

Graduation Plan

Master of Science Architecture, Urbanism & Building Sciences



Graduation Plan: All tracks

Submit your Graduation Plan to the Board of Examiners (Examcommissie-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	Johannes Alexander Hessels
Student number	5002435

Studio	
Name / Theme	Advanced Housing Design - Ecology of Inclusion
Main mentor	Olv Klijn Practitioning architect
Second mentor	Anne Kockelkorn Architectural historian & theorist
Argumentation of choice of the studio	I always saw myself as somewhat a modest person. Never had a wish to create star architecture or expensive villa's. Not that it would be prestigious and challenging, but mostly because I think of the everyday life of everyday people. Wanting to design fair dwellings for different people that could really call their place "home". I can probably already forget about having a place for myself in the near future, looking at the state of the housing market at this time. It's not that I will probably solve this problem, but I could maybe play a role in a solution being an architect(student). And this Advanced Housing Design Graduation Studio helps me explore possible solutions I never even heard of, like for example the Cooperative housing design.

Graduation project	
Title of the graduation project	Equilibrium
Goal	
Location:	Rotterdam, Blijdorp
The posed problem,	Finding a balance between different household types & social groups and species (in an existing building) while avoiding conflict.
research questions and	How can architecture and housing design support a balanced inclusive cohabitation of species and humans of different household types and social groups?

design assignment in which these result.

Restructuring of an existing building

The goal is to realise a design that transforms an existing building of repetitive dwellings into a contemporary establishment that fits the habitational needs of different household types, social groups and species. Finding out how the new differing target groups could take advantage of an existing building.

The aim of the design is to find cohabitational equilibrium in the urban context. Where a fair distribution of habitation space could ensure a thriving and close neighbourhood. A place where different households can find their needed habitat for their specific moment in life.

Process

Method description

The research focuses mainly on how cohabitation between different users could thrive and what architectural interventions could aid in this. So the research begins with a theoretical framework while slowly looking into the possible practical applications.

While for the design the most important challenge is to realise the researched cohabitational needs into an existing structure. Designing and integrating a system that could be used for both expanding and for enhancing the existing structure.

Literature and general practical preference

An important theory that led to this specific research is the one by Erik Swyngedouw about the urban political ecology. Swyngedouw argues that struggles of urbanising nature is more than a technological and engineering problem (the physical aspect of it). The political meaning of nature is of equal importance (the social aspect), if sustainability is to be combined with a just and empowering urban development benefiting all inhabitants.

So in this project design using the existing building (something that is there already) is the (sustainable) physical aspect, while creating a fair and balanced cohabitation can be seen as the social aspect.

Reflection

1. The relation between the graduation project, the studio topic and master program can be explained quite literally:

The Equilibrium project is an advanced inclusive housing design aided by architectural interventions.

2. This urban development could be adapted in other existing areas or neighbourhoods in Rotterdam (or other urban areas) that mainly consist of one household type or social group. A development that could change a monotonous and isolated neighbourhood into a close community of different social groups and household types.