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:

<table>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Personal information</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>Name</td>
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<td>Student number</td>
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<td>Telephone number</td>
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<td>Private e-mail address</td>
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<th><strong>Studio</strong></th>
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<td>Name / Theme</td>
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<td>Teachers / tutors</td>
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<td>Argumentation of choice of the studio</td>
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<th><strong>Graduation project</strong></th>
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- The posed problem,
  - Disconnected public spaces in La Candelaria and surrounding neighbourhoods of the city, contributed to by the privatisation and surveillance of many internal and external spaces in the city.
  - Void spaces within existing urban blocks deny the possibility of movement through the city, as they are either abandoned or privatized for car parking.

- research questions and
  - Can the architectural means of intensifying collective activity be observed as a set of typologies, and can these types be considered a common resource?
  - How can these collective spaces be introduced as a means of connecting
and activating existing, disconnected public spaces?

Can configurative architecture become an urban instrument to create a more porous and permeable fabric in the area in order to intensify and facilitate informality

design assignment in which these result.

A reworking of void spaces in the Voto Nacional neighbourhood (within the context of the competition set by the Society of Colombian Architects) in order to establish new connections between existing plazas and redefine the public landscape.

The design process is to make use of observations made during fieldwork, which studied manifestations of public life at the building scale. These observations revealed the prevalence of internalized, semi-public spaces that were used as places of movement, exchange, eating and gathering.

**Process**

**Method description**

Fieldwork: Analytical drawing of architectural spaces and their appropriation, carried out in the field through direct observation. This method expands on research for the Theory Thesis (MSc2), investigating the observational drawings of early 20th century Japanese architect and graphic designer Wajiro Kon. Drawing is framed as an epistemic process (outlined in Research Methods Position Paper) through which new information about the site can be generated and presented. As a tool it is used to create a scenario from existing conditions, from which projections of envisioned conditions can be overlaid.

Design: Design will develop from a process of analyzing the architectural configurations and sequences of buildings that successfully establish a clear sense of enclosure while maintaining an unbroken connection to the exterior public realm. This will assist in defining the scale of the project.
Analysis of the context has provided a defined site of intervention, which measures 4x8 city block. The existing void spaces within these blocks have been mapped and initial design exercises seek to find possibilities to reconnect and/or modify these voids spatially. To explore the three-dimensionality of the void, working models and three-dimensional drawings will be used.

Once opportunities are finalized, specific acts of intervention can then be elaborated on more precisely at a closer scale, to move towards a project with more elaborate spatial and material qualities. The method of representation of these qualities will build on the drawings made in the research phase, such that there is a direct connection between the methods of observation and design.

**Literature and general practical preference**

- Wajiro Kon, *Wajiro Kon Retrospective, Modernology*
- Christopher Lee (Architectural Association), *Typological Formations: Renewable Building Types and the City*
- Christopher Lee (Architectural Association), *Typological Formations: Renewable Building Types and the City*
- Stan Allen, *Field Conditions*

**Reflection**

**Relevance**

The research emphasizes the role of observation of everyday conditions as a means of understanding an urban context foreign to the designer. Furthermore it engages the potential of drawing as a generative process. Through drawing, one is forced to uncover information about a subject that is not immediately revealed. This also connects to discourse on architectural representation, taking the position that the medium of representation is understood as an inherent expression of the research conclusions as well as the project’s underlying principles. This is carried through into the design methodology as a tool that sets a defined and subjective scenario within which the designer can act, and a means of projecting future possibilities onto this setting.

Contextually the project uses a soft approach that operates in several locations at a small scale, to positively influence the spatial and social organization of the city without drastically reconfiguring the context through large-scale regeneration. This makes a strong position on how to operate in a context defined by severe inequality, gentrification, environmental degradation and threat of eviction; concerns that are prolific not only in Bogota but in cities globally. By operating at this scale, but always in reference to a larger urban strategy, the project proposes intervening carefully and precisely in response to observation of existing conditions.

**Time planning**
Week 2 (Current)
Production for P2 presentation: Summary of research, formulation of design outline

Week 3
P2 Presentation

Week 4
Investigation and analysis of building precedents, through the studio seminar Probing Into Precedents. Experimentation at urban block scale, identifying and modifying the existing network of voids.

Week 5/6
Elaboration on results from seminar, incorporation into design process. Applying principles to identified sites of intervention, developing initial treatment of the scheme at the architectural scale.

Week 7/8
Exploration into the representation of the project. How the medium of communication can be developed to reveal the assumptions and intentions of the project. Additionally, how can this unlock new design direction and enrich the proposal. To coincide with presentation of work for P3 Presentation.

Week 9
Preparation of work for P3 Presentation

Week 10
Notional date for P3 presentation

Week 11/12
Incorporate feedback from P3 presentation

Week 13/14/15
Final design developments, elaboration on the methods of representation and their relation to the design principles.

Week 16
Attend exam for MSc2 Architectural Sustainability (remaining requirement for course)

Week 17/18
Preparation of material for P4 Presentation

Week 19/20/21
Possible dates for P4 Presentation