Graduation Plan

Master of Science Architecture, Urbanism & Building Sciences
Graduation Plan: All tracks
The graduation plan consists of at least the following data/segments:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Personal information</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Name</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Student number</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Telephone number</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Private e-mail address</strong></td>
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<th>Studio</th>
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<td><strong>Name / Theme</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Teachers / tutors</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Argumentation of choice of the studio</strong></td>
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<tr>
<th>Graduation project</th>
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<td><strong>Title of the graduation project</strong></td>
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<th>Goal</th>
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<td><strong>Location:</strong></td>
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<td><strong>The posed problem,</strong></td>
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horizontally, between the Manhattan blocks. It is clear that reducing the role of the “in-between spaces” to the level of blank space is a hindrance to our attempt to understand the interest that they may still present in the dynamic, fluid and finally exciting assemblage of the contemporary city.

- **research questions and** "Void Capital" analyses the variability of the Parisian urban thresholds and focuses on the different ways that the satisfaction of metropolitan desires takes place within the city’s unbuilt fabric.

- **design assignment in which these result.** For the design assignment, a central neighborhood (Les Halles) has been chosen to host a new World Exhibition, a large unitarian building which has the impossible mission to present all the world's knowledge. This building is conceived as a continuous working site, capable to reconfigure itself constantly, thanks to a strategy of intervention on the existing voids and solids (demolitions and light-weighted structures).

### Process

**Method description**

The first three chapters of the research project present (mainly in the form of text) the findings of an essentially bibliographic study, carried out during the last four months (Some accompanying drawings are included as well). Here, the texts are organized according to different scales (rooms, blocks, patterns). Those correspond to the featuring references, each one of them presenting a particular aspect of the “void”. The fourth chapter, “The Cabinet of Curiosities” synthetizes a primarily historical study of the Parisian thresholds. It regroups momentary events of an exceptional interest and presents each one of them with the help of a short text, drawings (isometric projections) and images drawn out of a variety of historical documents. I intend to extend and complete the findings of the research project by making use of the already selected means.

So far, the design project made use of drawings (plans, sections, axonometrics) to retrace the changes happened on site since the beginning of the 19th century, but also to explain the much more typological strategy adopted for the actual proposal. By the p5 presentation, this section will be enriched with a wider variety of communicative tools, including perspectives and models.
### Literature and general practical preference

1. Rooms: Le Corbusier’s Musée à Croissance Illimitée, Mies’ National Gallery
2. Patterns: Hooke’s and Wren’s reconstruction plans for London
3. Blocks: Koolhaas’ Delirious New York and Deleuze’s notion of assemblage

### Reflection

#### Relevance

The Void Capital research project addresses an important question: How to overcome the usual tendency to conceive the Void as exclusively hetero-determined (as if the Void is ontologically inferior), as a residuum of the surrounding built context (with all the possible impacts that this may cause to public space)? Furthermore, the project aspires to prove that the revitalization of an urban core (devastated by the changes of the 20th century) can be achieved far from a mere muséification, and only by the re-arrangement of the experiences found in-situ.

### Time planning

**Weeks 1.1-1.4**

**Weeks 1.5-1.7**
Bibliographic research/Further definition of the topic/Identifying the appropriate references which present a particular interest/p1 presentation (16.10.2015).

**Week 1.9**
Reorientation of the project according to the p1 review/Re-organisation of the research project/ Adoption of the Grid strategy (4th chapter)

**Week 1.10-2.04**
Development of the “The cabinet of Curiosities” through drawings and images/First written paragraphs of the research project.

**Week 2.05 - end of December:**
Site historical and typological analysis/ Completion of the “The cabinet of Curiosities”/ Completion of the written essays.

**Weeks 2.07-2.08**
Submission of the research thesis (draft)/Further development of the design proposal, plans, sections/ Finalization of the p2 report/ p2 presentation (14.01.2015)

**Week 2.09**
Project reviewing after the p2 presentation

**Week 2.10-3.01**
Perform field research

**Weeks 3.02-3.04**
Preliminary design/floorplans, sections, sketch models.

**Weeks 3.05-3.07**
Development of Sections, Plans and Elevations (1/100), sketches of details

**Week 3.08**
Sections (1/50) development of details, façades (1/10), sketches of detail (1/5)
P3 presentation

**Weeks 3.09-4.02**
Finalizing drawings, work on the model, solving printing issues.

**Week 4.03**
Situation drawings, floorplans, sections, elevations, façade vertical and horizontal section (1/20), detail 1/5, final report

P4 presentation

**Weeks 4.04-4.09**
Complete review, construction of additional models and frontal perspectives

**Weeks 4.10**
Public p5 presentation