

Graduation Plan

Master of Science Architecture, Urbanism & Building Sciences



Graduation Plan: All tracks

Submit your Graduation Plan to the Board of Examiners (Examencommissie-BK@tudelft.nl), Mentors and Delegate of the Board of Examiners one week before P2 at the latest.

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

Personal information	
Name	Tim de Groot
Student number	4558693

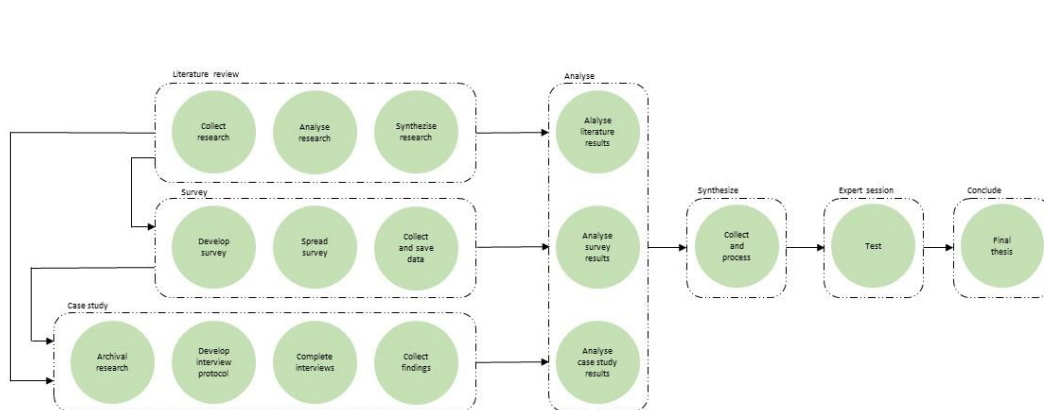
Studio		
Name / Theme	Sustainability transitions and the transformation of (port) cities	
Main mentor	Tom Damen	Urban Development Management
Second mentor	Clarine van Oel	Design and Construction Management
Argumentation of choice of the studio	The game between private and public parties in large scale development is interesting. One cant do without the other, but different interests and choices are made. This in combination with the health aspect is very interesting.	

Graduation project	
Title of the graduation project	Realizing Healthy Urban Areas in the Netherlands: An Analysis of Interdependence and Uncertainty as Drivers of Actors involved in Healthy Urban Development
Goal	
Location:	Randstad of the Netherlands
The posed problem,	<p>The concept of the healthy city is well-known, but despite knowing this concept and realising the importance of healthy urban areas, actors involved in urban area (re)developments face challenges and barriers when realising these developments. Also, the field of study of area development 'gebiedsontwikkeling' is relatively new and does not yet facilitate these mechanisms. Problems are there in finding common ground and public and private need to find each other. How do we steer towards a healthy urban area? Who will help with the long-term business plan? How do we make the healthy urban area real?</p> <p>These questions will be tried to answer in this thesis. Here, a focus will be given to the key components of a healthy area, to actors involved in these developments with their main drivers and collaboration, to the two drivers of interdependence and uncertainty and to the barriers that prevent the realisation. In the end, this will be combined to give advice and best practices for future developments.</p>

research questions and	<p>"How can actors involved in urban area (re)developments in the Netherlands be successful in realising healthy urban areas?"</p> <p>Subquestions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research question 1: <i>What are the key components and characteristics of a healthy city?</i> • Research question 2: <i>How can the principles of a healthy city be applied to urban area (re)developments in the Netherlands?</i> • Research question 3: <i>What actors are currently/will be involved in urban area (re)developments in the Netherlands and what are their main interests (related to healthy urban areas)?</i> • Research question 4: <i>What are the effective collaboration models for stakeholders involved in Dutch urban area (re)development projects?</i> • Research question 5: <i>What are the main drivers and motivations (focus on interdependence and uncertainty) of healthy urban development for actors involved in (re)development projects in the Netherlands?</i> • Research question 6: <i>How do these drivers contribute to the development of healthy urban areas, particularly with regards to interdependence and uncertainty?</i> • Research question 7: <i>What are the main challenges and barriers that actors involved in urban area (re)developments in the Netherlands are facing when trying to realise healthy urban areas with these drivers?</i> • Research question 8: <i>What can be done to overcome these challenges and barriers?</i>
design assignment in which these result.	<p>The aim is to give insight in the realization of the healthy urban area. Find drivers connected to this, find challenges and find how to overcome these. And in the end, give recommendations on how to develop healthy urban areas.</p>
<p>Problem statement</p> <p>The concept of the healthy city is well-known, but despite knowing this concept and realising the importance of healthy urban areas, actors involved in urban area (re)developments face challenges and barriers when realising these developments. Also, the field of study of area development 'gebiedsontwikkeling' is relatively new and does not yet facilitate these mechanisms. Problems are there in finding common ground and public and private need to find each other. How do we steer towards a healthy urban area? Who will help with the long-term business plan? How do we make the healthy urban area real?</p> <p>These questions will be tried to answer in this thesis. Here, a focus will be given to the key components of a healthy area, to actors involved in these developments with their main drivers and collaboration, to the two drivers of interdependence and uncertainty and to the barriers that prevent the realisation. In the end, this will be combined to give advice and best practices for future developments.</p>	
Process	

Method description

Research methods



This thesis will be a mixed-method study, combining qualitative and quantitative research to come to a conclusion. The two main types of research will be a literature study and an empirical research. Literature study will be mostly first and empirical study will be following up from literature study. Both will be touched upon.

Literature study

The literature study is used for various parts. First, it forms the basis of the problem formation. With a thorough literature study a knowledge gap was found which will be filled with this thesis. During this literature review, the main concepts connected to the subjects (healthy cities, urban area development, governance ...) will be looked into to form background knowledge and to introduce main concepts.

After this preliminary review, literature will be used to answer the subquestions. Some sub questions will be able to be answered almost solely with literature study as were others, literature study will give a knowledge foundation for the empirical research to be conducted. It will be explorative. Most importantly, the literature research will give a scientific framework for the empirical study to be done.

Literature will be found through trustworthy sources such as google scholar and the TU Delft library.

Empirical research

Empirical research will form the second part of the research. It will be a combination of qualitative and quantitative methods since questionnaires, semi-structured interviews and focus groups will be used.

Methods and techniques

Looking at the empirical research part, three main techniques will be used: questionnaires, semi-structured interviews and expert sessions. The questionnaires

will all be about different case studies and the semi-structured interviews will be about one or more selected case studies and actors connected to them.

Questionnaire

The questionnaire will be in the form of a survey. In this survey, the goal is to establish an understanding of the view on healthy urban projects and their development from practitioners. This survey will need around 30 responses. The survey will be spread around to various project teams with public and private actors (developer, municipality, advisors, etc.) to give a view in the kitchen on how practice thinks about the subject. Locations to spread are the graduation company (AM) and other networks working in urban area development.

Semi-structured interviews

With a case, an in-depth semi-structured interview will be conducted with public and private actors related to that project. These actors can be developers, government (local and regional), financing actors (also health insurance companies) and scientists. This has the goal to find underlying mechanisms and to deepen the results found in literature and surveying. This case will be the backbone of the report, since practical implications will follow from the archival study and the empirical study connected to this.

Expert session

After writing the first conclusions from the research, an expert session will be held. This will be done with a group of experts with varying backgrounds (developer, government, health insurance, etc.). The conclusion will be tested with the expertise of the experts at the table to give final insights, feedback and nuances. This will strengthen the final conclusion and make the practical implications more trustworthy.

Literature and general practical preference

Literature that is used consist of literature on the healthy city, literature on actors that work in urban area development, collaboration models and challenges and drivers connected to this. Practice is used through a survey, a case study with interviews and expert sessions.

Reflection

1. What is the relation between your graduation (project) topic, the studio topic (if applicable), your master track (A,U,BT,LA,MBE), and your master programme (MSc AUBS)?

My graduation topic relates to the studio because it is about urban development management and changes for the future in this work field. The urban development practice can also be seen as the development of large areas in cities. The masters program is called management in the built environment. This connects to the healthy interventions to be made and to the urban area development aspect.

2. What is the relevance of your graduation work in the larger social, professional and scientific framework.

This research is highly relevant for society as it addresses the subject of creating healthy urban areas. Creating a healthy urban environment is on the agendas of many cities from around the world. More and more people live in cities and the majority of people live in urban areas around the world. Also, our population is increasingly getting older and more and more in need of good health services. This is why it is important to improve the quality of life in these areas to impact on the well-being of individuals and communities. A healthy urban environment is good for air and water quality, will increase accessibility to green spaces, will reduce noise pollution, will promote physical activity and more. All of these improvements will contribute to the physical, mental and social well-being of residents.

Also, this research aims to analyse the interdependence and uncertainty as drivers for healthy urban development, which can be helpful for future urban development projects. Policy makers and developers can use the main take-aways to have more success in the future. 'Gebiedsontwikkelingen' can't be done alone and giving best practices will increase the chance of success.

"Gebiedsontwikkeling" is a relatively new concept in science. This thesis will contribute to this. It will build on the field of urban development by looking at complex relationships between stakeholders, and between drivers and barriers in the (re)development process. Focussing on the drivers of interdependence and uncertainty, this research will try to give a deeper understanding on how these factors influence the realisation of healthy urban areas.

Mapping the barriers will be a start on the improvement of urban areas and will help future research to build on this. Especially the realisation part and the actor relationship part will be interesting. This research will also contribute to the knowledge of health in the urban context as it aims to improve health in urban areas.