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DIPARTIMENTO DI STORIA,  
ARCHEOLOGIA, GEOGRAFIA  
ARTE E SPETTACOLO

**LaGeS**  
Laboratorio di Geografia Sociale



Master's Degree  
Geography, Spatial Management, Heritage  
for International Cooperation

# Collective Place Making and Hybrid Transformations

## Mapping al-Zaatari refugee camp in Jordan between 2012 and 2019

### PUBLIC SEMINAR

University of Florence

Department of History, Archaeology, Geography, Fine and Performing Arts  
Florence, via San Gallo 10 | December 10, 2019 | Main Hall | 4.00pm - 6.30pm

### WELCOME ADDRESS AND INTRODUCTION

Dr. Luisa Bravo  
University of Florence  
School of Humanities and Education



### Dr. Husam Al Waer

Reader, School of Social Sciences  
Architecture and Urban Planning  
University of Dundee, United Kingdom

“When refugees collectively reimagine the camp as a hybrid urban space, they can make positive changes to both their individual and collective lives.”

Taking as a case study the Syrian refugees Zaatari camp in Jordan, this presentation illustrates the processes of adaptations and transformations that have taken place between 2012 and 2019, as initiated collectively by the residents of the camp. It illustrates how in situations of social stress, collective initiatives empower refugees to customize and adapt their environment, expand opportunities of income generating activities and social interaction and to thereby allow them to find dignity, meaning, and create a sense of place from a non-place.

The lecture will be introduced by a performance, with music and poetry.  
Q&A session will be moderated by Dr. Luisa Bravo



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THE ACADEMY  
OF URBANISM

URBAN  
DESIGN  
GROUP