

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	Amina Gaye Moroso
Student number	6096018

Studio		
Name / Theme	Architectural Design Crossovers / theme of the studio]	
Main mentor	Alper Alkan	Architecture design tutor
Second mentor	Florian Eckardt	Building Technology tutor
Third mentor	Roberto Cavallo	Research tutor
Argumentation of choice of the studio	Due to my previous studios as well as my own background, I developed a particular interest for an interdisciplinary approach to architecture. This studio is able to cater to my interest in both theory and design.	

Graduation project	
Title of the graduation project	Custody of Ambiguity
Goal	
Location:	Madrid, Spain
The posed problem,	<p>The last century has been a significant turning point for technological advancements, therefore altering both the environmental and human ecologies, and weakening the connection between these last two.¹ The need to reconfigure this relationship implicates a need to rethink our approach to these interdependencies and questions our responsibility as architects.</p> <p>The rapid population growth of Madrid, in combination with the intense political, economic, and technological challenges it faced in the past century, created a lot of large-scale voids within the city, similarly to many cities of</p>

¹ Robert Angus Buchanan, "History of Technology," Encyclopædia Britannica, September 10, 2024, <https://www.britannica.com/technology/history-of-technology>.

	<p>this size.² Looking for development within existing yet overlooked spaces within the city can bring new opportunities to light. These spaces have been seen as latent potential containers in the architectural discourse since the 1980s, however my starting point is that of the concept of <i>terrain vagues</i> by Ignasi de Solà-Morales.</p> <p>Even though they are considered opportunity sites, these spaces often host already significant social and ecological flows, which can be important to their surroundings. Architecture, being a discipline heavily related to control, tends to disrupt these, creating tension between them. Rethinking how architecture can situate itself within terrain vagues while responding to the already existing flows can become a model for a more sustainable and resilient mode of constructing.</p>
research questions and	What if ambiguity could serve as an architectural tool to transition to a post anthropocentric approach to architecture and how can it help repair the connection between the human and the environment?
design assignment in which these result.	
<p>The design aims inquire how ambiguity can be used as an architectural tool to maintain the dynamics of terrain vagues, while creating a space which respects the already present processes of the site. The project will inquire on different expressions of ambiguity from the urban scale, to the program and material expressions of a possible architectural intervention. The use of ambiguity as a concept will reflect on its possibilities to cater to both human and non-human actors, as well as the possibility of having a more enduring and sustainable design.</p>	
Process	
Method description	
<p>The method used within the project uses both qualitative and quantitative elements to get to a better understanding of the topic. By creating a preliminary research to position the project within a specific discourse, can make the design become more specific, with clearer aims and goals. Ambiguity within architecture is a recent topic, therefore different pieces of literature will be analyzed to understand different standpoints of it. Cartographic analysis will be used to find ambiguity on the urban scale, revealing inconsistencies within the urban fabric. Once a site is found, historical analysis and actor analysis can help identify existing flows of the site and how it contributes to its</p>	

² Blake Ehrlich and Timothy John Connell, "Madrid," Encyclopædia Britannica, October 18, 2024, <https://www.britannica.com/place/Madrid>.

surroundings. These flows will help determine the program and its process. This already suggests the implications of permanent and temporary elements, aligning to the rhythms of the involved actors. Further, a comparative analysis of reference projects will bring together different expressions of ambiguity and revealing how its different facets can be designed with architectural elements. This method can reveal how one can create longer lasting architecture by means of ambiguity.

Literature and general practical references

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Braidotti, Rosi, and Simone Bignall. *Posthuman ecologies: Complexity and process after Deleuze*. London: Rowman & Littlefield International Ltd, 2019.

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Latour, B., & Porter, C. (1993). *We have never been modern*. Harvard University Press.

Lerup, Lars. *After the city*. MIT Press, 2001.

Mariani, Manuela, and Patrick Barron. *Terrain vague: Interstices at the edge of the pale*. New York: Routledge, Taylor & Francis Group, 2014.

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

Ambiguity in particular has not been talked about often. However, this multilayered understanding can become the source of novelty in architecture. The Architectural Design Crossovers studio reflects on cities as constantly evolving and part of dynamic systems. The framework proposed can contribute to understanding complexities within cities, using Madrid as a model, but further re applying it on a global scale.

The proposed projects starts with the assumption that there is no nature-culture divide and the importance of treating architecture as an interrelational discipline. By acknowledging the limitations of architecture, the project is able to become useful in understanding the implications in a more rounded manner, addressing complex systems in a non-reductive manner. Rather than being seen as a problem solving discipline, architecture can be more appropriate by taking into account flows and reimagining architecture as dynamic rather than static could be the source of longer lasting and more sustainable practices.