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](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:

### Personal information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Robert Kupzik</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Student number</td>
<td>4867793</td>
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<td>Telephone number</td>
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<td>Private e-mail address</td>
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### Studio

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name / Theme</th>
<th>Public Buildings / Graduation Studio Public Condenser: The Hague-Copenhagen</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Teachers / tutors</td>
<td>Main mentor: Henk Bulstra, Architecture</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Second mentor: Jelke Fokkinga, Building Technology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Argumentation of choice of the studio</td>
<td>For me, the link between society and architecture is one of the most fascinating aspects of the architectural discipline. The public space whether it’s inside or outside, is reflecting this relationship. The field of public buildings is strongly interwoven with that. People, their habits and activities are a fundamental part of this architecture. Buildings especially the ones dealing with a public, social or cultural dimension are always influenced by the ideas, values, norms, beliefs, relationships and forms of their social context. Society produces buildings, and the buildings, although not producing society, help to maintain or influence many of its social forms. My bachelor graduation project was dealing with a hybrid living complex, which already combined different public facilities and spaces with housing. The theoretical base for the assembly of programs and knowledge about multiplicity didn’t go in-depth still. With my choice for the Public Buildings Graduation Studio I aimed to get new and more profound input on public architecture and multiplicity and with this develop a stronger position for my design.</td>
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### Graduation project

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<tr>
<th>Title of the graduation project</th>
<th>Express yourself – a talent house for Den Haag Zuid-West</th>
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### Goal

| Location:                                       | Den Haag                                                 |
| The posed problem, The social structure of Morgenstond in Den Haag Zuid-West is characterized by low social cohesion, relatively low life satisfaction and minor engagement with the immediate surrounding. These conditions result into a passive lifestyle of inhabitants, which feel worthless, lonely and depressed. They don’t see the necessity to engage with the public life. Plans of gentrification and densification with different social classes will increase social segregation in the neighborhood. Therefore, empowerment and motivation are needed to build bridges. |
| research questions and We need a resilient social structure for a positive future development of the social environment of the area. In my concept, empowerment is creating the framework for that. Through self-determined motivation, which derives from strengthening of self-identity, a pursuit of quality in abilities, and the awareness of impact on other people, citizens of Morgenstond and users of the design will get more aware of their own talents, interact with different people and become more active in public life. The creation of motivation not only activates behavior, but also determines its persistence and duration. With this the topic aligns closely with sustainability principles as resiliency, durability and inclusiveness. The resulting research question is how I can use architectural tools as programming, forming, choreographing and staging to interconnect spatial experience with the psychological process of empowerment. Can I use multiplicity in a way that empowerment can be evoked, and the different programs provide a proactive proximity? |
| design assignment in which these result. The studio’s provided design topic is the so called “PUBLIC CONDENSER”. To understand the term, it is necessary to define it. In optics, a condenser is an optical lens, that gathers visible light and directs it onto a projection lens. In a way this works as a metaphor for the design assignment. The building should gather the public (relating to people in general) and project or condense it (to make denser or more compact) on the area of the new building. The new Public Condenser should offer: “a space for interesting meetings between culture and movement and between people. It will be a place where people of different ages, exercise habits, cultural consumption and lifestyles encounter each other. It should be a place where there is room to be with friends and family, but also a place where you meet new people. The physical form of the PUBLIC CONDENSER must support these meetings, so there is opportunity to follow many of the ongoing activities and be inspired by what others are doing.” (Public Condenser Brief, 2019) This process of inspiration by others is exactly what I want to achieve with the enhancement of empowerment within my building. People |
of all ages, sexes, nationalities etc. will encounter inside and see what others are doing and with this enhance acceptance but also activeness. Within a sequence of spatial situations curiosity and inspiration will be stimulated.

### Process

#### Method description

I start my approach with a general research of the site according to the studio’s structure. With this I used specific methods of site analysis as observation, notation and interviews. This gave me a first overview over the area and a direction in which to go for my conceptual design and design specific research. For the design specific research, I investigated specific fields of the architecture discipline. Literature research opened the idea of empowerment through architecture. The transformation of these theories into actual space is supported by architecture-psychological theories of Flade and Kaplan and Kaplan. I find analogies in other typologies with case studies for architecture of staging of sequences. This typological research helps me define different spatial sequences. References from different buildings illustrate my thoughts and structure them. After creating a building type with a strong framework, I am doing a typology transfer on the site-specific circumstances.

### Literature and general practical preference


### Reflection

1. Position within my master program:
   My project topic closely relates to the studio topic. The importance of empowerment for the strengthening of local community is one way of interpretation of the studio topic of a public condenser. The theme of multiplicity plays a big role in creating such a building as I aim for and is incorporated in my design. In the wider context with the master track the building positions itself clearly within the architecture track. It derives from a conceptual architectural approach. Still being a public building and dealing a lot with the context, the urban situation is influencing the building. For me architecture is always connected to urbanism.
2. Relevance in the social, professional and scientific framework:
   In times where our lives become more and more virtual and space in our city
   becomes unaffordable for a lot of people we must think about publicly accessible
   spaces in our cities. This graduation work is playing with this thought and
   contributes to a catalogue of ideas for future public buildings. The existing study
   on the topic of empowerment and motivation lies mostly in housing and
   precarious living environments as slums. My project faces spaces that enable self-
   development, especially outside the own home and in the public realm.

Time planning

1.1 Research Copenhagen
1.2 Research Copenhagen
1.3 Copenhagen Excursion
1.4 Research Presentations Copenhagen
1.5 Visit The Hague
1.6 Research The Hague
1.7 Research Presentations The Hague
1.8 Preparing P1 Presentation and finishing research
   1.9 P1 Presentation
   1.10 choosing a site and going through all the researches
2.1 conceptual idea
2.2 conceptual idea
2.3 design brief
2.4 formulation of individual design principles
2.5 typology transfer to the site (model and first sections)
2.6 conceptual design (model, section, plan)
   Vacation working on design, manifesto and multi-modal object
   Vacation lay-out for design journal
2.7 finished manifesto, multi-modal object and more precise design
   2.8 P2 Presentation
2.9 finishing the research paper with the last remarks
2.10 finishing the research paper with the last remarks 30.01. research paper hand-in
   Vacation
3.1 further integration of the design on the site
3.2 programmatic placement and interior routing
3.3 interior concepts for major programmatic elements
3.4 positioning the Multiplicity Concept including concepts for structure, material and
   sustainability
3.5 preparing all the drawings for P3
   3.6 P3 Presentation
3.7 design development of the above in more detail [from 1: 100/50 to 1:20/5]
3.8 design development of the above in more detail [from 1: 100/50 to 1:20/5]
3.9 design development of the above in more detail [from 1: 100/50 to 1:20/5]
3.10 design development of the above in more detail [from 1: 100/50 to 1:20/5]
4.1 visualization studies of important elements + further work on the design
4.2 description text with storyline and concept + further work on the design
   clarification diagrams
4.3 preparation of the final presentation (concept, pre-editing)
   4.4 P4 Presentation
   4.5 P4 Presentation
4.6 P4 Presentation
4.7 visualizations, work on graphics and presentation design
4.8 model,
4.9 model, finished prints
4.10 P5 Presentation
4.11 P5 Presentation