

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	Paraskevi Vryza (Graduation project in collaboration with Daiana Mario Ristanova)
Student number	4817109
Telephone number	
Private e-mail address	

Studio		
Name / Theme	Urban Architecture: Spolia	
Main mentor	Paul Vermeulen	Architecture
Second mentor	Aurelie Hachez	Architecture
Argumentation of choice of the studio	My previous studios were complex projects and heritage. Urban architecture seemed to be the perfect combination of the two. It is a studio that deals with the complexity of urban contexts but at the same time with appropriate interventions to existing surroundings at a human scale. It places focus on social, cultural and economic issues within cities but also on surviving traces and values of the past without however limiting my freedom to design. In addition to the above, the studio's interest in materiality and the archaeological term of 'spolia' further intrigue and inspire me along the creative process of designing liveable environments.	

Graduation project	
Title of the graduation project	Between production and community
Goal	
Location:	Anderlecht, Brussels, Belgium
The posed problem,	Brussels is a city of fragments. This characterization is not only given in terms of its physical fabric but also in the social reality of the city. Apart from the distinct character this fragmentation attributes, there are also some negative outcomes that are mirrored in society and include the segregation of the different nationalities, the lack of interaction between them but also sometimes the lack of integration to the Belgian reality. The high crime rate in Anderlecht is also a problem for residents who claim that they feel unsafe especially during nighttime. Further problems include the lack of

	adequate housing and employment, problems that are intensified with the continuous influx of newcomers in the area.
research questions and	<p>How can we enhance the interaction between different social groups with an urban regeneration? (public square)</p> <p>How can we create a stronger sense of community that promotes the interaction and promotion of different cultures but at the same time aids their integration to the Belgian reality? (community centre)</p> <p>How can we develop a new model of working and living, activities that have had a close interaction through history and which should be the boundaries between the two activities in terms of privacy? (working and living development)</p> <p>How can we enhance the feeling of a community through the design of residential developments? (working and living development)</p> <p>How can the transition from the city to the individual dwelling be articulated in space? (working and living development)</p>
design assignment in which these result.	<p>Our eagerness to address a wide range of problems identified in the area as well as the size of our site urged us to collaborate in developing a project of a significant size in a team of two. In this way we are aiming to develop a more complete and coherent outcome.</p> <p>The project will be comprised of the landscape design of a square (team work) and the four buildings surrounding it, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a community centre (new building – Daiana Mario Ristanova) - a working-living development (new building – Paraskevi Vryza) - the renovation of the ground floor of an existing residential tower and connection to the square (team work) - the renovation of a part of an existing industrial building facing the square (team work)
<p>The goal of the design of the square will be to provide Anderlecht with a public space with natural surveillance, a place where local residents and workers interact in an attempt of building a community. (team work)</p> <p>The community centre will enable locals to engage with group activities such as dancing, arts and crafts making and learning languages. The appreciation of different cultures through these activities will be key. Furthermore study spaces, a library and a lecture room/performance space will also be provided. (Daiana Mario Ristanova)</p> <p>The working and living development will create new jobs and dwellings and will enable a direct connection to the square. The goal for this design is for the two uses to coexist and moderately interact to provide the needed privacy, as does the existing</p>	

successful model of the typical row house of Brussels. (Paraskevi Vryza)
The other two facades of the square will adopt a public character in order to attract locals. (team work)

Process

Method description

- Analysis (architectural: site and urban context, anthropological)
- Case studies analysis (program and form)
- Literature consultation and study
- Model making
- Diagramming/ sketching/ test drawing (different scales)
- 3d modeling

Literature and general practical preference

- <http://urbisdownload.gis.irisnet.be/> maps
- <http://statistics.brussels/figures/key-figures-by-municipality/anderlecht> statistics about the Anderlecht municipality

General Research:

- Hannerz, Ulf, *Transnational Connections: Culture, People, Places*, Edited by: Routledge, 1996
- Whyte, William, *The Social Life of Small Urban Spaces*, Edited by Project for Public Spaces Inc, 1980
- Lofland, Lyn, *The Public Realm: exploring the city's quintessential social territory*, Edited by Rutledge, 1998
- Sennett, Richard, *Building and Dwelling: Ethics for the City*, Edited by Farrar Straus & Giroux, 2018
- Gehl, Jan. 1971. *Life Between Buildings*. Washington, DC: Island Press.
- Newmam, Oscar. 1978. *Defensible Space*. New York: Collier Books.
- Jacobs, Jane. 1961. *Death and life of great American cities*. [S.l.]: Random House, New York.
- Bobic, Milos. 2004. *Between the Edges*. Bussum: THOTH Publishers Bussum.

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)?

This graduation project seeks to improve the integration and interaction opportunities through a network of public and private spaces. The hierarchy of these spaces is key for the potential activity or inactivity of an area. With the current social problems of Anderlecht including the feeling of insecurity, stressed by many inhabitants, the quality of the public life is questionable. Therefore in line with our studio's urban focus in this project we want to address the problems of the current reality, as bricoleurs, to add new fragments and carefully sew them together in the urban surroundings. I believe that the structure of the studio that

deals with existing social problems and shifts from the anthropological study and human perspective gradually to the architectural and technical articulation of the project, will be a fruitful experience that will equip us with valuable knowledge and prepare us for our future occupation as architects.

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

The physical articulation of the city is a result of the accumulation of societal elements and changes over time. In reverse society and governments themselves place focus on the role of urban design as powerful equipment, capable of provoking change. In our project we are underlining the significance of the public realm in the process of building a community. The transition from the public to the private and the creation of common spaces that promote interaction between inhabitants will be key elements in the design. Upon visiting the area and interviewing inhabitants we have come to understand the importance of the role of the architect in today's society. Using the power of design to create liveable environments for all is key.