

Christos Grapas

University of Perugia



City where you work: Perugia

Your favorite subject at school: Writing, Physics

Your favorite movie: Again, hard to choose, The Spotlight, Fantasia, The apartment.

Your favorite book: There is no such thing as a favorite when it comes to art. However, the last book which I enjoyed reading was "Darwin comes to town"

Hobby: Honestly, pursuing a PhD doesn't leave much free time for hobbies, but I always try to make room for small breaks to recharge. Traveling—whether back to my home country or exploring other European cities—is something I really enjoy. I also love visiting galleries and concerts, as they offer a great way to step away from research and find inspiration. Swimming is another favorite activity that helps me clear my mind. And whenever I have the chance, I enjoy cooking for friends—it's a great way to relax and connect with people in Italy!

Your life in three words: failing, rethinking, getting closer to a target

EDUCATION MSc in Architecture Engineering & Masters of City and Technology

RESEARCH FIELD Architecture, Urban Planning, Urban Technology

POSITION Doctoral Candidate

AN OBJECT TO BRING ON A MISSION If I had to bring one object on a mission, it would definitely be our recently built add-on for a robotic dog! We designed it to help automate environmental data collection, making research more efficient while also serving as a great tool for engaging the public. It's a fun and innovative way to bridge technology, science, and communication. After all, they say dogs are a human's best friend—turns out, that applies to robotic ones too!

TELL US ABOUT YOUR RESEARCH My research focuses on how urban environments influence human perception, comfort, and well-being. Cities are complex spaces where factors like temperature, air quality, noise, and visual surroundings interact to shape how people feel and respond physiologically. By using wearable sensors to track heart rate, sweat levels, and environmental changes, I analyze how individuals experience different urban settings—from busy streets to green parks. The goal of this research is to develop a data-driven approach to urban planning that considers not only physical infrastructure but also human perception and comfort. By integrating environmental monitoring with human-centered data, this work contributes to designing more adaptive, healthier, and climate-resilient urban spaces. This research is part of a broader European project addressing climate change and aims to support the creation of cities that enhance well-being and reduce environmental stressors.



TELL US ABOUT YOUR TYPICAL DAY AT WORK There isn't really such a thing as a "typical" day in research! Every day brings different tasks and challenges, which keeps things exciting. In general, my work involves a mix of experimental campaigns—where I set up and run field studies to collect data—along with preparing and calibrating sensors to ensure accurate measurements. A big part of my time is also spent analyzing data, looking for patterns, and making sense of how people experience urban environments.



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