

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	Margot Kruizinga	
Student number	4825004	
Studio		
Name / Theme	Transitional Territories	
Main mentor	Francesca Rizzetto	Urbanism - Environmental Technology and Design
Second mentor	Machiel van Dorst	Urbanism - Urban Studies
Argumentation of choice of the studio	<p>My thesis focuses on refugee children and this social subject is somewhat unconventional within the Transitional Territories studio. However, the context of a refugee camp embodies the essence of transition. Although the territory itself is not in transition, the refugee children transit through different territories along their journey. Thus, my thesis aims to emphasize the refugee journey within this studio. If your location is uncertain and impermanent, how can you feel at home? Especially children do not have the agency to adapt their environment to their wishes, to create a sense of belonging themselves. The camp structure as an impermanent spatial entity is highlighted under this studio, this aspect will be analysed and used in the design (phase). The cross-disciplinary approach of TT complements my thesis topic well. Particularly, the fields of humanities and arts are relevant for both my research and design. Accordingly, this studio encourages the use of different representation techniques. The integration of poetry, objects, and children’s art has proven beneficial in shaping the narrative of the research. By embracing such interdisciplinary approaches, my thesis aims to gain a thorough understanding of the experiences and needs of refugee children in transitional territories. This information will enhance the design solutions that provide a home for refugee children.</p>	
Graduation project		
Title of the graduation project	A playce like home – a play focused approach to designing heterotopias	

Goal	
Location:	Greece, Lesbos, CCAC Mavrovouni
The posed problem,	<p>The overarching problem is the civil war in Syria and the massive exodus it has caused. This thesis will 'accept' the war situation as the status quo, thus highlighting the necessity of providing shelter for refugees. The current camp conditions do not meet the needs of refugee children.</p> <p>These children have experienced severe trauma, including exposure to war violence and the dangers of flight, such as abuse and exploitation. They have left their familiar homes and embarked on a journey filled with uncertainty and a lack of belonging. Upon arriving at the camps, their basic needs are barely met. These children need to heal from their traumas and have opportunities for development. However, the current camps are unsafe, unfamiliar, and lack places for children to play. In other words, they lack a sense of home.</p>
research questions and	How can play inform spatial design for heterotopia Mavrovouni to provide a sense of home for displaced children?
design assignment in which these result.	This thesis aims for three outcomes. Firstly, a participatory workshop will be designed to give refugee children a voice in designing a camp. Secondly, a pattern language will be created with patterns for child-friendly transit spaces. Thirdly, a location specific 'urban' plan will be made; the redesign of the camp Mavrovouni.
Process	
Method description	
<p>The methods literature review and spatial analysis have been towards P2 already, but might be used afterwards as well. As the fieldtrip is planned in July, a lot of methods are prepared: structured observation, ethnography, participatory design, semi-structured interviews. After the fieldtrip the design phase starts, which will use research by design and the pattern language itself as methods. An elaboration on these methods can be found in the P2 report.</p>	

Literature and general practical references

Main literature:

- Huizinga, J. (1952). Homo Ludens: proeve eener bepaling van het spel-element der cultu-ur. Tjeenk Willink.
- Després, C. (1991). The meaning of home: Literature review and directions for future re-search and theoretical development. Journal of Architectural and Planning Research, 8(2). <http://psycnet.apa.org/psycinfo/1991-34780-001>
- Boccagni, P., & Duyvendak, J. W. (2021). Homemaking in the public. On the scales and stakes of framing, feeling, and claiming extra-domestic space as "home". Sociology Compass, 15(6). <https://doi.org/10.1111/soc4.12886>
- Bronfenbrenner, U. (1979). The ecology of human development : experiments by nature and design. <http://ci.nii.ac.jp/ncid/BA0129742X>
- Diken, B. (2004). From refugee camps to gated communities: biopolitics and the end of the city1. Citizenship Studies, 8(1), 83–106. <https://doi.org/10.1080/1362102042000178373>
- Foucault, M., & Miskowiec, J. (1986). Of other spaces. Diacritics, 16(1), 22. <https://doi.org/10.2307/464648>
- De Cauter, L., & Dehaene, M. (2008). The space of play: Towards a general theory of heterotopia. In Routledge eBooks (pp. 99–114). <https://doi.org/10.4324/9780203089415-14>

Data & governmental sources:

- Frontex. (2024, January). Migratory map. Retrieved February 26, 2024, from <https://www.frontex.europa.eu/what-we-do/monitoring-and-risk-analysis/migratory-map/>
- Live Universal Awareness Map. (2024, April). Syria Live Map. liveuamap.com. <https://syria.liveuamap.com/> Longman Exams Dictionary. (2006). Pearson Education ESL.
- Ministerie van Justitie en Veiligheid. (2024, April 15). Hoe de Spreidingswet werkt. Asielbeleid | Rijksoverheid.nl. <https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/onderwerpen/asielbeleid/aanpak-crisis-opvang-asielzoekers/spreidingswet>
- Refugee Support Aegean (2023, May 3). What is happening today in the refugee structures on the Aegean islands. R.S.A. <https://rsaegean.org/en/ccac-aegean-islands-greece/>
- The Carter Center. (n.d.). Syria Map | Exploring historical control in Syria. Retrieved May 30, 2024, from <https://www.cartercenter.org/news/multimedia/map/exploring-historical-control-in-syria.html>
- UNHCR. (2024a, May 22). Aegean Islands Weekly Snapshot 13 - 19 May. UNHCR Operational Data Portal (ODP). <https://data.unhcr.org/en/documents/details/108864>
- UNHCR. (2024b, 24 mei). Greece Sea arrivals Dashboard - March 2024. UNHCR Operational Data Portal (ODP). <https://data.unhcr.org/en/documents/details/108928>

Books:

- Jansen, L. (2021). Wij zagen een licht: berichten vanuit Lesbos. Thomas Rap.

- Hosseini, K. (2018). Sea prayer: The Sunday Times and New York Times Bestseller. Bloomsbury Publishing.

Documentaries:

- 69 minutes of 86 days. (2020, June 5). 2Doc.nl.
<https://www.2doc.nl/documentaires/2020/06/69-minutes-of-86-days.html>
- "The Mind Game." (2023, November 23). 2Doc.nl.
<https://www.2doc.nl/documentaires/2023/11/mind-game.html> Encyclopedia

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)?

Refugees are on a journey, they leave their home country and want to get to a new home, instead they arrive at a refugee camp. This journey forms the structure of the thesis and the transitional space as intervention area matches the studio topic. The investigation of multiple scales, from camp to Europe, and multiple domains, social, cultural and political, fits within the Urbanism track. This project addresses a complex real-world challenge, this aligns with the interdisciplinary nature of the AUBS master, combining knowledge of (landscape) architecture, urban planning and social sciences is required.

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

Studies on child friendly design are quite frequent, but in almost all cases applied to the city. Much less attention has been paid to child-friendly design in combination with the temporality of the refugee camp. Additionally, the role of play in fostering a sense of home remains understudied in existing research. This thesis aims to fill these research gaps. The research will provide insights into how the built environment can be designed to support the well-being and development of vulnerable populations, particularly children. This research integrates perspectives from various disciplines, including psychology, child development, urban planning, and humanitarian aid. This interdisciplinary approach contributes to a more comprehensive understanding of the challenges faced by refugee children and the potential solutions that can be implemented.

For the broader society this research may have a strong influence on humanitarian aid. This research can contribute to improving camp conditions and upholding fundamental human and child rights. As refugee flows are expected to increase due to political conflicts and climate disasters, creating temporary camps that cater to the needs of all ages, including children, gets more and more crucial. Ensuring that children have access to spaces where they can play, overcome traumas, and develop is of utmost importance, as they represent the future generation. Designing play spaces in these environments can help address the need for safety and a sense of belonging, thus improve the well-being of refugee children.

Secondly this exploration of safe play spaces can benefit children across all societies. As the need for safe play spaces is a fundamental requirement for all children, regardless of their circumstances. The findings gained from this research can inform the design and implementation of inclusive play spaces in different cultural and socioeconomic contexts, especially settings where children face challenges in

accessing play opportunities. This research promotes the creation of child-friendly environments.