

Oggetto: Presentazione di una proposta per l'attività "Fare Ricerca": moduli intensivi di avvicinamento alla ricerca degli studenti delle lauree magistrali luav

Title:

L'innovazione nascosta nelle antiche finestre di Venezia / Hidden Innovation in Ancient Venetian Window Glass

Participants

- Benu Berk, PhD Candidate, Università luav di Venezia
- Maria Antonia Barucco, Associate Professor, Università luav di Venezia
- Scholars and experts in the glass sector

Schedule

7-11 September. The outcomes of the workshop may be exhibited in an IUAV space and presented during the event The Venice Glass Week (12-20 September).

Day	Morning	Afternoon
Day 1	Introduction to the module Benu Berk: Historical flat glass production techniques in Venice. Mario Checchin (Checchin Vetri): Company history and the glass market for architecture and design	Field observation in Venice Historic windows Photographic documentation Sketches and visual notes Light, reflections, colors, and irregularities
Day 2	Maria Antonia Barucco: IUAV GLASS Cluster, research, teaching activities, and collaborations Daniele Minetto (Vetroarredamento): Ancient techniques and styles in restoration and contemporary design	Field observation Glass, frames, and façades Glass surfaces Material traces Relationship with the urban context

Day 3	Visit to the Murano Glass Museum History of Venetian glass Production techniques Material culture References for the design project	Observation activities in Venice/Murano Completion of documentation Selection of materials Initial design inspirations Themes and keywords
Day 4	Collective review session in the classroom Collected materials Initial interpretations Design directions Development of the final project	Reworking and synthesis Collages Sketches Keywords Design concept Narrative presentation/poster
Day 5	Final presentations Visual and conceptual proposals From ancient glass to a design idea Collective discussion Conclusion of the module	—

Theme

During the week, students will be invited to work as glass designers. The module provides them with knowledge derived from an ongoing research project, some of which is not yet available in the existing literature (books, essays, and scientific publications). It offers an active learning experience in which specialized knowledge is connected to design processes.

The work begins with the study of historical flat glass production techniques in Venice. Contributions from external specialists will help students understand how glass continues to play a central role in architecture, design, and research today. Students will then be asked to directly observe windows, surfaces, light, reflections, colors, irregularities, and traces of craftsmanship found throughout the city. These elements will be considered not only as historical evidence but also as potential starting points for new design ideas.

The final outcome will consist of a short presentation. Each group (or individual student) will develop a visual and conceptual proposal capable of illustrating a possible application, atmosphere, surface, product, spatial element, or design language inspired by ancient Venetian window glass.

The presentation should include images selected from fieldwork, drawings or sketches, keywords, references to historical production techniques, visual inspirations drawn from Venice, and a clear explanation of the proposed idea.

The objective is to demonstrate the path that connects study and innovation through design: the seeds of future innovation can often be found in the study of the past. In this sense, the module brings together historical knowledge, material observation, and design imagination as complementary dimensions of research.

Location of the Activity

The workshop will take place in Venice, combining classroom sessions with field visits in Venice and Murano.

Field visits will be accompanied by moments of critical discussion in the classroom, followed by phases of re-elaboration and collective sharing of the work produced.

External Participants / Institutions Involved

Mario Checchin and Daniele Minetto are glass specialists who have long worked in close collaboration with architects and glass designers. They will provide students with insights into their daily professional activities, highlighting sources of technical and production innovation as well as the inspirations behind their clients' requests.

Students will interact with these specialists as if they were clients, and the final projects developed during the workshop will also be presented to them.

Representatives of the Murano Glass Museum may also be involved.

Data / Information to Be Collected and Processed

Images, sketches, keywords, references to historical techniques, material observations, and visual inspirations drawn from Venice, to be developed into a design proposal inspired by ancient Venetian glass.

Number of Students Admitted

Minimum 6 and maximum 12 students enrolled in magistrale degree programs (Italian and/or English magistrale programs).

The workshop program will be in English.

Venezia, 26/04/2026

Firma/e... 