

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	[Xiaoyue Shi]
Student number	[5095654]

Studio	
Name / Theme	[Urban Architecture / Bricolage]
Main mentor	[Prof. Paul Vermeulen] [Architecture]
Second mentor	[Jelke Fokkinga] [Building Technology]
Third mentor	[Dr. Leeke Reinders] [Research]
Argumentation of choice of the studio	[The main topic of this studio is bricolage, which is always related with the story of Robinson. When we talk about this topic, one can not help himself to consider it as an opposite of modernism. Is it true that bricolage is just an antonym of modernism? If not, what is the relation between modernism and bricolage? Further more, in such a high-tech time, when human start trying to export brain thoughts to computer and the whole world looks like being virtual step by step, we may ask what is the meaning of recalling the concept of bricolage. To answer those questions and reflect the meaning of modernism architecture, I chose this studio.]

Graduation project	
Title of the graduation project	[A Perceivable Complex for Public and Collective Life]
Goal	
Location:	[Nijmegen, Netherlands]
The posed problem,	[As most modernist architectures, Molenpoort focuses too much on the human visual experience while ignoring the other senses. As a result, despite its location in a transitional area of the city between a commercial street and a residential area, it is unable to exert the appeal it deserves. The concept is to demolish the Molenpoort and introduce collective and public programs, and to integrate materials, modulator and spatial

	atmosphere into a system that makes the building not just an object to be seen, but a container for memories and emotions.]
research questions and	<p>[What kind of role the perception play during the process of recognizing spaces?</p> <p>For different privacy levels of spaces, what are the differences in our requirements for their spatial perception?</p> <p>How designer’s perception works on users?]</p>
design assignment in which these result.	[The main assignment of design is to investigate the relationship between human sensation and the spatial quality. No matter what kind of space can be perceived by the user, but which perceptions are the ones that make us feel beautiful and create good memories, and how they are linked to materials and space. In the original building, perceptions were discontinuous. How can we experience a continuous perceptual space in a new building? In total, it is how to make architecture more involved in people's lives, rather than just a functional shell.]
<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	
<p>[The first research question is more relevant to the theory of phenomenology. By answering this question, I can get a clearer idea of the extent to which perception can intervene in the design process. I plan to answer this question by reading the literature.</p> <p>The second and third questions are more relevant to specific designs and need to be answered through specific program and spatial studies. My methods is mainly based</p>	

on the study of human' s perception of space, and follow the perception process of Eye-Hand-Heart.

Hand: The sense of touch is not just about the surface of the material, it is also the process by which we become aware of the outside world. Man is the measure of all things. Modulus therefore plays an important role in the way we perceive space. I plan to work on a modal system that can be applied to the whole project. In this modal system, private, collective and public spaces correspond to different scales and therefore bring different spatial experiences to people. The type of the materials, colours and so on are also incorporated into the system. The system is therefore not just a collection of math numbers, but is more about the human perception.

Eye: The study of vision has two aspects, perspective and light.

Perspective is about what we see and can therefore be reflected in the study of architectural planes. In this part I intend to make research on several planes (the specific cases have not yet been decided) and place them in the project in a collage way, to test the spatial perspective of the different planes and to determine the final plan.

For the study of light, I plan to make models to test the effect of different light atmospheres. Then take photos to compare.

Heart: For the evocation of a collective memory, I plan to focus on how to use the structures left over from the old building. The original concrete columns of the Molenpoort have their own modular system, if they are kept, how can they coordinate with the new modular system?

At the same time, the site has a deep history, such as the bombings of World War II and the former church guest house, and whether their form and program can influence the new building will also be a point of consideration.]

Literature and general practical preference

[Zumthor, Peter. Thinking architecture. Lars Müller, 1998.

Zumthor, Peter. Atmospheres: Architectural Environments. Surrounding Objects. Birkhäuser, 2006.

Pallasmaa, Juhani. The thinking hand: Existential and embodied wisdom in architecture. Chichester: Wiley, 2009.

Pallasmaa, Juhani. The eyes of the skin: Architecture and the senses. John Wiley & Sons, 2012.

Pallasmaa, Juhani. The embodied image: Imagination and imagery in architecture. John Wiley & Sons, 2011.

Merleau-Ponty, Maurice, and Michael B. Smith. The Merleau-Ponty aesthetics reader: Philosophy and painting. Northwestern University Press, 1993.

Lvi-Strauss, Claude. The savage mind. University of Chicago Press, 1966.]

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)?

Speaking of Bricolage(our studio topic), the first thing people will consider is using old materials. But it is also a process that bricoleurs use their sensors to finish their work. They are designers, users as well. As a reflection thinking to modernism, bricolage also criticizes the people's isolation of real world. So recalling people's sensors again in building is another side of bricolage, which is my project topic as well.

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

Modernism is the main voice in this world right now, but it also takes a lot of problems. New buildings are just like the machine for people to shopping and working, in which we lost our perceptions and ourselves. So study how to relate space and perception is quite valuable. Also this topic belongs to phenomenology. It is the concrete expression of phenomenology in architecture.