

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	Ching Lee
Student number	
Telephone number	
Private e-mail address	

Studio		
Name / Theme	Explore Lab	
Main mentor	Roel van de Pas	Explore Lab
Second mentor	Pierre Jennen	Building Technology
Third mentor	Stavros Kousoulas	Architectural Theory
Argumentation of choice of the studio	My previous studios (Msc1 Interior Building Cities; Msc2 Theory Studio) led me to question the different understandings of "Interior and Exterior" relation. As an extension to further challenge the understanding towards 'territories', Explore Lab allows me the opportunity to conduct research that combine critical theories and philosophical studies. Hence, to explore how would this impact the way of architectural design. Particularly, to focus on the territorial relations between individuals and the built environment.	

Graduation project	
Title of the graduation project	The compression of infinite desire – the interior is the exterior; the exterior is the interior
Goal	
Location:	Boundary Street, Sham Shui Po, Hong Kong

<p>The posed problem,</p>	<p>According to the UN World Population Prospects 2019, Hong Kong ranked as the 4th with a population density of over 5,000 people per square kilometer. The city delivers the strong notion of “extreme density” with the necessity that the architecture should accommodate the infinite desire of different individuals within the built environment. Every individual’s desire remains as a unique territory that involves a series of actions and perceptions between the individual and the ‘common’ environment reciprocally. In a sense, we are desiring for an infinite optimization of our capacity and potentials within a limited space.</p> <p>With regards to the way of how we deal with spatial compression in Hong Kong nowadays, we tend to design high-rises buildings of a “generalized” typology that aims at maximizing the same type of functional contents with the least spaces required. (i.e. a high-rise residential block that accommodates more household units) However, this way only optimizes the capacity of the ‘spatial functions’ but not the capacity and potential of the individuals. Hence, the problem is, how could we design architecture that allows the negotiation of the diverse ‘territories of desire’ within the extremely dense and compressed landscape?</p>
<p>research questions and</p>	<p>How do we express the complex relations between the individuals and the environment as an assemblage of territories within the old neighborhood in Hong Kong?</p>
<p>design assignment in which these result.</p>	<p>With ‘Interior is the Exterior, Exterior is the Interior’ as the strategy, to design a ‘mix-uses’ building that does not merely compact diverse ‘functions’ within a building. Rather, each ‘function’ should be first broken down and understood as different elements (habits and experiences). Then, to explore a new form of compression through the different ways of how can we intermingle the different elements, which could optimize the capacity and potentials of the individuals.</p>
<p>[This should be formulated in such a way that the graduation project can answer these questions. The definition of the problem has to be significant to a clearly defined area of research and design.]</p>	

Process

Method description

- Literature studies to establish the theoretical framework.
- Survey and analyses particularly in Sham Shui Po district.
- Drawings and model making in later design stages.

Literature and general practical preference

- Deleuze, G. (1988). *Spinoza: Practical Philosophy*. City Lights Books..
- Deleuze, G., & Guattari, F. (1972). *Anti-Oedipus: Capitalism and schizophrenia*. Paris: Editions de Minut.
- Deleuze, G & Bacon, F. (1981). *The logic of sensation*. New York: Portmanteau Press.
- Deleuze, G. (1988). *The fold*. London: Continuum.
- Stiegler, B., & Lebedeva, K. (2013). The Theatre of Individuation: Phase-Shift and Resolution in Simondon and Heidegger. Gilbert Simondon, 185–201. doi: 10.3366/edinburgh/9780748677214.003.0012
- Jun, N. J & Smith, D. W. (2011). *Deleuze and ethics*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press.
- Meillassoux, Q. (2007). Subtraction and Contraction. *Philosophie*, 96(4), 67. doi: 10.3917/phil.096.0067

Architectural references (up to this moment)

- M.C Escher
- Corner houses along the Boundary Street in Sham Shui Po, Hong Kong

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)?

My graduation project focuses on the relation between the individuals and the built environment, particularly, to explore 'territories' in a different way. In relations to my master track and programme (MSc in Architecture), this provides me a great opportunity to relate the knowledge of architectural 'technology' and the experiential impacts towards the individuals. Rather than considering architecture as an autonomous object within an environment, it allows me to reflect and to apply knowledge of architectural sciences that defines new territorial relations between the architecture; the city and the people.

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

Relevance in the social framework:

The graduation work allows me to reflect the living modality of the people within the extremely dense and compressed landscape of Hong Kong. Particularly, to explore how 'new' social relations could be created within the neighbourhood through exploring how different territories could be negotiated within an extremely dense environment.

Relevance in the professional framework:

The graduation work leads me to think about the 'ethic' of our field. Especially after the background studies of how high-rise building nowadays in Hong Kong being design in an extremely dense environment, which aim at accommodating more units within a building without placing the users' experience as the first design priority. The project questions whether we should design and think from an "interior-outward" approach, that is, to begin our design from the experiences and the habits of the people.

Relevance in the scientific framework:

The graduation work provides me an opportunity to explore new form of 'spatial compression' with regards to building technology, rather than merely stacking high-rise buildings. (i.e. to explore how can we make use of the different material properties to articulate the 'interior-exterior' relations.)