

Graduation Plan

Master of Science Architecture, Urbanism & Building Sciences



Graduation Plan:Complex Projects

Personal information	
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Studio	
Name / Theme	Complex Projects, Border Studio
Teachers	Mitesh Dixit, Sven Janssen, James Westcott
Argumentation of choice of the studio	Forming a strategy from a broader viewpoint that explores the functioning of a region, city and building. The formulation of a problem statement after conducting thorough research which results in a thoughtful and meaningful intervention is what appeals to me in this studio, as well as the gaining of a broader base through research on all scales and viewed from different disciplines.
Graduation project	
Title of the graduation project	Stiching the centers through landmarks
Goal	
Location:	Mexico/US, Ciudad Juarez/El Paso
The posed problem,	The two alienated city centers of Ciudad Juarez and El Paso through crime and perceptions.

research questions and	<p>Ciudad Juarez and El Paso used to be one city but is now divided. Over the years the discrepancies between the Mexican part and the american one have been magnified. This causes a distance between the two, because of waiting times on the border, both in space as in development. Due to multiple factors the two cities have alienated from each other. To reconnect the two we will have to intervene in both cities in places this has the most impact.</p> <p>How can we infuse the existing city centers with a new program that connects the two and causes for a sense of desire from both sides/sites?</p>
design assignment in which these result.	Constructing two icons/attractions which relate to one another and which create the conditions for the flow between US and Mexico.

Process

Method description

The graduation project is based upon the research of the Msc 3 phase. As a studio we researched the region. The research was divided in hard data mapping and the collecting of the soft data. In the mapping of the hard data we unpacked on different scales first on the scale of the region then a city and last the neighborhood. The trip to the US Mex border region had a big influence on the perception of the region versus the reality. Through interviews with the locals on both the Mexican and US side this became clear. By visiting the region the issues and questions the community has to deal with became more apparent. The analyses and juxtaposing of the networks of the region, the sister cities and soft data (political/social issues) informed us to create a new strategy for the region. This together with the small scale analyses informed a masterplan in with numerous interventions. Within this master plan one striking intervention will be the basis of further development and design in the Msc4 phase. The functioning of this new region and the detailed analyses of the urban situation forms the basis for the project of Msc4. In the next phase the used methods of unpacking will still be relevant, to investigate case studies, to further analyze the program after which the project will be assembled. As well as the investigation of the social impact of the new program within its context and let it inform the different scales.

Literature and general practical preference

Chomsky, N. (2013) Hidden Power and Built Form: The Politics Behind the Architecture. Architecture media politics society. vol. 3, no.3.

Koolhaas, Rem. Delirious New York: A Retroactive Manifesto for Manhattan. New York: Monacelli, 1994.

Koolhaas, Rem, and Bruce Mau. SMLXL. New York, NY: Monacelli, 1998.

Strong, Judith. Theatre Buildings: A Design Guide. Abingdon, Oxon: Routledge, 2010. Print.

Reflection

Relevance

By constructing a master plan that cross the border and questions the existing regional policies we address and articulate the current conditions of the area and the questions they raise. By intervening with regards to the needs of both border conditions we can create a meaningful intervention that once again emphasizes the border culture and stitches it together. In a contemporary city the

To place it in a broader view the complex issues that the contemporary city deals with can be met with modeling the specific conditions of the place it is set in. In this case the issue we have to address and forms a base for the design is that of the border where this informs all the aspects of the design. In this way we can construct narratives for the urban contexts were we design in and get grips for shaping new urban interventions.

Time planning

Msc4

Week 01

- research revision at local/ global scale
- global/ local perception
- programmatic needs
- schematic layout of program in site context - integration to the master plan/neighborhood
- micro-climate analysis/ sun, wind studies

Week 02

- building program redefinition / analysis - detailed outline of program and sizes
- adjacency diagrams/ accessibility study - routing diagrams (pedestrian vehicle)

Week 03

- schematic Design
- building form, site integration
- accessibility, arrival/ departure
- spatial and programmatic qualities

Week 08

- design development
- development of details
- basic concept of materials

Week 09

- P3 PRESENTATION *proposed date*

Week 10 - 12

- design refinement
- developing technical details

Week 13

- production of presentation drawings and models

Week 14 - 15

- P4 PRESENTATION *proposed date*

Week 16

- design revision and refinement

Week 17-18

- production of presentation drawings and models - final updates and corrections to research book

Week 19

- P5 PRESENTATION *proposed date*