

# 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](mailto: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	Marvin Delano Alexander Cairo
Student number	4850483

Studio		
Name / Theme	6. Tackling housing inequality	
Main mentor	Joris Hoekstra	MBE- UDM
Second mentor	Queena Qian	MBE-DCM
Argumentation of choice of the studio	I am interested in the interaction between corporations and tenants in how they both would like to solve the urgent problem of energy poverty and how this shapes the relationship between the two.	

Graduation project	
Title of the graduation project	Energy poverty, bridging the gap between housing association and tenant
Goal	
Location:	Randstad and northeast of the netherlands
The posed problem,	While both the tenants and the social housing associations want to combat energy poverty, the preferred measures of the tenants and the proposed measures of the housing associations don't align. Here is a gap present in this occasion where friction between both parties can arise.
research questions and	<p>The main question of this thesis is: <b>What can housing associations do to close the gap between them and their tenants in the social housing sector regarding combatting energy poverty?</b></p> <p>This leads to the following sub-questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. What is energy poverty and what is the cause of it?</b></li> <li><b>2. What role can tenants play regarding combatting energy poverty?</b></li> <li><b>3. What role can social housing associations play regarding combatting energy poverty?</b></li> <li><b>4. What is the gap between what tenants and housing associations are doing?</b></li> <li><b>5. What recommendations can be given to housing associations regarding combatting energy poverty?</b></li> </ol>

design assignment in which these result.	The aim is to identify the gap between what is desired by tenants and capable of housing associations and to draw up recommendations for housing associations to assist their tenants as well as possible.
<b>Process</b>	
<b>Method description</b>	
<p>For this research, first a literature review is done, to gain knowledge of energy poverty and what it entails, and the roles of both tenants and housing associations. After the literature review is carried out, case studies of 2 separate housing associations and their tenant organisations will be conducted. One in the Randstad and one in the northeast of the Netherlands. The case studies involve looking at policies and policy ambitions of the housing associations to see what they are already doing to help their tenants. The case studies also involve 4 separate focus groups. 2 with the different housing association and 2 with the corresponding tenant organisation to see what housing associations can do and to see what the tenants would like to happen to be helped. This way, with the literature review and the focus groups, both quantitative and qualitative data is gathered and reviewed. With this information the gap can be identified, and recommendations can be given.</p>	
<b>Literature and general practical preference</b>	
<p>The purpose of the literature review is to come up with a more detailed picture of the problem and to get a better understanding of the concepts presented in the report. Most of the literature review will be used to answer the first sub-question (what energy poverty is and what is the cause of it) and to form a beginning for the second and third sub-questions (what tenants and housing associations can do to combat energy poverty). The literature review is on top of that also is the backbone of the entire research, because this information is used throughout the whole report and is the basis of the focus groups that will be held.</p>	
<b>Reflection</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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)? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Everywhere in the Netherlands people cope with high energy bills. This creates a group of people who are having a harder time paying their energy bills because of their low wages. This will create a greater inequality between households who can easily pay their bills and households that aren't able to. These challenges are also addressed in the master track (for instance with REM, G-buurt, where a lot of people live who aren't earning a lot of money, have difficulties paying their bills, are living in housing association homes but still have to make a living for themselves).</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. What is the relevance of your graduation work in the larger social, professional, and scientific framework. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- As the war in Ukraine goes on, the price of gas is still high. This also means the price of electricity stays high. In short, the energy bills have risen a lot the past year. Because of this, a lot of people are not able to easily pay their energy bills. Because this problem is relatively unknown in the Netherlands, research still needs to be conducted on how tenants can be helped through</li> </ul> </li> </ol>	

this crisis as well as possible. Therefore, there still is a big societal relevance and scientific relevance to combat this problem. A lot of associations are doing what they can do, but they also aren't completely familiar with the problem, so this research also has a professional relevance.