Graduation Plan
**Personal information**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Yolande Chaquine de Vries</th>
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<tbody>
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**Studio**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name / Theme</th>
<th>Dwelling Global Housing – Cross-cultural Methods and Positions / Addis Ababa</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Teachers / tutors</td>
<td>Dick van Gameren, Nelson Mota, Sjap Holst</td>
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<tr>
<td>Argumentation of choice of the studio</td>
<td>I chose this studio because I am interested in integrating the knowledge I have acquired in my studies here with the unknown context of a completely different culture. I am attracted by the challenge of creating good, but affordable architecture that can really have an impact on the daily life of individuals.</td>
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**Graduation project**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of the graduation project</th>
<th>The Addis Ababa In-Between</th>
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**Goal**

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<th>Location:</th>
<th>Addis Ababa, Kirkos, empty site at the old train station. Kirkos is a lively part of the city where many commercial activities take place. The plot is situated on a prime location, connected to major (future) infrastructure and next to the historical landmark of the train station.</th>
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<tr>
<td>The posed problem,</td>
<td>The city of Addis Ababa is rapidly growing. The Ethiopian government’s Grand Housing Scheme attempts to accomodate for this growth. By demolishing the cities self-built “informal” settlements and relocating people in new condominium blocks the density of the city is greatly increased. However, the tabula rasa approach of the condominium housing scheme completely ignores the historical city structure as well as the patterns of inhabitation that Ethiopian people are accustomed to.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Being in Addis Ababa, one of the most striking things to me was the way in which the inhabitants of the informal settlements make use of the space in between the private of their own dwellings. Dwellings are often centered around collective courtyards in which all sorts of domestic activities take place. At the same time, the collective and the public domain blend together in the streets that are appropriated in all sorts of ways, from practicing business to hanging laundry or meeting with friends.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The new condominium schemes, even though they are an upgrade in terms of the quality level of the individual dwellings, fail to reflect the identity of Ethiopian (low-income) households in terms of the strong sense of community and the informal ways of income generation. The polyvalent collective buffer between the private and the public domains is missing,</td>
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resulting in an endless monotony and a lost “in-between space”.

| research questions and design assignment in which these result. | How to design a dwelling system that answers to the demand for making Addis Ababa a dense and urban city, without losing the qualities of the community-centered identity and active streets of the informal settlements? The goal is to design an urban, dense and affordable dwelling system that activates the in-between space. By creating 2- or 3-storey maisonnettes with a smaller footprint, the number of dwellings connected to the street is maximized and flexibility in use is enabled, supporting informal forms of income generation. By creating shared terraces at different levels, a collective domain is formed that endorses the community feeling and a sense of belonging. The variations in dwelling types and street profiles react to the requirements that are posed by their immediate context. |

**Process**

**Method description**

In the first semester, by investigating on various aspects of the history, urban fabric and patterns of inhabitation of Addis Ababa, both through literature- and site research a strong base of knowledge for the design has been created.

In the second semester a design is formulated. Initial design proposals are always developed by hand sketching. Further elaboration is done by translating these sketches into digital drawings, both in 2D (Autocad) and 3d (Archicad, Sketchup). The design process is iterative and the design is revised - first by hand sketching, followed by computer adjustments - according to new findings and professor/fellow students feedback throughout the whole semester. Parallel literature research will help to arrive at and support design decisions. Eventually, the final design will be presented by a laser cut model and drawings created by computer.
Literature and general practical preference


Reflection

Relevance

Through the last two decades of rapid growth, Ethiopia’s housing shortage increased dramatically. The same way this has happened, and is happening, in many other countries in the Global South, rapid urbanization has resulted in an enormous shortage in decent affordable housing in cities. By investigating this problem and designing housing systems to accomodate the urban poor in the developing territory of Addis Ababa, this project can contribute to the collective knowledge base of the subject and to the creation of more inclusive, vivid and resilient urban territories.
### Time planning

**MSc4, Phase 1 – DESIGN PROPOSAL**

**Week 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4**
- Reflection on P2
- Elaboration of research on collected literature
- Continuation of development design
- Finalize urban strategy
- Technical design
- Discussion on experienced difficulties
- Comparative analysis existing scheme and design proposal
- Typological analysis of dwelling floor plans, comparison with precedents

**Week 3.5, 3.6**
- Finalize dwelling floor plans
- Technical details 1:20, 1:5
- Complete 3D-model

**Week 3.7 – 3.8**
- Complete presentation material for P3 presentation

>> **P3 Presentations**

**MSc4, Phase 2 – FINAL DESIGN PROPOSAL**

**Week 3.9, 3.10, 4.1**
- Reflection on P3
- Improvements of floorplans/sections/elevations
- Adjustments urban plan
- Improvements technical design, details
- Assemble research booklet

**Week 4.2, 4.3**
- Finalize research booklet (projective mapping)
- Axonometric views
- Diagrams of concept

**Week 4.4, 4.5**
- Complete presentation material for P4 presentation

>> **P4 Presentations**

**MSc4, Phase 3 – PREPARATION FINAL PRESENTATION**

**Week 4.6, 4.7, 4.8, 4.9, 4.10**
- Build final physical model
- Prepare final posters and presentation

>> **P5 Presentations**