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>
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<th>Name</th>
<th>Laurens Julius Kaatee</th>
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## Studio

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name / Theme</th>
<th>Dutch Housing Graduation Studio, Transforming the City</th>
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<tr>
<td>Teachers / tutors</td>
<td>Pierijn van der Putt (research), The Kupers (architecture)</td>
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**Argumentation of choice of the studio**

I choose the Dwelling Graduation Studio for two reasons. I first think it is essential for a future architect to understand and explore the realm of housing and the living environment of people since housing will always play a dominant role in an architect’s portfolio. Secondly I learned from MSc 1 Dwelling Studio that the actual dwelling aspect is only part of equation. The building and its surroundings are all part of the bigger picture of one’s living environment and thus is it essential to understand the transition from the public street to the private house. I think it is therefore a much broader design studio that faces many more issues than just housing.

## Graduation project

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of the graduation project</th>
<th>MXE Contemporary luxurious dwellings for elderly, integrated in a health and care cluster.</th>
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## Goal

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<th>Location:</th>
<th>Appeltjesmarkt, Amsterdam</th>
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**The posed problem,**

Amsterdam is facing a real challenge in the upcoming decades when it comes to densification, especially in the inner city. Pressure on the current housing stock is growing due to the fact that both people want to move to Amsterdam and people want to stay. A lot of studies have been to figure out new and innovative ways to create affordable housing but when it comes to high-end contemporary luxurious housing in Amsterdam, much
is left to explore. Other major cities around the world such as New York, London or Paris have a clear signature concept when it comes to luxurious housing and a lot of modern day experience. In Amsterdam this contemporary ‘luxurious culture’ is new but most definitely in uprising. The city needs to form its own signature concept of luxurious housing that expresses the culture of Amsterdam and its heritage because history have shown that simple copies of successful concept from other places in the world did not have the desired effect in Amsterdam.

**Research questions and design assignment in which these result.**

The primary question will be: How can the expression of contemporary luxurious residential buildings in Amsterdam be defined? The motivation behind this question is the search for a signature concept of luxurious housing of Amsterdam. The following sub questions will be of great help for selecting the criteria to analyze case studies: What architectural elements define luxury? What is the expression of contemporary luxurious residential buildings in New York, London and Paris?

The proposed design features two masses that are connected by a public-activity-roof. The ground floor and part of the first floor will be designated for public health & care functions and residential amenities. On the floors above I will aim for a total of 65 luxurious dwellings ranging between 90 to 300 sqm. The dwellings are all designed elderly friendly with emphasis on accessibility. Residents can enjoy numerous high-end amenities such as a concierge service and valet parking. Besides these amenities and dwellings the building will serve as a health and care center that can offer 24/7 medical care, exercise programs, healthy nutrition and social activities. Important is that the health and care center is publicly accessible so everyone from the neighborhood can use it and this integrating the building in the urban environment.
**Process**

**Method description**

Research through design is the main method. To give an answer on the previous stated research question I will conduct four case studies. These cases are recently developed/accepted luxurious residential buildings in Amsterdam on the Zuid-As, Dam and IJ. In addition to these case studies I will compare the results (defined luxury) to similar projects in New York, London and Paris to generate context to the research. I selected these cities and corresponding projects on the basis of their similar culture and their strong signature concept of luxurious housing.

**Literature and general practical preference**

**Reflection**

**Relevance**

For wealthy elderly who live in canal houses in the center of Amsterdam there are currently only two possibilities when they can not live in their house anymore: a sober retirement home or move out of the city. Since the number of elderly is increasing in the coming years (decades) the graduation site offers a unique opportunity to create contemporary luxurious dwellings in the center of Amsterdam.

**Time planning**

After the P2:
- 5 weeks case studies (Amsterdam cases)
- 5 weeks solving design issues on organization/accessibility/construction/ground floor

P2 + 5 weeks (March 2017)
- 5-10 weeks case studies (New York, London & Paris) & compare
- 5-10 weeks transition to façade and material

P2 + 15 weeks (May 2017)
- 5 weeks conclusions research
- 5 weeks detailing and fin-tuning

June
Finishing the project, making end products etc.