RULES FOR THE PRESENTATION OF THEORETICAL PAPERS
(ELABORATI TEORICI)

Students starting the first year of the Master’s degree in September 2012 are required to write a theoretical paper before the start of the Diploma semester. It carries a value of 5 ECTS.

The purpose of the paper is to develop and demonstrate the student’s scholarly skills, in particular the ability to draft a paper and critical sense and sensitivity in using sources, records and authors.

Each lecturer responsible for the theoretical disciplines (history, the humanities and technical-scientific subjects) can act as supervisor (see in this respect the list of qualified lecturers that published in InsideArc). Each lecturer can, as a rule, supervise a maximum of 10 papers.

Lecturers who teach the design area are exempted from the program of theoretical papers.

Each student is free to choose a supervisor, by prior agreement with the lecturer or assistant.

The supervisor may suggest possible topics of study to the student, which in turn may put forward personal proposals whose validity and relevancy will judged by the supervisor. The topic and content of the paper must be independent of other related works or papers (e.g. "tesine") written by the student in the course of study.

Guidelines for writing the papers
The theoretical paper is compulsory for gaining access to the diploma. Before the start of the diploma semester, the plan of studies of each student will therefore indicate the registration of a theoretical paper with a value of 5 ECTS.

The paper must be written individually. Two students may not work, even individually, on the same topic.

The paper must have a minimum of 30,000 characters (spaces excluded) and a bibliographic apparatus containing no fewer than 5 titles (excluding articles and web pages).
For the style and editing of the paper see the file of “Drafting Guidelines” published at InsideArc - Elaborati teorici

The theoretical paper should be written in Italian or, by agreement with the Supervisor, in one of Swiss national languages or English.

Meetings to check progress during work on the paper will be arranged by each supervisor with his or her students.

Enrolment:
As soon as a student has decided on a topic it must be communicated electronically indicating the topic/title of the paper and the supervisor’s name.

Registration
In each examination session the Servizio elaborati will announce in good time the deadlines for the delivery of the examination results compiled and signed by the supervisors. The results are essential for registration of the work and for the attribution of the relevant credits.

Assessment
The supervisor will assess the paper assigning a vote on a scale from 1 to 10, in which 6 is a pass.
Failed papers may be resubmitted once, but only during an examination session.
Lecturers and assistants are required to understand the functioning of the Turnitin platform and must understand how to interpret the originality report.

The lecturers undertake to deliver the examination report for each paper supervised in good time and duly compiled.

The coordinators of the papers communicates the assessments received to the secretary's office, which records the marks.

Final Provisions:
The coordinators reserve the right to verify the formal aspects of each paper and report any concerns to the lecturer in charge, who will make a decision.

In case of doubt or disagreement the final decision lies with the Examination Board.

Application:
The new instructions for papers apply from 1st September 2012.

(For students who began the two-year’s Master's degree in the spring semester 2012, or before this date, the previous arrangement will continue to apply of 2 theoretical papers with an overall value of 10 ECTS. One of the papers must deal with the historical subjects or humanities.)

The new system of enrolment is valid for all students.