

# Graduation Plan

Master of Science Architecture, Urbanism & Building Sciences

## Graduation Plan: All tracks

Submit your Graduation Plan to the Board of Examiners ([Examenscommissie-BK@tudelft.nl](mailto:Examenscommissie-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:

<b>Personal information</b>	
Name	Sven van Ooijen
Student number	5653339

<b>Studio</b>	
Name / Theme	DUF – Design of the Urban Fabric
Main mentor	Gerdy Verschuur
Second mentor	Leo van den Burg
Argumentation of choice of the studio	Interest in history and heritage within landscape architecture and interest in the social / human / biography theme within a design. Furthermore, the connection with urbanism seemed interesting to me as my first ideas I had were landscape architecture projects in the urban area / influencing the urban area.

<b>Graduation project</b>	
Title of the graduation project	Reviving Sarajevo's Olympic spirit – a design for the abandoned Olympic bobsleigh and luge track
<b>Goal</b>	
Location:	Sarajevo (Bosnia and Herzegovina) – Abandoned Olympic bobsleigh and luge track
The posed problem,	<p>Problem:</p> <p>In 1984, Sarajevo hosted the XIV Winter Olympic Games. Organizing the Olympics meant a lot for Sarajevo as a city, and for its citizens. It led to an intensive economic and social development, as well as massive expansion of Sarajevo.</p> <p>To host the games, Sarajevo built new sports venues and competition facilities. Furthermore, Sarajevo derived benefits from the Olympic accommodations and the various projects (RTV building, railway station, airport, etc.) related to the Olympics.</p>

	<p>The Winter Olympic Games brought people together, regardless of the type of social system they live in, regardless of their national, religious and racial group and their ideological and political beliefs. People were proud of Sarajevo, as center of the world, during the Olympics.</p> <p>Just 8 years later, the Bosnian war broke out. Sarajevo was besieged by Serbian forces for more than 3,5 years. The urban fabric of Sarajevo, including the Olympic facilities, was completely destroyed and damaged. Furthermore, people of different ethnic groups were opposed to each other. This was in shear contrast to the Olympic spirit.</p> <p>The Olympic spirit of Sarajevo is lost, the Olympics are overshadowed by the Bosnian war that happened shortly after.</p> <p><b>Opportunity:</b></p> <p>At the moment, most of the Olympic facilities and accommodations are renovated. One of the sport venues which still remains abandoned is the Olympic bobsleigh and luge track on Trebevic Mountain. The track is a symbol of Sarajevo, and a projection of the identified problem. The track played an important role in the two most significant events in Sarajevo's history, the Olympic Games and the Siege of Sarajevo. Currently, the remains of the Bosnian war overshadow the Olympic spirit at the track.</p> <p>I have decided that the starting point of my thesis will be a new/renovated bobsleigh and luge track.</p>
<p>research questions and</p>	<p><b>Main Research Question:</b> How can a design of a functional bobsleigh and luge track contribute to the revival of Sarajevo's Olympic spirit?</p> <p><b>Sub Research Questions:</b> <u>Design – Bobsleigh and luge track</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Which facilities are part of a functional bobsleigh and luge track?</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- How does the design of a functional bobsleigh and luge track connect to the complex history, and the social and landscape values of the abandoned Olympic bobsleigh and luge track?</li> <li>- What is the history, and what are the social and landscape values of the abandoned Olympic bobsleigh and luge track?</li> </ul> <p><u>Theory – Olympic spirit</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- What does the Olympic spirit of a city entail?</li> <li>- What does the Olympic spirit of Sarajevo entail, and how did this change over time?</li> <li>- What interventions are possible to revive Sarajevo's Olympic spirit?</li> </ul>
design assignment in which these result.	<p>Answering the previous questions will lead to the following design assignment:</p> <p>A design of a functional bobsleigh and luge track, with all associated facilities, that contributes to the revival of Sarajevo's Olympic spirit.</p> <p>The design must meet the following requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The design should comply with the schedule of requirements of current bobsleigh and luge tracks.</li> <li>- The complete design, the track and its associated facilities, should be able to be used throughout the whole year, by several groups of people.</li> <li>- The design should connect with the complex history, and the social and landscape values of the design location (the abandoned bobsleigh and luge track).</li> </ul>

## Process

### Method description

The main research question: 'How can a design of a functional bobsleigh and luge track contribute to the revival of Sarajevo's Olympic spirit?' is largely made up by two

parts. The first part is the design of a functional bobsleigh and luge track (Sub Research Questions 1 – 2.1). The second part is Sarajevo's Olympic spirit (Sub Research Questions 3 – 4).

*Sub Research Question 1: Which facilities are part of a functional bobsleigh and luge track?*

The main goal of the first research question is to create a schedule of requirements of current bobsleigh and luge tracks. A design of a functional bobsleigh and luge track is more than the layout of the track. The associated facilities, later incorporated in the design, lead to a landscape architectural project. The main research methods belonging to this sub-question are **literature study** and the **analysis of reference projects**.

*Sub Research Question 2: How does the design of a functional bobsleigh and luge track connect to the complex history, and the social and landscape values of the abandoned Olympic bobsleigh and luge track?*

For the second research question, the main goal is the implementation of the results of Sub Research Question 1 on-site. The main research method is **research through design**. The designs will be tested by design explorations, maps and visualizations. To answer this research question, it is important to know what the history, and the social and landscape values of the site are.

*Sub Research Question 2.1: What is the history, and what are the social and landscape values of the abandoned Olympic bobsleigh and luge track?*

This research question is part of the previous question. The main goal is to create a clear analysis of the history, and the social and landscape values of the abandoned Olympic bobsleigh and luge track. The results to this question influence the design explorations of Sub Research Question 2. The main research methods are a **site visit, literature study, mapping and interviews**.

*Sub Research Question 3 & 3.1: What does the Olympic spirit of a city entail? & What does the Olympic spirit of Sarajevo entail, and how did this change over time?*

The main goal of these research questions is to explain what the term 'Olympic spirit' means, in general and especially for Sarajevo. It is important to first look into the general meaning of Olympic spirit, to be able to know what is specifically part of Sarajevo's Olympic spirit. **Literature study, interviews and mapping** are the main research methods.

*Sub Research Question 4: What interventions are possible to revive Sarajevo's Olympic spirit?*

For the fourth research question, the main goal is to create a toolbox of possible interventions to revive Sarajevo's Olympic spirit. This would translate theory about

Olympic spirits into possible design interventions. The main research are **analysis of reference projects, and research through design**.

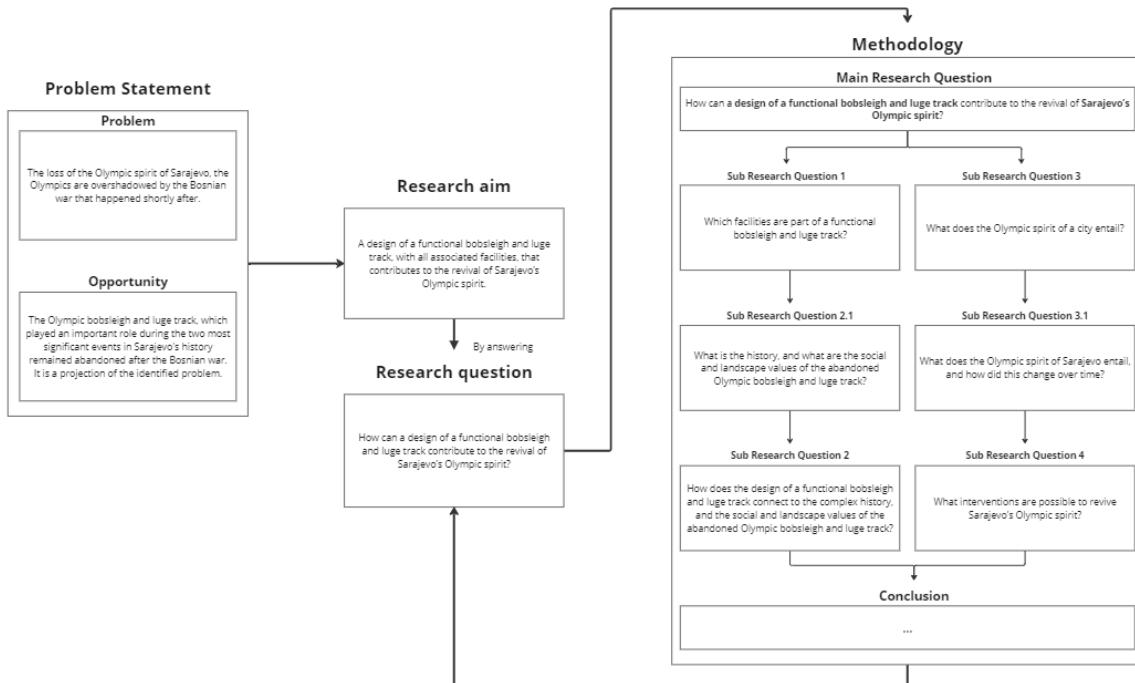


Figure 1: Thesis structure

## 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)?

The topic of the studio (Design of the Urban Fabric), is heritage and human biographies in the urban environment. My graduation project relates to my studio because the Olympic bobsleigh and luge track played an important role in the two most significant events in Sarajevo's history, the XIV Winter Olympic Games and the Siege of Sarajevo. Therefore, the track contains a complex and two-sided history. The track is located just outside the city of Sarajevo, but it definitely belongs to its urban fabric as the track played and still plays an important role for Sarajevo and its citizens.

My graduation project contains civil engineering (bobsleigh and luge track), architecture (facilities associated with the track), but mostly landscape architecture. The parts of civil engineering and architecture will remain sketches in the graduation project, because my task as landscape architect is the implementation of the track and the facilities at the location.

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

It is important to write about the Olympic spirit, especially from the Winter Olympic Games, because there are few publications written about it. With the current trends of the Winter Olympics, in which organizing the Games is seen as an opportunity to broadcast your city to the world instead of organizing the largest sport event, it is important to remember people about the Olympic spirit.

Furthermore, my graduation work will write about how a design could help cities / locations overcome negative experiences. In the world, there are a lot of cities in which terrible events took place.