AR3U105 Graduation Orientation form _Preliminary Thesis Plan DEADLINE:28/10 17:30

AR3U105 GRADUATION ORIENTATION Deliverables

Student Name	Yuqian Su
Student Number	5571499
Preliminary graduation project title	A Tale of two rivers
Key words (4-7)	Weather modification; atmospheric river; China; Yellow River;
Key images (min. 3)	anthropogenic technology
Key literature (max 5)	David A. Pietz, "The Yellow River: The Problem of Water in Modern China", <i>Cambridge: Harvard University Press</i> , 2015. Wang Guangqian, et al., "Study on Sky Rivers: Concept, Theory, and Implications," <i>Journal of Hydro-environment Research</i> 21

	(September 27, 2018): 112. Chien, Shiuh-Shen, Dong-Li Hong, and Po-Hsiung Lin. "Ideological and volume politics behind cloud water resource governance– Weather modification in China." Geoforum 85 (2017): 225-233. Peter Haff, "Technology as a Geologic Phenomenon: Implications for human well-being," in A Stratigraphical Basis for the Anthropocene, special publication 395. London: Geological Society, 2013.
Selected Graduation trajectory	
(argumentation)	
Design/Planning/Technology	
Main motivation for the project / Problematization	This is my second year studying in the Netherlands, and as I look back on my experiences in China, I can't help but find everything fascinating. Having lived in China for 23 years, I thought I had become accustomed to the incredible speed at which things were accomplished. From construction projects being completed in a matter of weeks to the seamless delivery of packages within days, regardless of the distance involved, efficiency, punctuality, and convenience seemed to be ingrained in every aspect of life. However, amidst this seemingly flawless system, there were certain aspects that continued to astonish me. One such example was the creation of an entire district, specifically designed for the convenience of working individuals commuting between their homes and Beijing on a daily basis. It was intended to be a bustling hub of activity, a place where people could live and work without the need for long and tiring commutes. But to my surprise, I discovered that this district remained eerily empty in the mornings, earning the nickname "sleep city." It was a stark reminder of the complexities and challenges faced in urban planning and the dynamics of population movement.
	With discussing more with my foreign friends, I astonishing encountered a range of other puzzling situations in today's China. The rapid development and urbanization often left me questioning the long-term sustainability of such endeavors. I became more aware of the need for comprehensive planning, consideration of environmental impacts, and the importance of community engagement in decision-making processes. My time in the Netherlands has provided me with a fresh perspective on
	these issues, allowing me to reflect on the contrast between different approaches to urban development and social dynamics.

Location(s) of your graduation project (for research and intended interventions)	Qinghai Province, China
(add visual references, including maps)	
Aim of study	The aim of the study is to examine how land sovereignty is extended into the domain of atmosphere towards new planetary imaginations under states will of governing water. Then the study will explore an alternative to the intensive weather manipulation techniques to redesign the transnational territorial land use corresponding to the atmospheric river.
Main preliminary research question(s)	How to envision a dynamic territorial park capable of ecologically and socially nourishing the Yellow River Source basin responding to future accelerated hydrological cycle as a resilient, collaborated and adapted alpine ecosystem?
Intended concrete	Analysis: Overall view of the environing technology, through which it is
outcomes (add visual references, including reference projects)	Overall view of the environing technology through which it is sensed and measured Analysis of cloud seeding machines and its impacts on local society, fragile environment conditions and territorial ethics Mapping of selected natural capital and ecosystem services
	Macro scale regional vision and masterplan: transnational ecological belt corresponding to the atmospheric river Macro scale detailed design: detailed design and interventions with nature-based solutions of the landscape corridor
	Reference: The world park project: (https://theworldpark.com/)

Indication of possible preliminary project approach (methodology / methods)	Research: 1. Employing the framework of line of inquiry has proven to be an invaluable tool, enabling me to grasp the intricate fabric of the region. It has facilitated my understanding of the Tibetan Plateau's ecological system, as well as the social dynamics surrounding the nomadic communities who engage in seasonal transhumance activities within its vast expanse. Though I have not physically set foot upon this land, I find myself within a hidden connection that deepens with each dive into the extensive literature review, predominantly focusing on the technical and ecological aspects of the Tibetan Plateau. Initially, my focus cantered on the problem of transboundary water resources allocation, particularly examining the implications of dam construction in the upstream regions of Chinese rivers originating from the Tibetan plateau and its potential impact on downstream South Asian countries. However, the wise counsel of my mentors urged me to refine my scope and look deep into the source region itself. Then I started to do the literature review both in English and Chinese. Additionally, I conducted online interviews with members of indigenous communities, seeking insights from their unique perspectives. To further enrich my research, I explored documentaries that shed light on the intricate interplay between ecology, society, and politics. These invaluable resources were generously shared by scholars, local inhabitants, and NGOs, providing me with a diverse range of perspectives to inform my study. The impact of atmospheric phenomena on human settlements and relationships will provide a necessary social dimension to my research.
Scientific relevance of your graduation project	The Sky River Project is a planetary technological experiment itself with trans spatial-temporal imaginaries. Atmospheric river provide over half of the annual runoff globally. So far, most of research focused on the ecological, social impacts of utilizing water, but not so much in the fields of others forms of water. The research on atmospheric river aims at revealing Technology is acting as a new geological phenomenon. But as human seek for new resources the natural loops may pose threatening and unforeseen disruptions that human thought they controlled.
Societal relevance of your graduation project	The impact of atmospheric phenomenon will surely impact on the human settlements, thus add societal aspect to the research.
graduation project	the human settlements, thus add societal aspect to the research.

	settlements Changing the weather to combat drought has caused problems for shepherds, and heavy rainfall has caused harm to their livestock.
	This imbalance in the distribution of benefits has raised concerns whether state actors should act more carefully when considering weather or climate change measures, and who is responsible for unintended adverse consequences of weather modification? Unlike terrestrial water that collects in lakes or flows through established river systems, cloud water flows freely through the atmosphere and cannot be neatly attributed to a specific political jurisdiction. geopolitics is being shaped by the unpredictability of ecological processes, the traditional means of architectural and landscape representation can play a fundamental role in framing continental-scale territorial transformations as the primary tool for shaping global – and local – politics.
Ethical considerations	In the era of Anthropocene, clouds are no longer seen as just an atmospheric weather feature, instead, as "reservoirs in the sky" for human exploitation. Under contemporary capitalism, industrial society is entirely predicated on the ideology of taming and exploiting nature. Therefore the atmosphere occupies an unregulated and borderless void in the domain that lacks legal and clear framework.
Possible resources	Literature, recordings, visual materials Helps from mentors, experts, research people
Reflection on all Urbanism MSc3&4 studios: briefly reflect on how your graduation project would develop under each of the studios within the Urbanism Graduation Lab (max 200 words per studio)	I believe that my project offers a unique approach to address the knowledge gap in Chinese territorial design by emphasizing an indigenous-led perspective. It underscores the importance of incorporating indigenous perspectives and practices into urban design, paving the way for a more inclusive and culturally sensitive approach. Through the integration of wetland systems, sustainable agriculture, and ecological restoration, my project showcases how urban development can coexist harmoniously with the natural environment. It demonstrates the integration of environmental stewardship principles within urban design, highlighting the significance of responsible resource management and ecological preservation.
	Moreover, my project recognizes the vital role of economic opportunities and sustainable livelihoods for local communities.

	By incorporating agricultural practices, tourism initiatives, and cultural preservation, it demonstrates how urban design can contribute to the economic well-being and cultural identity of indigenous populations. This project represents a bold endeavor to bridge indigenous
	knowledge on a global scale with the Tibetan minority group. Despite the distinct context from the Western paradigm, the framework and critical thinking employed successfully bridge the gap, proposing a new paradigm for national park development within the delimma context of globalization and capitalism.
Additional remarks	