

Graduation Plan

Master of Science Architecture, Urbanism & Building Sciences



Graduation Plan: All tracks

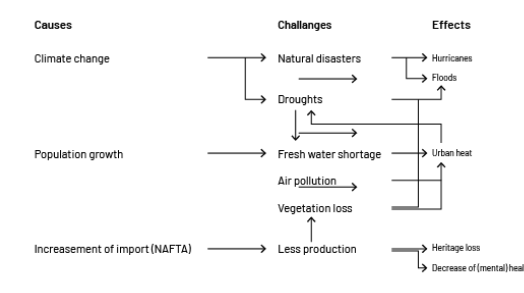
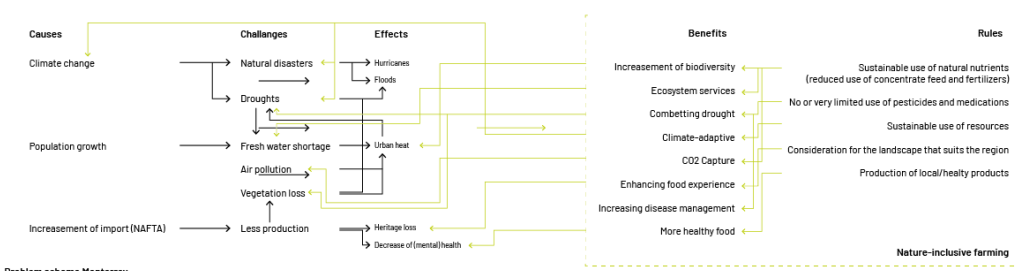
Submit your Graduation Plan to the Board of Examiners (Examencommissie-BK@tudelft.nl), Mentors and Delegate of the Board of Examiners one week before P2 at the latest.

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

Personal information	
Name	Kim Handelé
Student number	4696654

Studio		
Name / Theme	Landscape Architecture - Urban Ecology	
Main mentor	Nico Tillie	City, Transition, Carbon, Ecology, Quality of life, Inner city, Urban landscape, Planning, Accounting, Agricultural area
Second mentor	Ulf Hackauf	Architect, urbanist and researcher with a special interest in the relation between food production and cities.
Argumentation of choice of the studio	A sustainable approach to agriculture has personally resonated with me, following extensive practical experience. Topics such as biodiversity, ecosystems, and soil play pivotal roles in this regard. I find that I can effectively integrate this interest within the Urban Ecology lab. Through this program, I can delve deeper into the intricacies of urban ecosystem dynamics and, hopefully, foster a closer connection between humans and nature.	

Graduation project	
Title of the graduation project	Cultivated connections – Enhancing the quality of life in Monterrey, Mexico by implementing urban agriculture practices.
Goal	
Location:	Monterrey, Mexico
The posed problem,	<p>In Monterrey, Mexico, the intricate relationship between the food industry and the realm of national and international health politics has resulted in a disheartening loss of the city's rich food heritage. This, in turn, has taken a significant toll on the physical and mental health of its residents. The problem is exacerbated by the growing specter of climate change, which has gradually widened the chasm between the agricultural sector and society.</p> <p>The adverse effects of these changes are starkly evident in the declining agricultural productivity of the region. As yields wane, a ripple effect is</p>

	<p>unleashed, creating severe socio-ecological consequences that impact not only the environment but also the very fabric of Monterrey's social structure. The city is at a critical juncture, facing the urgent need for innovative solutions to restore the once vibrant connections between health, agriculture and nature.</p>  <p>Problem scheme Monterrey</p>
research questions and	<p>This graduation research focuses on how urban nature-inclusive agriculture can address the previously mentioned issues.</p>  <p>Problem scheme Monterrey</p> <p>"How can nature-inclusive agriculture be implemented in the Monterrey Metropolitan Area in order to address food heritage loss?"</p> <p>SRQ1: How might we cultivate a harmonious relationship between urban living and nature in Monterrey, Mexico's metropolitan area through the integration of 'nature-inclusive' agriculture?</p> <p>SRQ2: How can traditional products and practices be encouraged to mitigate the loss of (food) heritage in order to improve health?</p>
design assignment in which these result.	<p>More sustainable land use that provides adequate nutrition for the Monterrey's population in an integrated model on a regional and neighborhood scale.</p>
Process	
Method description	

a. Space for coordination and exchange of interests
Analyzing, evaluation, engaged action

b. Agreement on the spatial boundaries of the location
Analyzing, interpretation, desing projection

c. Integration of projects into the city plan
Design, evaluation, modelling

d. Use of scientific guidance in the fields of environmental and social sciences
Classification, discription

e. Involvement of civil society: heritage workshops and other training programs
Engaged action, evaluation

f. Scientific and communication media products
Engaged action, experimentation

Needed data SRQ1:

Defenition of nature-inclusive

→ Literature + lectures

Nature-inclusive framework (for a metropolitan area)

→ Literature + lectures (+ interviews)

Contacts in Monterrey:
Mario Manzano - Ecologist

Current initiatives of urban farming in Monterrey

→ Literature + interviews

Contacts in The Netherlands:
Joost van Strien - Biodynamic (vegan) farmer

Urban farming initiatives in Monterrey:				
Urban Gardens	2008 to the present over 100 gardens have been established for the community	1. grow greens, food 2. learn from gardens with educational projects	http://www.urbangardensmonterrey.com/ingles http://www.urbangardensmonterrey.com/	a. urban gardens
Urban		1. reuse delivery trucks and technology	http://www.urbangarden.com.mx/	a. urbogarden
Green Links		Green links are groups of urban gardens between the Los Angeles and the Monterrey Corridors. They are made up of a series of gardens, located near the main highways, that provide a wide variety of products using modern techniques in their community.	http://www.greenlinksmonterrey.com/	a. foodlink
Public Space		With the help of Mexican citizens to support the city planning and the urban environment, they have been able to create parks, playgrounds, bike paths and green parks.	http://www.greenlinksmonterrey.com/ingles	a. foodlink
Community			http://www.greenlinksmonterrey.com/ingles	a. foodlink
Community	1. support	agriculture, education, the environment, culture, art, health, transport	http://www.greenlinksmonterrey.com/ingles http://www.greenlinksmonterrey.com/	a. foodlink
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Contacts in Monterrey:
Gabriela Molinar - Owner of Urban Farm in Monterrey
Gonzalo Villareal - Land owner of land with organic crops (sells it in the city)
Georgina Mayer - Owner of a vegan restaurant Casa Macro

Needed data SRQ2:

History of Monterrey

→ Literature

Timeline of the urban landscape of Monterrey

Aridó América (cultural and geographical)

→ Literature

List of vulnerable traditional products incl traditional recipes

→ Literature + interviews

Food catalogue (incl. recipies)

Contacts in Monterrey:
Brianda Flores - Assistant of Rob Roggema in Food Project, PHD in wine production
Hugo Guajardo - Chef of Vernacuklo (regional and traditional dishes)

Contacts in The Netherlands:
Joanna van der Leun - Part of Slow Food Network

Literature and general practical references

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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)?

The project, which focuses on addressing the loss of food heritage and its impact on health and agriculture in Monterrey, Mexico, can be seen as a landscape architecture project with a strong emphasis on creating sustainable and integrated models for land use and nutrition. As a landscape architect, I have the expertise to design and

plan outdoor spaces that promote healthy living and sustainable practices. The studio topic, Urban Ecology, focuses on understanding and improving the relationships between urban environments and the natural world, which often includes topics related to sustainability, biodiversity, and the integration of nature into cities. These topics are the base line of my design approach.

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

The graduation work has the potential to make a meaningful impact in addressing critical issues related to public health, cultural heritage, and sustainability in Monterrey. It also showcases my skills and knowledge as a landscape architecture student, and it contributes to scientific understanding and practical solutions for complex urban challenges.