

Internship Proposal – Urban Studies

Otto von Guericke University Magdeburg transSCAPE-Werkstatt

The transSCAPE-Werkstatt is a transfer research project operating at the intersection of urban and cultural studies for the regeneration of the Science Port (Wissenschaftshafen in Magdeburg). In this context, *Transfer* refers to the exchange and co-creation of knowledge between academia, city institutions, communities, and the economic sector, ensuring that research outcomes actively contribute to societal transformation.

As a pilot site for interim uses and knowledge transfer, it provides a unique testing ground for combining public space design with urban transformation processes. This internship invites urban studies students to contribute to the sustainable transformation of the Science Port through applied design research, participatory methods, and co-creation practices.

This internship is aligned with *SDG 11* (Sustainable Cities and Communities) by exploring interim uses and applying urban research skills to develop inclusive and resilient spaces and strengthens *EU GREEN's* goal of integrating sustainability and societal responsibility into higher education and research. Students will contribute directly to the transformation of the Science Port into a living laboratory for sustainable urbanism, while gaining experience in European-scale collaboration.

Missions of the students

The intern will actively support design-driven research in the Science Port. The project is embedded in participatory urban research and offers students practical, in-depth exposure to co-creation methods. Tasks include:

- Participatory engagement: supporting workshops, town hall meetings, and co-creation sessions with local stakeholders.
- Visualization & dissemination: producing reports and exhibition materials for both academic and public audiences.

Expected Outcomes

- Contribution to the evaluation of transfer formats: supporting the systematic assessment of innovative formats (e.g. town hall meetings, interim uses, co-creation labs) to measure the impact and effectiveness of engagement in public space design within the transfer approach.
- Methodological skills in urban research: documenting workshops, conducting stakeholder analysis, and applying qualitative tools to understand urban dynamics.
- Competence in participatory and co-creative processes: gaining hands-on experience in facilitating co-creation workshops, engaging, and translating outcomes for diverse stakeholder groups (Transfer between city administration, university, community, and economic actors).

Specific Conditions of the Internship

Location: transSCAPE-Werkstatt, Otto von Guericke University Magdeburg (with activities in Science Port).

Working language: German (English is an advantage).

Duration: 3–6 months, depending on student mobility framework.

Compensation: According to German national regulations for student internships; students are encouraged to apply for EU GREEN mobility funding.

Advantages:

- Immersion in a transdisciplinary environment combining cultural & urban studies
- Opportunities to engage in the Transfer field with diverse stakeholders: academics, city officials, community actors, and technology companies.
- Direct involvement in applied research with societal impact.
- Mentorship from the transSCAPE research team, including urban cultural studies and architecture experts.

We also invite architecture students specialising in urban studies to contribute to the sustainable transformation of the Science Port through participatory design methods. The internship leverages design thinking combined with urban studies approaches to investigate sustainable spatial transformation, adaptive reuse, and inclusive urban regeneration.