

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	Iulia Popescu
Student number	5621836

Studio		
Name / Theme	Borders & Territories – Transient Liquidities along the New Silk Road II	
Main mentor	Filip Geerts Oscar Rommens	Architecture Studio Design
Second mentor	Gilbert Koskamp	Architecture, Engineering, and Technology
Argumentation of choice of the studio	The choice of the studio was favored for the freedom that the brief offered for the research topic as well as for the focus on understating the larger socio-political context of the in-between spaces. These characteristics of the studio create a suitable environment for the development of a project that is aware of its context and has ramifications on a larger scale.	

Graduation project	
Title of the graduation project	Tension dispersion The buffer zone between port and city
Goal	
Location:	Vicinity of Tuzla shipyard, Istanbul, Turkey
The posed problem	Interstitial space between the city and port/shipyard in the context of the rapid urban development that generally pushes the industry further outside
research questions and	What kind of spaces exists between the port/shipyard and the city? What is the character of the edges of these spaces? How can one intervene in this context, to inscribe within the leftover space in order to prevent a further push of the industrial area outside of the city again?
design assignment in which these results.	Within an area that presents edges with very different characteristics, surveilled and controlled to various extents, the proposal will focus on designing an intervention that will exercise control over the user through the

	<p>qualities and through the use of the designed space.</p> <p>In addition, because the site presents the zone of the lagoon where an environmental regeneration was attempted, my proposal will make use of the new "nature" that has been designed.</p> <p>Considering these characteristics, as a function of the building I propose a sanatorium, a place fully controlled, where the human is contained, and removed from his usual environment.</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.]

Process

Method description

As a starting point for this project, a collective mapping exercise was used in order to establish the qualities of the land and landscape. Defined by sitting on top of a fault line, Istanbul is always prone to seismic activity. This kind of pressure that keeps on building underground can only be released through an earthquake. Therefore, what is generally understood as a destructive event, in this instance will be seen as a release that sets off a ripple effect.

Secondly, a theoretical framework was established to outline the relationship between power and sex based on Foucault and Beatrice Colomina's work. Throughout the history of humanity, sex became a tool of societal control. To spatialize the concept, sex is studied and understood through the space of the brothel. In the context of Istanbul, these establishments used to be located between the port and the urban fabric. This juxtaposition of this pleasure space generated tensions socially, morally, and religiously. Within Turkish society, sex was and still is in great part a taboo subject that shall be concealed by closed doors. The existence of the brothel is acknowledged in silence. Interesting qualities of these establishments are the ability to inscribe themselves within the urban fabric and the resilience of practice despite attempts of stopping them.

Finally, analyzing the site area and the systems surrounding and governing it through multiple site visits and drawings provided a clearer image of the reality of the space and the condition that the proposal should work with. The site is understood as an interstitial space between a shipyard and the city, next to a recently regenerated saltwater lagoon, bordering the edge of a concrete factory and a water treatment plant, in the vicinity of a residential area.

Literature and general practical preference

Theory research bibliography:

- Buxton, Pamela. "Spaces of Desire." *RIBA J*. Accessed November 28, 2022. <https://www.ribaj.com/culture/spaces-of-desire>.
- Eraydin, Ayda. "Changing Istanbul City Region Dynamics: Re-Regulations to Challenge the Consequences of Uneven Development and Inequality." *European Planning Studies* 19, no. 5 (2011): 813–37. doi:10.1080/09654313.2011.561038.
- Foucault, Michel, Asked by xongile v #1253776 Answered by jill d #170087 on 9/4/2022 9:17 PM, xongile v #1253776, Asked by xongile v #1253776 Answered by Aslanon 9/4/2022 6:56 PM, Asked by Sheker H #1157002 Answered by Aslanon 6/5/2021 5:04 PM, and Sheker H #1157002. "The History of Sexuality, Vol. 1 Part 2, Chapter 1: The Incitement to Discourse Summary and Analysis." *GradeSaver*. Accessed November 28, 2022. <https://www.gradesaver.com/the-history-of-sexuality-vol-1/study-guide/summary-part-2-chapter-1-the-incitement-to-discourse>.
- Lee, Robert. "The Socio-Economic and Demographic Characteristics of Port Cities: A Typology for Comparative Analysis?" *Urban History* 25, no. 2 (1998): 147–72. doi:10.1017/s096392680000078x.
- "Michel Foucault: Feminism." *Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy*. Accessed November 18, 2022. <https://iep.utm.edu/foucufem/>.
- Moretti, Beatrice. *Beyond the Port City: The Condition of Portuality and the Threshold Concept*. Berlin: Jovis Verlag GmbH, 2020.
- Morris, Meaghan, Laura Mulvey, Beatriz Colomina, Patricia White, Jennifer Bloomer, Lynn Spigel, Victor Burgin, et al. *Sexuality and Space*. New York (US): Princeton Architectural Press, 1996.
- Pluskota, Marion. "Prostitution and Social Control in Eighteenth-Century Ports," 2018. doi:10.4324/9781315109626.
- "Print; Book-Illustration: British Museum." *The British Museum*. Accessed November 28, 2022. https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/P_1914-0214-217.
- Said, Edward W. *Orientalism*. London: Penguin Books, 2019.
- Whiteman, John. "Divisible by 2 ." *Jstor*, 1988. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/3171075>.

Design research bibliography:

- Betsky, Aaron. *Queer Space: Architecture and Same-Sex Desire*. 1. Ed.ed. New York: William Morrow & Co., 1997.
- Douglas, Mary. *Purity and Danger: An Analysis of Concepts of Pollution and Taboo*. London: Routledge, 2007.
- Eliot, T.S. *Waste Land*. S.I.: MINT EDITIONS, 2021.
- Harris, Marvin. *Cultural Materialism: The Struggle for a Science of Culture*. New York: Random House, 1980.
- Ring, Annie, Henriette Steiner, and Kristin Veel, eds. *Architecture and Control*. Architectural Intelligences, Volume 1. INSERT-MISSING-SERVICE-NAME. Leiden: Brill,

2018.<https://ebookcentral-proquest-com.tudelft.idm.oclc.org/lib/delft/reader.action?docID=5265004>.

- Spencer, Douglas. The Architecture of Neoliberalism : How Contemporary Architecture Became an Instrument of Control and Compliance. Online Access with Dda: Askews (Architecture). INSERT-MISSING-SERVICE-NAME. New York: Bloomsbury Academic, 2016. INSERT-MISSING-URL.

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 studio aims to understand architecture and spatial intervention in a larger socio-political context. With a particular focus on the in-between area/transition/border space of the Marmara Sea, the architectural design emerging from this can only be deeply rooted in the current realities of this space: an everchanging, growing, testing ground for speculation. Taking this into consideration, my proposal aims to situate itself within the "organism" of Istanbul, understand its growth patterns and attempt to intervene in a moment and in a space where the edge of the city still has not touched the edge of the port. The buffer between the two entities is important for the industry's preservation, which otherwise would be pushed outside to a different area, possibly having a negative environmental and social impact on the new zone it would move to.

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

My graduation proposal project focuses mostly on understanding the extent of social control that a designed space can exercise on the user. In addition, it serves as a commentary on the current society that we live in, always watched and monitored, congested in chaotic cities that keep growing haphazardly to accommodate more and more inhabitants.