Graduation Plan

Master of Science Architecture, Urbanism & Building Sciences

Graduation Plan: All tracks

The graduation plan consists of at least the following data/segments:

Personal information			
Name	Wei Song		
Student number	4273931		
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Studio			
Name / Theme	AR3AD132 Dwelling Graduation Studio: Global Housing Studio		
Teachers	Tom Avermaete Dick van Gameren Nelson Amorim Mota Klaske Havik		
Argumentation of choice of the studio	Before choosing this studio the buildings I designed usually didn't have much restrictions. I barely thought much about the cost, how long the construction period would be or the difficulty of the construction but more focused on how to make the spatial experience better and how to make the appearance appealing. The space and appearance of architecture are surely important, yet the practical issues have equal importance and these are the very exercise I'm lacking. This studio aims at proposing an architectural intervention for developing countries where the environment are more tough so it requires more consideration of those pratical issues so I think choosing this studio is a good chance for me to compensate for my weaknesses.		
Graduation project			
Title of the graduation project	In-situ slum upgrading project in Addis Ababa		
Goal			
Location:		Informal settlement area in Kirkos Sub City, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia	
The posed problem,		The prominent current approach adopted by Ethiopian government to deal with the substandard slum housing is the Integrated Housing Development Programme (IHDP). Within the IHDP, slum areas are cleared and residents are relocated and then new multi-storey and highrise condominiums are built. This large-scale top down approach indeed has had some success, however, there were also problems created. Firstly, in many cases, relocating to other area made people detached from their lives, no matter daily life, working life or social life. Secondly, people have to adapt to new high-rise lifestyle. They lost their close connection with	

	ground, so many domestic and productive
	activities such as drying a large amount of
	spices or rising poultry are difficult to continue.
research questions and	What are the essential parts of existing slum
·	housing that inseparable from life of urban
	poor? How to improve the living condition of
	slum dwellers in a way that respecting the
	minimizing the impact on slum dwellers' normal
	daily, working and social life and enhance the
	essential parts of existing slum housing?
design assignment in which these result.	The assignment of this graduation project is to
	propose a slum upgrading strategy for an
	informal settlement area in Kirkos, and this
	strategy can also repeated in other places. The
	design allows communities to rebuild on the
	land where they live, avoiding resettlement that
	ensures continuation of their current diversity
	and retains the existing community networks as
	well as economic activities intact. Moreover,
	the design should combine the advantages of
	the existing slum housing and enhance them by
	introducing new housing types.

Process

Method description

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A description of the methods and techniques of research and design, which are going to be utilized.

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Methods:

Field Trip: Mapping, Experiencing, Interviewing

Photograph Projective Mapping: section and axonometric drawings of Kirkos

Literature study: Literature reviews, position paper

Case study: Typology studies, Comparative studies, Technique studies

Techniques:

Sketches: Hand drawings, Tracing, Layering Modeling: 3D digital models, Physical models, Comparative studies Drawings: AutoCAD, Illustrator Diagrams: Illustrator, Photoshop, Hand drawing Expression: Hand drawing, Rending, Photoshop

Literature and general practical preference

The literature (theories or research data) and general practical experience/precedent you intend to consult.

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Literature:

Mike Davis. Planet of Slums. London: Verso, 2007.

UN-Habitat. Enhancing Urban Safety and Security: Global Report on Human Settlements 2007. London: Earthscan, 2007.

UN-HABITAT. The Ethiopia Case of Condominium Housing: The Integrated Housing Development Programme. United Nations Human Settlements Programme: Nairobi, 2011.

Uday Athavankar. Think Bottom-up: Can You Use that in Mumbai Slum Upgrade? Industrial Design Centre, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT Bombay), Mumbai, India. 2013.

Andy Bolnick. "Re-designing the City One Shack Cluster at a Time." Last modified July 13, 2012. http://www.sdinet.org/blog/2012/07/13/re-designing-city-one-shack-cluster-time/

Ariana K. MacPherson. "Taking the Reigns: Slum Dwellers Drive the Upgrading Process in Pune, India". Last modified September 12, 2012. http://www.sdinet.org/blog/2012/09/12/taking-reigns-slum-dwellers-drive-upgrading-proces/

Folkers, Antoni. Modern architecture in Africa. Amsterdam: Sun. 2010.

Oliver Heckmann and Friederike Schneider, eds., Floor Plan Manual Housing. Basel: Birkhäuser, 2011.

Practical Precedent: Fujian Tulou, China

Reflection

Relevance

Facing the growing problem of slum formation and deterioration, many developing countries choose to take strong top down strategy which usually involves clearance of informal settlement and relocation of slum dwellers. However, there were few bottom up approaches taken place so far. This graduation project is a rethinking of the current approach and aims at bringing people's attention to the importance of respecting existing settlement and on-going activities of local residents and offers an alternative approach that improving living condition of urban poor without disrupting their daily rhythms.

Time planning

A scheme of the division of the workload of the graduation project in the 42-week timeframe. Compulsory in this scheme are the examinations at the middle and end of the semester, if required, the minors you intend taking and possible exams that have to be retaken. The submitted graduation contract might be rejected if the planning is unrealistic

Week 01 – 05: Design research and projective mapping

Week 06 – 08: Problem statement

Week 09: P1 presentation

Week 10 – 13: Field trip to Addis Ababa

Week 14 – 19: Urban strategy and design hypothesis

Week 20: P2 presentation

Week 21 – 24: Research and further urban strategy design

Week 24 – 28: Case study and housing typology design

Week 29: P3 presentation

Week 30 – 37: Further design housing typology and building technology design

Week 38: P4 presentation

Week 39 – 42: Modeling and expression

P5 presentation