

Urban vitality and social inclusion. A gender perspective on daily mobility in Barcelona

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A vast body of literature demonstrates positive associations between certain features of the built environment and more sustainable and socially inclusive mobility patterns. Some authors have focused on how travel behavior is determined by the residential environment. Although Barcelona is much less unequal than other geographic contexts such as North American cities, its urban area characteristics are far from homogeneous. While in general urban vitality favors sustainable modes of mobility which are more socially inclusive, it remains to be seen whether urban vitality has similar impact on different social groups such as women and men. Using data from the 2019 edition of EMEF mobility survey and JANE index (Delclòs-Alió & Miralles-Guasch, 2018) for Barcelona, this study aims to assess the impact of urban vitality on gendered travel behavior.

Therefore, this master's thesis proposal focuses on:

- The **exploration** of the key **characteristics** of the **built environment** that influence **mobility**.
- The **City of Barcelona has different urban contexts**, so it is relevant to explore if the environment interacts with the mobility behavior.
- Define what **areas** within this region are more prone to **provide more gender-friendly and inclusive environment to their residents**, regarding their daily mobility.
- Include variables regarding how the **built environment is perceived** in the analysis focused on active mobility.

From the methodological point of view:

- This is a **quantitative approach**, as this is considered the fittest methodological reign to know different mobility behavior for urban areas when studying the influence of the built environment.
- Nevertheless, **the student will be provided with a diverse range of specific methods** to choose from in order to meet with the projects' aims and research question.

What is expected from the student?

- That is **interested in everyday mobility** and its social implications.
- That is **interested in quantitative analysis**.
- The student will be asked to conduct a **literature review**, decide upon **the most adequate method** for this purpose and **conduct basic analysis** using specific software for quantitative research.
- Certain **knowledge and interest** on the use of **statistical data analysis packages** (EXCEL, SPSS ...) and **Geographical Information Systems** (GIS) software (ArcGIS, Qgis ...) are recommended.

Note: The paper can be written in English, Catalan or Spanish.

Delclòs-Alió, X. & Miralles-Guasch, C. (2018). Looking at Barcelona through Jane Jacobs's eyes: Mapping the basic conditions for urban vitality in a Mediterranean conurbation. *Land Use Policy*, 75, 505-517.