Graduation Plan: All tracks

Submit your Graduation Plan to the Board of Examiners ([Examencommissie-BK@tudelft.nl](mailto: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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Personal information</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Name</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Student number</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Telephone number</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Private e-mail address</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Studio</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Name / Theme</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Teachers / tutors</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Argumentation of choice of the studio</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Graduation project</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Title of the graduation project</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Goal</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Location:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>The posed problem,</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
natural processes, essential for the system’s equilibrium, to unfold.

At the same time, Kifissos avenue is a very important element of Athens mobility network and transportation infrastructure. Removing the highway would very likely cause serious congestion problems in other parts of the city.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>research questions and design assignment in which these result.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1) How could the situation of little or no interaction between the river, the highway and the city be redefined?  
  a) How can we design a hybrid identity between the river and the highway?  
  b) What kind of design tools could be used to create hybrid experimental typologies between the river and the highway?  
  c) What kind of design is needed to bring the natural, the highway and the city dynamics into co-existence?  
  2) What are the elements of a natural river system that can help us revitalize an urban river?  
  a) Can natural processes help us form a conceptual framework to deal with the complexities of the contemporary urban situation?  
  b) Are there intermediate ways to bring back the river’s presence into the life of the city?  
  c) How could a long-term design process create the conditions that would gradually bring back the essential dynamics of the river, contributing to the system’s equilibrium? |
| 1. Testing how natural processes can work as concepts on a large scale, including the whole length of the river |
2. Testing experimental hybrid typologies in different segments of the river-highway system
3. Testing how 1 and 2 can work in the long term

**Process**

**Method description**

Design by research and research by design

Research:
- a) Literature study on urban rivers, focusing on the interrelation of natural and urban processes and the consequences of over-exploiting and controlling the landscape.
- b) Case studies of urban rivers: i) Besos river in Barcelona – The environmental recovering of a torrential river ii) Los Angeles river
- c) Literature study on natural river processes on alluvial plains. (the specific context of Kifissos)
- d) Study of cotemporary landscape architecture theory about the agency of landscape: what the underlying landscape can contribute to design.

Design:
- a) Documentation of the existing situation and the evolutionary processes involved in the two systems. Mapping of the spaces around the river-highway systems that are open to reclamation.
- b) Focus on a number of segments along the river for the development of hybrid
- c) Testing concepts

**Literature and general practical preference**

a. Books:

b. Articles from Books:


c. Papers Available online

8. Prominski Martin (2015) *Designing Landscapes as Evolutionary Systems*

Reflection

Reflection on the theme of “Flowscapes” in relation to the research question and design assignment.

Flowscapes can be defined as hybrid landscapes that have the capacity to facilitate the interweaving between the "space of flows" and the "space of places"- the space of expanding networks and connections and the space of perceived, concentrated localities. The coexistence of overall continuity and local diversity renders infrastructural landscapes as unifying fields that are able to accommodate and establish interrelations between elements often conceived as opposites. There, experimental typologies that redefine the relationship between natural and human systems, natural and engineered elements, dynamic processes and rigid formal structures can emerge and be tested. Unexpected combinations between different infrastructural lines and their overlap with the spaces of the city can produce a great variety of particular places. The same lines, continuous and expanding, weave those localities in a common narrative about the city, characterized by qualitative gradients between movement and pause, velocity and calmness, artificiality and "wilderness".

Relevance

Within the last few decades, river restoration projects are beginning to receive a great deal of attention in contemporary urban projects. According to Kelly Shannon, "The richness of a river's
inherent dynamic nature embodies a series of often contradictory natural and man-made processes.” Instead of approaching these systems in opposition, this graduation thesis studies the case of urban rivers as dynamic landscapes constantly transforming under the influence of interweaved natural and urban forces. At the same time, it tests scenarios of coexistence between natural and engineered systems, in this particular case, the river and the highway.

**Time planning**

P1 Project hypothesis, approach and site analysis
- Research interest and site selection
- Initial site analysis and problem statement
- Provisional research questions and goal

P2 Diagnosis and theoretical framework
- Results of the site analysis and research
- Research (Urban rivers, Natural river processes on alluvial plains, landscape and infrastructure, the agency of landscape etc.)
- Methodology (Design theory, principles, typologies, case study)
- Initial conceptual design: experimental typologies and tests on the concepts

P3 Elaborated design
- First design tests of the concepts at a regional scale
- First experimental hybrid typologies and time staging
- Initial report with project hypothesis, approach, analysis, diagnosis and initial description of the design

P4 Final design
- Testing-project detailed design
- Reflection: Design value for research

P5 Public presentation