A complete view on how asylum seekers are currently being housed is done by literature research, analysing existing AZC’s, visit them and have interview with supportive staff. All these information was summarized in a list of program requirements which I directly implemented in my design. This list can be supplemented with research done on how to implement flexibility towards the user (A). By choosing three different cultural backgrounds and study their vernacular architecture by literature, on three predefined topics, the degree of adaptability can be further focused. Combined with the flexibility towards family composition the list of program requirements is further supplemented and has a unique
approach. This was directly translated to plan configurations used to house the refugees. In the plan below you can
distinguish the different configurations varying per culture.

Followed by research on how to implement this azc in various urban settings (B). Three indoor locations have been
chosen within the ring of Amsterdam: an empty cell block office, the van Gendthallen and the same cell block office
but then stripped. Choosing vacant buildings contributes to solving the vacancy problems which is also a key problem
addressed by the graduation lab. The flexibility of the building system has been reviewed on hard physical aspects and
more soft architectural aspects. When comparing all of the locations have the potential to become an azc. From a
designers point of view the van Gendthallen proved to be the best solution, because it gives you the most freedom in
terms of size, daylight, experience, view, providing privacy and the maximum amount of possibilities regarding different
dwelling configurations. This conclusion was directly implemented and therefore the van Gendthallen was chosen as
a context. The proposition was to design a generic building system that still could be implemented in all these urban
settings. Reflecting on this the restrictions caused by the sizes of the plans and building elements could have been taken
more into account. This could have improved the generic solution.
Concluding by choosing the best suitable digital fabrication technique which can comply to this urban and user flexibility. The technique with the most potential in terms of: Demountability, easy design and production of joints, light weighted, the possibility of personalization, sustainability in terms of material use, how time consuming is the process and the degree of material variation, proved to be CNC Milling. This technique was chosen to design the building elements with. As an addition more research was done on other cheap wall systems that could be built by the inhabitants themselves. This was done on research by design. More research could have been done on the self-build aspect. A stronger basis of knowledge regarding this topic would have been useful later when designing the self-buildable columns and walls.

As a conclusion one could state that all the research have been directly used for the design and formed a basis of useful knowledge regarding the topic. Aspects of the research such as implementing the design in various empty spaces could have been further deepened during the design process. Other design aspects such as the self-build homes could have been deeper researched beforehand.

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN GRADUATION LAB AND SUBJECT
Professor Asselbergs started his introduction lecture of our graduation studio by stating: “If technology is the answer, what is the question? The refugee crisis immediately popped into my head. Followed by images of thousands of people who are on the run for a safer and better existence. For some their goal is to get to Europe. But how exactly are these Asylum seekers being welcomed in the Netherlands? Since many countries are in the grip of war and terrorists the amount of asylum seekers coming to the Netherlands drastically increases. This causes a lot pressure on the COA (Central Organ Asylum Seekers) to arrange a bed for everyone. Resulting also in big problems regarding the quality of housing. The graduation lab aims to deal with these sort of problems and therefore perfectly fits within the subject. Using digital fabrication to design an alternative flexible asylum seekers centre could be explained as a good combination between the answering the question by technology.

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE METHODICAL LINE OF APPROACH OF THE GRADUATION LAB
The methodical line of approach of the graduation track starts with a technical or so called thematic fascination presented after the first week of lectures and intro’s. This technical fascination forms the basis of your research paper and connects you to a tutor experienced in this topic. In my case it slightly worked the other way around. I started with the problem I wanted to solve and connected this to the most suitable technique (fascination) In my opinion, digital fabrication. In my case the problem I wanted to address could also have been solved using other technical fascinations. This is not in line with the methodical line of approach of the graduation lab.

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE PROJECT AND THE WIDER SOCIAL CONTEXT
At the moment many countries are in the grip of war and terrorists. As a result 51 million people are on the run at the moment. This is the highest number since the second world war and it’s still increasing. Mainly because of the war in Syria. But also conflicts in Eritrea and Nigeria contribute to this rising number. Because of the increasing number of refugees worldwide, the COA (Central Organ Asylum Seekers), who are responsible for the housing of asylum seekers in the Netherlands, have to deal with a record number of refugees. Their annual report on the past year is therefore been aptly titled “Growth.” Within this report they state never known to have such a large increase in such a short period of time. In order to cope with this large amount, existing centres had to be expanded. These locations are facing the end of their lifespan according to. But also new centres are being built at a rapid pace that costs tens of millions. This quick solutions don’t contribute to good living conditions admits COA.

But these poor conditions are also caused because of the fact that this locations are always destined for a temporary stay and a rather homogeneous target group, while asylum seekers represent a wide variety of lifestyles and cultures.
Besides the family composition and cultural differences lack of privacy is also a big problem. These shortcomings of the AZC results in polarization. The COA receives for example the highest number of complaints from refugees about the way housing is organised. The integration process after obtaining a residence status is severely hampered.

An isolated location of the AZC is also often pointed out to be a big problem. From a table in which all the azc’s were documented emerged that the average distance to the nearest facilities are 4 kilometres. Within this paper inner urban locations will used as an better alternative. This has social and economic benefits because xenogamy can occur between the azc and the existing urban fabric. Dual use can be made of schools, day-care and language classes. This not only saves costs, because these facilities should otherwise have to be implemented on the azc terrain, but also provides that asylum seekers get more control over their own life. This will ultimately prevent a feeling of uselessness and enhances the quality of life.