



QUALITY  
RECOGNITION  
**AESOP**

AESOP CERTIFICATE OF QUALITY

**Bachelor of Science in Spatial Management**  
**Faculty of Earth Sciences and Environmental Management**  
**University of Wroclaw**

## **Evaluation Report**

After an in-depth examination of its academic curriculum and teaching pedagogy, the BSc in Spatial Management offered in the Faculty of Earth Sciences and Environmental Management at the University of Wroclaw has been conferred the AESOP Certificate of Quality.

The Bachelor of Science in Spatial Management delivered at the University of Wroclaw has been evaluated by two members of the AESOP Excellence in Education Board (EEB) appointed by the Chair. The EEB certifies that the above programme fulfils the Quality Recognition criteria.

## **Quality in Planning Education**

The BSc in Spatial Management delivered at the University of Wroclaw is distinctive in its interdisciplinary approach to planning, with clear attention to technical skills such as GIS, integrated with core concerns around environmental protection and participatory planning. A key feature of the programme is the intensive practical training that is offered to the students. It also offers students opportunities to develop their knowledges in various planning subfields (such as urban, regional and environmental planning). It brings together the following aspects of quality in planning education:

## **Programme Curriculum and Identity**

- The programme pays attention to a wide range of broader national and global societal and legislative developments, such as the Polish Spatial Planning and Development Act, and global environmental or sustainability issues;
- Targeted courses are embedded in the programme that focus on the context of planning in Poland, paying attention to, both, the regional identity and spatial challenges in the Lower Silesia region, and how these interact with the national and European scales;





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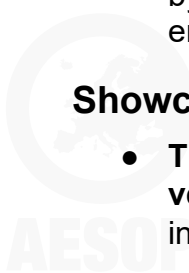
- A strong focus on intensive practical training is incorporated, through fieldwork courses or technical courses such as GIS, spatial data analysis, statistics and CAD, and continued innovation in this area, for example through the purchase of 3D printers and the use of geo-spatial technologies to develop future-looking scenarios.

### Principles of Pedagogy

- The programme provides students with opportunities to practice hands-on planning skills, through strong regional anchoring with local institutions like city governments, planning offices, regional development agencies or NGOs. Students must undertake, document and reflect on a three week professional placement;
- The programme balances between training research-, technical- and professional skills of students within one curriculum. A distinctive aspect is the emphasis on how technical skills are used to address pressing social and environmental concerns. This includes setting technical skills within their wider moral and ethical context, for example how they relate to wider digitalisation trends and the misuse of data to underpin disinformation and misleading narratives;
- Students are trained in the critical selection and application of technical skills such as GIS, spatial data analysis and CAD. Simultaneously, students engage with professional skills related to participatory aspects of planning and stakeholder engagement. This balance between qualitative and quantitative research methods, and how to appropriately choose between them to address problems (as defined by students themselves), ensures that students are equipped to write a dissertation thesis;
- Building on this approach, students have significant flexibility to tailor their final dissertation, which can be completed either individually or as a group project, and which can be selected from topics proposed by supervisors or defined by the students themselves. Students are encouraged to align their dissertations with real-world problems.

### Showcase Practices

- **The central position of the Social Participation Laboratory as a vehicle to coordinate programme activities**, in which students are involved in participatory planning projects offered by local stakeholders.





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Recent collaborations have included with neighbourhood councils, small municipalities and private-sector developers, the latter particularly where this has involved negotiation between different actors or inputs from public participation. The Laboratory develops independent collaborations with stakeholders, which are then embedded into coursework for the programme, allowing students to practice real-world planning skills such as stakeholder interviews, mediation and proposal development;

- **Making excellent use of local expertise through recurring exchanges with the professional field**, particularly including the City of Wroclaw, regional authorities and non-governmental stakeholders. One example of this is the inauguration of a Stakeholder Council at the faculty level, which has regular inputs into ensuring that the relevance of the programme to the changing field of practice is maintained. Another example is intensive student field courses, which allow students to practice their technical skills in relation to real-world scenarios, including developing autonomy in problem definition and methodology selection.

The AESOP Certificate of Quality and this Evaluation Report are valid for a period of six years (2025-2031).

12 November 2025

**Tijana Dabovic**  
Chair  
AESOP  
Excellence in Education Board

**Giancarlo Cotella**  
AESOP Secretary General  
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**Patrick Witte**  
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**Christopher Maidment**  
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After a thorough examination of its academic curriculum and teaching pedagogies, the

**BSc in Spatial Management**

offered by

**Faculty of Earth Sciences and Environmental Management**

**University of Wroclaw**

has been highly distinguished with the

# AESOP CERTIFICATE OF QUALITY

We certify that:

This programme fulfils the European quality standards of planning programmes according to the AESOP Charter, complemented by an effective internationalization of teaching and learning processes.

The AESOP Certificate of Quality is valid for a period of six years (2025-2031).

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