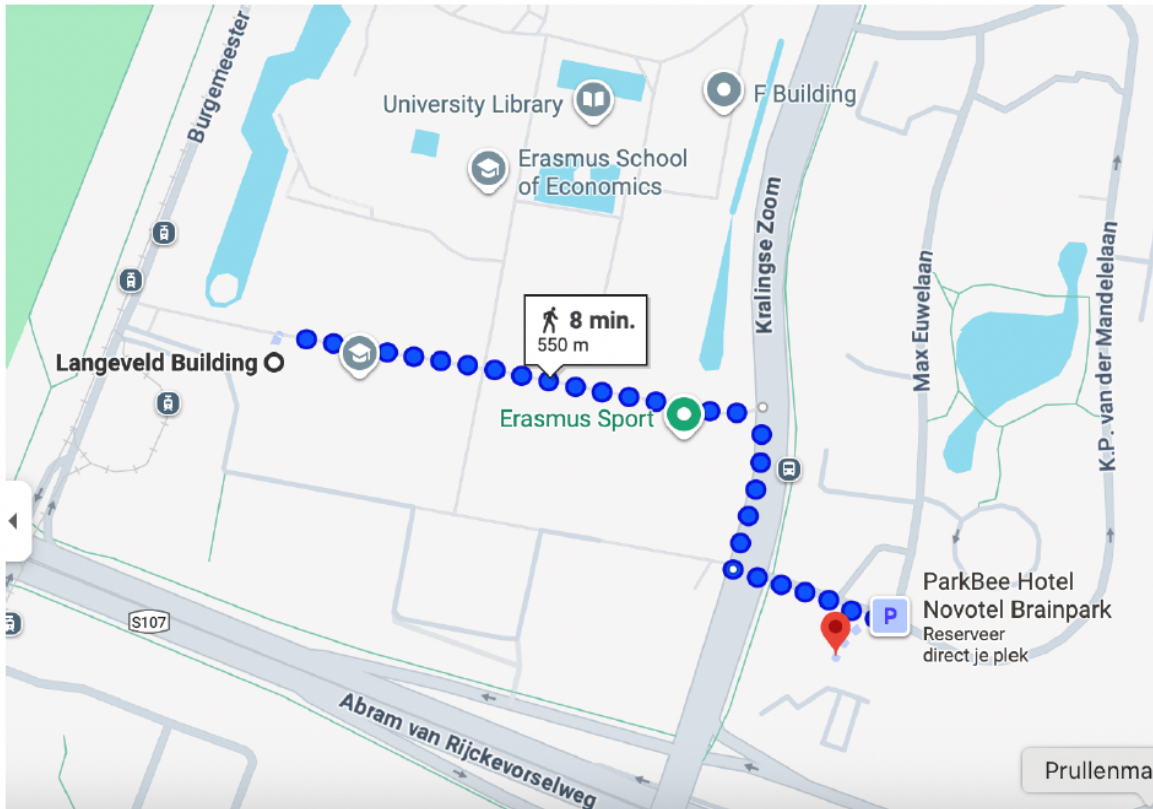
Theme: *Synthesis, Strategic Thinking & Future Pathways*

Time	Activity
08:45	Train to Amsterdam
09:30	Coffee
09:45 Synthesis of course and/or remaining issues to be discussed.	Monitoring Well-being
Policy evaluation methods for monitoring integrated urban interventions	Karima Kourtit Martijn Burger Peter Nijkamp
Groups assignment Moderator: <i>Karima Kourtit</i>	
10:00-11:30	
Group presentations of integrated urban strategies with peer and instructor feedback.	Group Presentations
11:00-14:00	Group Presentations: Part II
Second set of presentations and final critiques. Evaluation includes coherence, creativity, and feasibility.	
11:00-12:00	Certificate Ceremony
Handing out course certificates	
12:00-	Excursion in Amsterdam

LOGISTICS

The course will take place at the Langeveld Building, Room 5.22 located at:
 Erasmus University
 Langeveld Building, Woudestein Campus
 Burgemeester Oudlaan 50, 3062 PA Rotterdam

Route descriptions from several recommended hotels to the course venue.

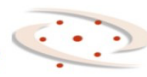


Hotel to venue route summary

Hotel Name	Notes	Route Description	Time
Novotel Rotterdam Brainpark	Closest & easiest	Walk ±10 minutes directly to campus via Burgemeester Oudlaan	±10 min
The Social Hub Rotterdam	Very convenient	Walk to Blaak → Metro B or C → Kralingse Zoom → Walk to campus	±20–25 min
Leonardo Hotel Savoy	Good metro access	Walk to Blaak → Metro B or C → Kralingse Zoom → Walk to campus	±25 min
citizenM Rotterdam	Good metro access	Walk to Blaak → Metro B or C → Kralingse Zoom → Walk to campus	±25 min
The Usual Rotterdam	Similar to citizenM	Walk to Blaak → Metro B or C → Kralingse Zoom → Walk to campus	±25–30 min
CityHub Rotterdam	Longer walk; cool area (arts scene)	Walk to Eendrachtsplein or Centraal → Metro or Tram 7 → Walk to campus	±30–35 min

You can pay for public transport using an OV-chipkaart, contactless debit/credit card, or Apple/Google Pay (OVpay).

It is recommended to use Google Maps or the 9292.nl app for real-time public transport information in the Netherlands, including Rotterdam.



Addresses to add to your google map

Location

Rotterdam Centraal

Langeveld Building, EUR Woudestein Campus
Novotel Rotterdam Brainpark

The Social Hub Rotterdam
Leonardo Hotel Rotterdam Savoy
citizenM Rotterdam
The Usual Rotterdam
CityHub Rotterdam
Langeveld Building

Address

Stationsplein 1, 3013 AJ Rotterdam
Langeveld Gebouw Burgemeester Oudlaan 50,
3062 PA Rotterdam,
Brainpark 1, 3047 BG Rotterdam
Mariniersweg 1, 3011 NK Rotterdam
Westersingel 70, 3015 LC Rotterdam
Schiedamsedijk 20, 3011 EN Rotterdam
Nieuwe Binnenweg 281, 3015 BJ Rotterdam
Witte de Withstraat 94, 3012 BR Rotterdam
Burgemeester Oudlaan 50, 3062 PA Rotterdam

Contact person: Karima Kourtit, k_kourtit@hotmail.com, +31617479133