

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	
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Studio	
Name / Theme	Complex Cities
Teachers / tutors	Lei QU, Luisa M. CALABRESE
Argumentation of choice of the studio	This project tackle the "urban village" phenomena, involving different social groups and the changing economic-social-cultural configuration. And the issue is discussed under the context of China's fast development which makes it a complex issue. The Complex Cities Studio is in line with the interests of the thesis. Besides, the framework of the studio not only enable an open discussion on the spatial strategy on large scale from various aspects, but also emphasis the role of design on different scale, which fits my personal interests.

Graduation project	
Title of the graduation project	Enhance The Profound Vitality Of Urban Villages
Goal	
Location:	Shenzhen, China
The posed problem,	Urban villages in Dalang, located in periphery of Shenzhen, are lively areas with high density population, vibrant and flexible small business, and contribute to the prosperity of manufacturing industry by providing low-rent housing and services to migrant workers, However, The single and low-end manufacturing industry has resulted in the gathering for mono social group with low-incomes, which led to inconsistent intensity of space usages and limited the economic diversity in a

	<p>certain range. And lack of social space has suppressed the intensity and diversity of social activities, and thus hinder the profound social vitality. Besides, the dual-landownership system has made urban villages comparatively closed system with weak connection and low intensity exchange(of goods, people, energy and information) with the whole city, limiting the service scope and social group diversity. All together resulted in the absent of profound vitality of urban villages in Dalang.</p>
<p>research questions and</p>	<p>How to enhance profound vitality of urban villages in Dalang through self-organized spatial transformation? Sub-research Questions Q1. What is the emerging economy and what are the spatial strategies that could promote the diversity of economy in urban villages? Q2. What spatial strategy could enhance the quality and quantity of public space in urban villages so as to facilitate the intensity and vitality of social activities? Q3. How to establish functional relationship between urban villages and the whole district to promote the social-spatial integration? Q4. What is the self-organization mechanism that can support the mentioned above in urban villages?</p>
<p>design assignment in which these result.</p>	<p>Final products are to come up with progressive strategies which construct frameworks to enhance the profound vitality of urban villages including proposals to facilitate the accessibility and permeability between different urban villages and inside urban villages, and toolbox to guild the spatial transformation. The design proposal is to pick one village as an example to apply the strategy and do the spatial transformation to get different scenarios in response to the uncertain future while satisfying the needs and demands of residential groups.</p>

Process

Method description

The following methods are used as tools in approaching the research questions,

1. Literature Review: Literature review is significant in attaining knowledges and relevant theories. The definition of the key concepts like urban vitality, urban villages and self-organization, as well as the approach to these abstract concepts, rely on the analysis and summary of the published articles. And reviewing the theories not only helps to clarify the relationship between key issues, such as the link between informality, small business and economic vitality in Q3, the perspective to facilitate integrations in Q1, and the principals on successful public space in Q2, but also contributes to the theoretical framework.

2. Mapping: Mapping is used to visualize the various spatial relations of the focus area and it is used to map the current conditions served as base materials for further analysis and diagnosis. Mapping the qualities and quantities of economic spaces helps to the answer of Q3 in relation to the economic structure and status of urban villages on different scales. Highlighting the different spatial network systems makes it clear to discuss the integration between the focus area and surroundings as response to Q1. And the mapping land use pattern and human activities enable analysis of the spatial structure of urban villages that related to Q2.

3.Site Visit: Site visit includes observation and interview, which is a way to obtain first hand materials and personal experience of the site. Empirical study leads to a real experience which helps to understand all the questions in a non-pseudo environment. The observation can provide subtle but complete information that are not mentioned in the summarized articles or selected images. The photos that are taken can not only be used as evidence to support the problem analysis and context analysis, but also serve to the site analysis as supplement materials to make the story readable. Besides, interviewing the locals helps to find problems and explain the land use pattern, which related to Q2 on the inner structure of urban villages. And the interview with local experts and officers enable fast attainment of the current redevelopment models and latest policies, which is key to Q4.

4.Stakeholder Analysis: Stakeholder analysis is significant to the thesis because of the complex land ownership and social groups. This tool is used to analyze the different interests of various stakeholders so as to balance the interests of different participants and find potentials to generate new possibilities that make the plan feasible. And it also contributes to the self-organization mechanism of urban villages which is the issue of Q4.

5.Case Study:Case studies are important to find relevant solutions and inspirations. It

is used to get the experience and discipline from the examples that functioned well and inspiring. The wanted cases involve from the informal economy and economic diversity, socio-spatial integration, spatial reorganization in high density area, to self-organized spatial transformation, in response to the sub questions.

Literature and general practical preference

Two sets of theories will be addressed: theory of urban vitality and theory of self-organization system. Urban vitality theory will deal with the spatial quality that are wanted. It involves the theories of J.Jacobs, J.Gehl, J.Montgomery and so on which bridges the human activities to the space. And, the self-organization theory deals with the complexity of "urban village".

Reflection

Relevance

Academic relevance

This research focuses on the "urban villages" issue, a phenomenon under the influence of China's fast urbanization. Considered as one study case of informal settlement, it attracts wide attention for its high density but heterogeneous forms. In a board sense, this research belongs to the scope of "informal settlement". The discussion on spatial morphology of urban village and human activities contribute to a full appreciation of urban vitality. And the study on the function and contribution of urban villages to the city helps to understand the roles of informal settlement on different scales. In addition, the principles, strategies and methods that applied to the transformation of urban villages can be seen not only as alternative approach and response to tackle the "spatial fragmentation", but also as exploration on the high efficiency of land utilization while attaining diversity. Besides, the review on current redevelopment models and research on self-organization mechanism criticize the current planning system and seek for alternative redevelopment approach.

Societal relevance

"Urban village" is not only spatial phenomenon but also serious social issue, since the majority of inhabitants in urban villages is "floating population" who is considered as one of the most vulnerable social groups being neglect in the economic society. First, this research tackled the social issue of "floating population" with their socio-economic status and living quality. And the alternative redevelopment approach is trying to take their needs and interests, which have been ignored in the current situation, into account, so as to benefit and balance different interests of various stakeholders to avoid social injustice in the process of city redevelopment. Another

social issue this research tackled is “social segregation” which is closely related to the socio-economic structure and relationship. The function-related spatial network established on city scale and the spatial reorganization on small scale aim to promote social integration in deep structure, which is a challenge that all migrant cities has to face.

Time planning

