

## XJTLU | Sicily Field Trip Proposal – January 2025

### **ARC304 Living without water: the other side of the climate changes**

*Architectural responses for Sicily*

**Dates: Jan 15, 2025 to Jan 23, 2025**

Duration: 9 Days (5 nights in Palermo, 3 nights at Villaggio Pergusa, 1 day on the flight)

Field Trip Location: Palermo & Villaggio Pergusa, Sicily, Italy

Department: Department of Architecture - ARC

Course Module: ARC 304 - Small and Medium Scale Buildings (Final Year Project)

Field Trip Supervisor: Silvia Albano

Tutors: Silvia Albano, Girolamo Barbaccia

### **Introduction**

The proposed **9-day field trip to Sicily**, scheduled for **January 15–23, 2025**, forms an integral part of the **ARC304 Final Year Project (FYP)** design studio curriculum. This immersive experience is designed to enhance students' understanding of climate change, desertification, and sustainability while fostering innovative architectural responses rooted in the unique environmental and cultural context of Sicily. The field trip will be led by **Silvia Albano** as Field Trip Supervisor together with **Girolamo Barbaccia** co-tutor of the students groups. Both local tutors from Sicily, ensuring students receive expert guidance throughout their journey.

The itinerary includes a blend of **site visits and collaborative sessions**, beginning with a visit at the **University of Palermo's Architecture Department**, followed by explorations of the designated project site at **Pergusa Lake**. The program also includes cultural and historical visits to key sites in Palermo and Gibellina, providing insights into architectural solutions for urban regeneration and sustainable design.

The primary objectives of the trip are to:

1. Equip students with hands-on experience in sustainable site analysis and architectural innovation.
2. Engage with local experts and communities to address real-world environmental challenges.
3. Foster cross-cultural understanding and collaboration.

### **Itinerary Summary**

- **January 15, 2025:** Travel from Suzhou to Palermo, check-in at Mercure Hotel Palermo Centro.
- **January 16, 2025:** Visit at the University of Palermo with Prof. M. Leone and his research team.
- **January 17–18, 2025:** Guided city tours of Palermo with a local guide, focusing on urban history, cultural heritage, and sustainable architectural examples and water path through the history.
- **January 19, 2025:** Visit Gibellina with a local guide, exploring the reconstruction efforts and artistic legacy of Cretto di Burri and New Town.
- **January 20–23, 2025:** Exploration of Pergusa Lake, meetings with local authorities, and collaborative activities focused on sustainable development.
- **January 23, 2025:** Return journey to Suzhou via Palermo.

## Safety and Logistics

The field trip will comply fully with health and safety regulations. All transportation will be arranged through a reputable travel agency under the direct supervision of the tutors. Accommodation will be provided at quality hotels, and meals will be organized based on the daily plan to ensure students' comfort and well-being. Additionally, students are advised to bring snacks for long travel durations (travel days) and prepare for varying weather conditions.

## Participants

The trip will include 15 students (14 Chinese and 1 Indonesian) and 2 Italian tutors:

### Tutors:

1. Silvia Albano
2. Girolamo Barbaccia

### Students:

MA LUYAO	马璐瑶	2144928	EK2137553
Zhang Zehui	张泽慧	2142861	EJ8208980
Zhu Shuo	祝硕	2142045	EK9919947
Yige Wang	王艺歌	2036085	EL1274958
Zhang Xinyi	张欣怡	2145845	EJ9317159
Fengshu Li	李风舒	2141772	EJ9718933
Wenyi Shou	寿文逸	2141476	EM5728295
Li Peiling	李佩凌	2144756	EL7794150
Cheng Yangjing	成杨菁	2145172	EJ8633119
Ningxin Li	李宁馨	2144462	EN8229247
Miao Long	龙淼	2036926	EN8232330
Kaiyi Zhang	张恺译	1718423	EJ1108863
Josiah Hariono Poedji	N/A	2145322	X3423961
Yibing Shi	施奕冰	2144372	EM6360244
Siyuan Liu	刘思源	2144743	EK9649533

NB. The Indonesian student Josiah Hariono Poedji will also take part to the field trip to Barcelona planned by Jose Remon.

## **Itinerary:**

### **15<sup>th</sup> January – WEDNESDAY TBC FLIGHT NEEDS TO BE CONFIRMED VIA TRAVEL AGENCY!**

7:30 AM\_ Departure via bus from Design Building - Suzhou to PVG Shanghai International Airport;

10:00 AM\_ Arrival to PVG Shanghai International Airport and meeting with the second tutor;

10:30 AM\_ Check-in at the airport;

Flights:

1<sup>st</sup>: 15JAN MU787 PVGFCO 1240 1815 ECONOMY ( PVG-Shanghai ; FCO-Rome )

2<sup>nd</sup>: 15JAN AZ1783 FCOPMO 2145 2255 ECONOMY ( PMO - Palermo )

10:55 PM\_ Landing in Palermo;

12:00 AM\_ After collecting the luggage transfer via booked local bus to the hotel Mercure Hotel Palermo Centro.

1:00 AM\_ Arrival at the hotel Mercure Hotel Palermo Centro, check in and rest.

**Important note:** It is recommended to bring some food such as sandwich or snack for the long journey.

### **16<sup>th</sup> January - THURSDAY**

9:30 AM\_ Meeting at the entrance hall of the hotel after breakfast (breakfast is included at the hotel);

9:45 AM\_ Leaving the hotel to the University of Palermo – Architecture Department via public transportation;

10:30 AM\_ Meeting with Prof. M. Leone and his research team;

12:30 PM\_ Lunch break at the University of Palermo Campus;

01:30 PM\_ Afternoon activities;

06:00 PM\_ End of the visit

06:30 PM\_ Leaving the University;

07:00 PM\_ Dinner;

09:00 PM\_ Arrival at the hotel and rest.

### **17<sup>th</sup> January – FRIDAY**

9:30 AM\_ Meeting at the entrance hall of the hotel after breakfast (breakfast is included at the hotel) with the local tour guide;

9:45 AM\_ Leaving the hotel sightseeing of Palermo.

Itinerary:

10:30 AM\_ starting point Villa Bonanno and walking through the Phoenician foot seeing the first urban fabric of the city still visible and walkable;

11:30 AM\_ arriving at Quattro Canti di Citta' – Teatro del Sole, seeing Greek and Roman traces and influences to the evolution of the urban fabric.

Monuments to visit: Royal Palace and Cappella Palatina, Palermo Cathedral, SS. Salvatore Church.

12:30 PM\_ Lunch break;

02:00 PM\_ second part of the city tour: understanding the division in four quarter of the historical city center through Via Maqueda (XV<sup>th</sup> century urban planning) and visit the following monuments along the path: Piazza Pretoria, Santa Maria Dell'Ammiraglio Church, San. Cataldo, Santa Caterina Da Siena. Walking to Via Roma, XIX century urbanistic cut, until Piazza Marina, Santa Maria della Catena Church and Kalsa.

06:00 PM\_ Reaching the waterfront, Foro Italico through the Greek door at the sunset and walk until the Cala, the new renovated city harbor completed in 2023.

07:00 PM\_ Dinner;

09:00 PM\_Arrival at the hotel and rest.

### **18<sup>th</sup> January - SATURDAY**

9:30 AM\_ Meeting at the entrance hall of the hotel after breakfast (breakfast is included at the hotel) with the local tour guide;

9:45 AM\_ Leaving the hotel sightseeing of Palermo.

Itinerary:

10:30 AM\_ starting point Castello della Zisa as example of sustainable architecture during the arab domination, visit of the building and its gardens;

12:30 PM\_ Lunch break;

02:00 PM\_ second part of the city tour: visit of Camera dello Scirocco.

07:00 PM\_ Dinner;

09:00 PM\_Arrival at the hotel and rest.

### **19<sup>th</sup> January - SUNDAY**

8:30 AM\_ Meeting at the entrance hall of the hotel after breakfast (breakfast is included at the hotel);

9:00 AM\_ Leaving the hotel via bus to reach Gibellina and local tour guide.

Proposed itinerary (TBC):

- Cretto di Burri: Created by the artist Alberto Burri, it is a huge complex of white concrete buildings that covers the old Gibellina, commemorating the town that was destroyed by the 1968 earthquake.

- Gibellina New Town: The new town rebuilt after the earthquake has many unique buildings. For example, it is composed of an array of residential buildings forming "wings" and a plaza in the middle: Sistema delle piazze, as well as the new church, a giant sphere suspended above a rectangular amphitheater, and the Consagra Theater with its sculptural mass.

Stella di Pietro Consagra: located at the entrance to the new city of Gibellina, by the sculptor Pietro Consagra.

12:30 PM\_ Lunch break;

01:30 PM\_ Continuing the visit;

05:00 PM\_ end of the visit coming back to Palermo;

06:00 PM\_ Arrival at the hotel;

06:30 PM\_ Dinner (details TBC);

08:00 PM\_Arrival at the hotel and rest.

### **20<sup>th</sup> January - MONDAY**

8:00 AM\_ Meeting at the entrance hall of the hotel after breakfast (breakfast is included at the hotel);

8:15 AM\_ Leaving the hotel to Pergusa Lake area via bus;

10:00 AM\_ Arrival at the hotel and check-in;

11:30 AM\_ Lunch break;

12:30 PM\_ Leaving the center to Pergusa Lake area via local bus;

01:30 PM\_ First exploration of Pergusa Lake;

04:00 PM\_ Coming back to the hotel and first meeting after first visit;

06:30 PM\_ Dinner;

08:00 PM\_Arrival at the hotel and rest.

### **21<sup>st</sup> January - TUESDAY**

8:00 AM\_ Meeting at the entrance hall of the hotel after breakfast (breakfast is included at the hotel);

8:15 AM\_ Leaving the hotel to Pergusa Lake area via bus;  
10:00 AM\_ Second exploration of Pergusa Lake;  
11:30 AM\_ Lunch break;  
12:30 PM\_ Meeting with local community and interview session;  
04:00 PM\_ Coming back to the hotel and working activities;  
06:30 PM\_ Dinner;  
08:00 PM\_ Arrival at the hotel and rest.

### **22<sup>nd</sup> January – WEDNESDAY**

8:00 AM\_ Meeting at the entrance hall of the hotel after breakfast (breakfast is included at the hotel);  
8:15 AM\_ Leaving the hotel to Pergusa Lake area via bus;  
10:00 AM\_ Third exploration of Pergusa Lake;  
11:30 AM\_ Lunch break;  
12:30 PM\_ Meeting with local community and interview session;  
04:00 PM\_ Coming back to the hotel and working activities;  
06:30 PM\_ Dinner;  
08:00 PM\_ Arrival at the hotel and rest.

### **23<sup>rd</sup> January – THURSDAY TBC FLIGHT NEEDS TO BE CONFIRMED VIA TRAVEL AGENCY!**

7:00 AM\_ Free time and preparation to the trip;  
10:00 AM\_ Check out and leaving the hotel;  
12:30 PM\_ Arrival at the airport and check-in;  
01:00 PM\_ Lunch break;  
Flights:  
1<sup>st</sup>: 23JAN AZ1792 PMOFCO 1515 1625 ECONOMY  
2<sup>nd</sup>: 23JAN MU788 FCOPVG 2015 1445+1 ECONOMY  
02:45 PM\_ Landing in Shanghai;  
04:00 PM\_ After collecting the luggage transfer via booked bus to Suzhou – Design Building (only 14 students).  
06:00 PM\_ Arrival Suzhou – Design Building, end of the trip.

### **Accommodation:**

**Palermo\_Mercure Palermo Centro\_5 nights+breakfast**

7 twin rooms + 1 single room for students and 2 single rooms for tutors;

**Villaggio Pergusa\_Riviera Hotel\_3 nights+breakfast**

4 triple room + 1 twin room + 1 single room for students 2 single rooms for tutors.

### **Things to Prepare Pre-departure:**

Things the school will prepare in advance:

- SIM cards \* 20
- Adapters \* 20

Things everyone needs to start preparing before departure:

#### **1. Luggage**

- Each person should bring a checked-in large suitcase, a backpack (for a laptop), or a travel bag. It's not recommended to bring a carry-on suitcase.

#### **2. Personal Items**

- Water bottle/thermos
- Passport holder, ticket holder
- Wallet

### 3. Stationery

- Mechanical pencil
- Highlighters (multiple colors)
- Tracing Paper - one roll
- Sketchbook
- Watercolor painting tools, brushes
- Measuring tape

### 4. Medications

- Cold medicine
- Allergy medicine
- Vitamins
- Melatonin
- Personal medications

### 5. Others

- Please have parents assist in applying a wireless payment-enabled or chip enabled Visa credit card.
- 200-300 euros in cash.