

EXPERIMENTING WITH URBANITY

WRITING THE CITY

**NEW
DATE!**

**JOIN US!
APPLY NOW!**

**FROM 02ND TILL 07TH
OF JULY 2025**

**AT AUC TAHRIR CAMPUS
+ NADIM FOUNDATION**

For inquiries and questions,
please reach out to
[\[info@bureaugladys.org\]](mailto:info@bureaugladys.org)

BLUE★CAIRO

EXPERIMENTING WITH URBANITY WRITING THE CITY

يسر مكتب جلاديس للدراسات والأبحاث العمرانية دعوتكم للمشاركة في ورشة عمل لمدة ستة أيام عن «منهجيات البحث التطبيقي في مجال العمران ودراسة المدن» خلال الفترة من ١٦-١١ يونيو ٢٠٢٥ بمقر الجامعة الأمريكية في التحرير ومؤسسة نديم.

تسعى الورشة لتناول ومناقشة الرؤية النقدية للمقاربات النظرية ومنهجيات البحث العمراني وإتاحة الفرصة المشاركين والمشاركات لاكتساب معارف ومهارات الأساسية ولا غنى عنها في مجال دراسة وتحليل العمران والمدن بما في ذلك تصميم وتنفيذ أبحاث بمنهجيات متنوعة ومبتكرة، وممارسة أساسيات الكتابة النقدية التأملية. فإذا كنت ترغب أن تشاركنا هذه الرحلة وتكتسب معرفة تفتح لك الأبواب لتوجهات مغايرة لما هو سائد وتبني رؤيتك النقدية وتعمق خبراتك وقدراتك... فهذا هو المكان.

فريق العمل يضم ثمانية متخصصين في مجال الدراسات العمرانية والعمارة والعلوم الاجتماعية، وسوف يقومون بتسيير جلسات الورشة وتوجيه المشاركين والمشاركات خاصة في الأنشطة التدريبية للورشة وهم: داليا وهدان، لمياء بلبل، لادا هرشاك، هند مصطفى نبيل، محمد طنطاوي، أحمد برهام، أحمد سعفان، يمنى الجندي.

ستعقد الورشة في الفترة من ١١ إلى ١٦ يونيو ٢٠٢٥ في الجامعة الأمريكية بالقاهرة، مقر التحرير ومؤسسة نديم.

+ معايير اختيار المشاركين والمشاركات

- يجب أن يكون المتقدمين في مرحلة مبكرة من مسيرتهم المهنية سواء في المجال البحثي أو العملي سواء كانوا ممن يعمل في مؤسسات أو مستقلين.
- يجب أن يكون المتقدمين يعملون على قضايا متعلقة بالدراسات العمرانية (التخطيط العمراني، تصميم المدن، الهندسة المعمارية، أو الدراسات الاجتماعية).
- لا يقتصر التقديم على المصريين بل أيضا يشمل المقيمين في مصر من الجنسيات الأخرى.

يشترط للتقدم لهذه الورشة أن يكتب المشارك/ المشاركة نبذة عن نفسه ومجال عمله على أن لا تتجاوز ٥٠٠-٧٠٠ كلمة (باللغة العربية أو الإنجليزية) مستعينا بالأسئلة التالية:

- ما هو مجال النشاط أو العمل الذي تقوم فيه؟
- ما هي القضايا العمرانية التي تعمل عليها في الوقت الراهن؟
- ما هي التحديات التي تواجهك في مجال البحث حول هذه القضايا؟

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WRITING THE CITY

Bureau Gladys for Urban Studies is pleased to invite you to participate in a six-day workshop titled “Applied Research Methodologies in Urbanism and the Study of Cities”, taking place from June 2025 ,16–11, at the American University in Cairo, Tahrir Campus, and the Nadim Foundation.

The workshop aims to explore and critically discuss theoretical approaches and urban research methodologies. It offers participants the opportunity to acquire essential and indispensable knowledge and skills in the study and analysis of urbanism and cities, including designing and implementing research using diverse and innovative methodologies, and practicing the fundamentals of reflective critical writing. If you wish to join us on this journey—to gain insights that open doors to alternative perspectives beyond the mainstream, build your critical vision, and deepen your experience and capabilities—then this is the place for you.

The team includes eight specialists in urban studies, architecture, and the social sciences. They will lead the workshop sessions and guide participants, particularly through the workshop’s hands-on training activities. The team includes: Dalia Wahdan, Lamia Bulbul, Lada Hršak, Hind Mostafa Nabil, Mohammed Tantawy, Ahmed Borham, Ahmed Saafan, and Yomna El Gendy.

The workshop will take place from 16-11 June 2025 at the American University in Cairo, Tahrir Campus and Nadim Foundation.

+ Eligibility criteria:

- Applicants should be in the early stages of their professional careers, whether in research or practice, and whether working within institutions or independently.
- Applicants should be working on issues related to urban studies (urban planning, urban design, architecture, or social studies).
- Applications are not limited to Egyptians; residents of Egypt of other nationalities are also eligible to apply.



To apply for this workshop, applicants must write a brief statement about themselves and their field of work, not exceeding 700–500 words (in Arabic or English), guided by the following questions:

- What is the field of activity or work you are involved in?
- What urban issues are you currently working on?
- What challenges do you face in researching these issues?

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTION

In an era of rapid urbanization and dynamic cityscapes, understanding and critically engaging with urban issues is more vital than ever. This multidisciplinary workshop invites urban researchers, practitioners, and enthusiasts to delve into innovative approaches that challenge conventional urban paradigms.

Explore and unlearn concepts that dominate the frameworks that shape cities today, such as participatory design, human-centered planning, spatial justice, ecological resilience, and living heritage. Instead of offering simple alternatives, this workshop aims to open up the conceptual tools and methods that often reproduce inequality and exclusivity in urban environments.

+ By participating, you will learn to:

- Differentiate between urbanization, urbanism, and urban scales.
- Critically approach and analyze urbanity.
- Apply innovative methods across diverse urban contexts.
- Engage in research practices like glossaries, notations, and reflective analysis.

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Eight urban researchers and practitioners will facilitate this co-productive seminar-workshop:



DALIA WAHDAN

Bureau Gladys++



LAMIA BULBUL

Bureau Gladys++



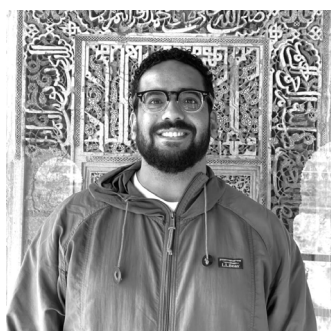
LADA HRŠAK

Bureau LADA



HIND NABIL

Nadim Foundation



MOHAMED TANTAWY

MUD Studio



AHMED BORHAM

Urban Researcher



AHMED SAAFAN

*Architect & Landscape
Designer*



YOMNA EL GENDY

Bureau Gladys ++

STRUCTURE AND CONTENTS

The workshop consists of three modules in addition to the presentation of case studies by architects **Ahmed Borham**, **Mohamed Tantawy**, and **Ahmed Saafan**. This practicum cuts across all the modules and involves hands-on activities that engage participants with issues of urban diversity, multiculturalism, inequality, heritage, and marginalization.

MODULE A

A Critical Approach to Urbanity

Dalia Wahdan + Lamia Bulbul

This module aims to deepen understanding of critical approaches to urban issues by examining key conceptual distinctions. Participants will explore the differences between urbanization, urbanism/urbanity, and various urban scales. The session interrogates common perceptions and encourages critical thinking about the built environment, emphasizing reflexivity in urban analysis. It equips participants with the tools to operationalize key concepts and variables for research-for-design, fostering the ability to refine questions related to contentious urban topics.

MODULE B

Experimental Design Research: Urban Glossary Methodology

Lada Hršak

This module encourages participants to explore alternative ways of observing and describing urban practices rooted in specific sites, yet inherently fluid and shifting. Focused on embodied, embedded, and accountable gestures, the module emphasizes understanding actions that are influenced by material and temporal contexts, recognizing their potential to be both restorative and disruptive. Through exercises such as counter-mapping, notational drawing, journaling, walking, and performative acts, participants will create 'glossary entries'—subjective, layered descriptions capturing Cairo's dynamic urbanity. These entries contribute to a collective urban vocabulary, facilitating future imaginaries and critical reflection.

MODULE C

Contesting The Gaze: Approach to Urban Heritage

Hind Nabil + Yomna El Gendy

This module explores the multiple scales of heritage within Historic Cairo (HC) and their impact on urbanity, material culture, and local livelihoods. It critically examines how different perspectives—artifacts, cityscape, landscape, and human interactions—shape the understanding and management of heritage. Participants will analyze the influence of various stakeholders, including those involved in heritage awareness and preservation, and develop an incremental mental map of archival practices affecting HC's heritage. The focus is on fostering critical awareness of how heritage is perceived, represented, and engaged with at multiple levels.

WORKSHOP TIMELINE

Day 01 - 02.07.2025 - Wednesday

at AUC Tahrir Campus
6:00 PM - 9:30 PM

TIME	ACTIVITY
6:00 PM - 6:30 PM	Workshop Kick-off (Welcome)
6:30 PM - 9:30 PM	Dalia Wahdan: Critical Approaches to Urbanity Experimenting with concepts and tools: Hegemony, Participation

Day 02 - 03.07.2025 - Thursday

at Nadim Foundation
6:00 PM - 9:30 PM

TIME	ACTIVITY
6:00 PM - 7:00 PM	Ahmed Borham: Experimenting with Commoning
7:00 PM - 7:30 PM	Walk to Bayt Yakn
7:30 PM - 9:30 PM	Dr. Alaa el Habashi: Welcome and Lecture tour Lada Hršak: Reading the City Discussion

Day 03 - 04.07.2025 - Friday

at Nadim Foundation
11:00 AM - 8:00 PM

TIME	ACTIVITY
11:00 Am - 12:45 PM	Ahmed Borham: Experimenting with Positionality
12:45 PM - 3:00 PM	Prayer + Lunch Break
3:00 PM - 4:00 PM	Lada Hršak: Experimenting with Embodied Methodologies
4:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Lamia Bulbul: Experimenting with Critical Reflection Methods
5:00 PM - 8:00 PM	Notation Walks with Lada Hršak, Ahmed Borham & Mohammed Tantawy

WORKSHOP TIMELINE

Day 04 - 14.06.2025 - Saturday

*at AUC Tahrir Campus
11:00 AM - 4:00 PM*

TIME	ACTIVITY
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Lada Hršak: Experimenting with the Glossary
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM	Ahmed Borham: Experimenting with the Graphic City
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM	Lunch Break
2:00 PM - 4:00 PM	Embodied walks with Lada Hršak, Mohamed Tantawy & Ahmed Borham
	Exercise: Seeing the city from within

Day 05 - 15.06.2025 - Sunday

*at AUC Tahrir Campus
6:00 PM - 9:00 PM*

TIME	ACTIVITY
6:00 PM - 9:00 PM	Hind Nadim: Experimenting with Archiving
	Mohammed Tantawy: Experimenting with Core & Periphery
	Yomna El Gendy: Discussion over the case of Fustat

Day 06 - 16.06.2025 - Monday

*at AUC Tahrir Campus
6:00 PM - 9:00 PM*

TIME	ACTIVITY
6:00 PM - 9:00 PM	Collective Critical Reflections
	Finale