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	(Kristen) Katarzyna Krystyna Delis
Student number	4669576

Studio		
Name / Theme	AR3AH105 Graduation Heritage (2022/23 Q3)	Studio Adapting 20th Century
Main mentor	Lidy Meijers	Heritage
Second mentor	Federica Marulo	Herigate
Argumentation of choice of the studio	As a designer and future architect, I aspire to be somebody who contributes to a better world. For me to learn how to become this type of designer, it is important to learn how to deal with existing buildings and the value they have for people. By redesigning buildings in such a way that they serve their communities better and at the same time keep and enhance the value they have, the building can function better and help people and communities thrive. Therefore I wanted to focus my graduation in this area to learn as much as I can on this topic.	

Graduation project				
Title of the graduation project	The Elderly In a Post-War Shopping Mall			
Goal				
Location:	Leyweg 709, 2545 GM Den Haag (shopping centre Leyweg in the Hague)			
The posed problem,	First, it is important to mention the fact that the Netherlands (just like the rest of the world) deals with a growing population of the elderly, therefore it is important to take them into account when designing buildings. There are 3 problems that can be mentioned when talking about the elderly and the modern mall. First, the general problem of social isolation of the elderly may result in the elderly gathering in places such as the mall. However, when they do they can			

research questions and	create some annoyance for people, which is why they get labelled hangouderen . (This is a Dutch word that means the elderly that are hanging around) Second, the elderly encounter problems with mobility when getting older. This has an impact on shopping. It takes more effort to walk or travel to the shopping centre and is getting more difficult to carry the bought product home. Third, the shopping habit of the elderly is different from younger people. The elderly usually have already most products they might need, so the shops they shop in are mostly food, health and personal hygiene oriented. This combined with the fact that the population elderly is growing, the way shopping centres work now, might need to change. Main research question; 'How will the needs of the growing population of elderly in The Netherlands influence the design of the post-war shopping mall and the value it has for the neighbourhood?' Sub-questions; 1. How does aging influence people? 2. What are the needs of the elderly in a neighbourhood shopping mall	
	 and its surroundings? 3. Which of the needs of the elderly are currently implemented in the neighbourhood shopping mall? 4. What is the value of the post-war shopping mall for the neighbourhood? 	
design assignment in which these result.	The aim is to design a neighbourhood shopping mall that is a place where the elderly feel comfortable and therefore has a positive impact on their mental and physical well-being and a place that allows the elderly to interact with each other as well as with the neighbourhood.	
[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.]		



The research consists of two topics of interest, the needs of the elderly and the value of the shopping mall. First, it is important to know what it means to be elderly and understand how ageing affects a person.

Then the needs of the elderly are researched by looking through 3 lenses of expertise. First, the lens of the academic through doing a literature study. Second the lens of the designer through doing a case study into the design of the elderly. And last the lens of the elderly themselves by doing interviews in two shopping malls that are chosen to be research cases, Leyweg in the Hague and the Bogaard in Rijswijk.

The aim was to use the findings gathered through the 3 lenses to make an assessment of the implemented needs in the two research cases. However, this has proven to be more difficult than originally thought.

For the research on the topic of the value of the shopping mall methods as literature study, archival research and interviews have been chosen.



These are the main theories and literature used or intended to be used during the research. This is however not a complete list of the used literature.

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)?

My graduation topic is a target group of the shopping mall. The elderly (project topic) use the shopping mall often and have seen it change through the year, this makes them an interesting target group within the topic of the heritage of the modern mall (studio topic.) The elderly are also a relevant topic within the architecture (master track) due to the growing population of the elderly. Within the architecture, the focus on the elderly as a target group will happen more often and therefore it is important to understand this target group better. This makes it also an important topic within the built environment (master programme).

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

As explained in the problem statement, the demographics in the world are changing. Therefore as a designer, it is important to focus on the elderly as a target group. However, to do this properly, research needs to be done so that the needs and wishes of the elderly are better known. This makes it important within the professional and scientific framework. On top of that, I think that we also have a social obligation to make the elderly feel included in the designs and include them in society.