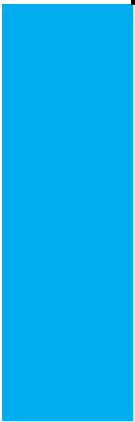


Graduation Plan

Master of Science Architecture, Urbanism & Building Sciences



Graduation Plan: All tracks

The graduation plan consists of at least the following data/segments:

Personal information	
Name	Julija Osipenko
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Studio	
Name / Theme	Complex Projects / Chicago studio
Teachers	Stefan de Koning, Henri van Bennekom
Argumentation of choice of the studio	The studio is both challenging and relevant to contemporary global situation. It requires working on three different scales, starting with broad urban analysis, developing a master plan for the entire neighborhood and finishing with detailed building design. What is appealing is that it promotes independent thinking and reflecting on broader cultural, social, political and economic context. I have been particularly interested in emerging collective spaces and socio – political conditions, influencing them. Working on Garfield Park neighborhood enabled me to apply heuristic research methods and broaden knowledge within my field of interest.
Graduation project	
Title of the graduation project	Exodus Home – a halfway house for ex - convicts
Goal	
Location:	W. Lake St., East Garfield Park, Chicago, II
The posed problem,	Garfield Park community is vulnerable because of the destruction of family structure and social fabric, insufficient education and high incarceration rate.

research questions and	How to create the conditions and opportunities for young adults to integrate in society and develop professionally.
design assignment in which these result.	Propose a new transitional facility between the prison and outside world. "Exodus Home" is a halfway house for ex - offenders and non - violent criminals, merged with educational facility for residents and ex-convicts.
<p>This should be formulated in such a way that the graduation project can answer these questions.</p> <p>The definition of the problem has to be significant to a clearly defined area of research and design.</p>	

Process
Method description
<p>Prior to formulating the problem statement and research question of the project, a broad analysis was carried, trying to investigate social and political circumstances, urban conditions and the faults of American incarceration system that have influenced the emerging problems of Garfield Park community. It was conveyed by mapping, cataloguing and field work.</p> <p>Besides the social and economical domains, the characteristics of the Garfield Park area were investigated on urban level, using the method, introduced by Ungers. He suggested to see the city as an assembly of numerous urban layers such as buildings, infrastructure, public facilities, green areas or water, etc. His method includes identifying characteristic places in the city (areas of recreation, culture, commerce, residence and work), developing and improving the specific features such "complementary places" possess.</p> <p>The points in the city, where multiple layers overlap, offer a variety of activities but at the same time this creates contradictions, which emerge between the layers. Such research methods helped to identify the points where various layers intersect. The program and spatial characteristics that are present in those layers attract people from the neighborhood and other parts of the city thus creating a potential for enhancing of the hard conditions of the environment.</p> <p>Having discovered, that new educational and community program could provide better opportunities for communities to fight recidivism and improve lives, intervention nodes were established in order to fight spatial segregation by providing connectivity between disjointed urban layers. The latter research methods resulted in new master plans and guidelines for future design.</p>

Literature and general practical preference

1. SELIGMAN, A. I., 2005. "BLOCK BY BLOCK: Neighborhoods and Public Policy on Chicago's West Side", University of Chicago Press.
2. BOOM, N., MOMMAAS, H., "Comeback cities. Transformation Strategies for Former Industrial Cities", NAI Uitgevers.
3. GRANT, C. 2004. "Crime and punishment in contemporary cities", Psychology Press.
4. TRAVIS, J. 2005. "But they all come back", Urban Institute Press.
5. HARVEY, D. 1973. Social Justice and the City, London, Arnold.
6. FOUCAULT, M. 1995. "Discipline & Punish: The Birth of the Prison", Abridged, Vintage Books.
7. WENER, R.E. 2014. "The Environmental Psychology of Prisons and Jails: Creating Humane Spaces in Secure Settings", Environment and Behavior.
8. SPATIAL INFORMATION DESIGN LAB. "Million Dollar Blocks" project. Found at: <http://spatialinformationdesignlab.org/projects/million-dollar-blocks>.
9. HAWKINS, S. 2010. "Education vs. Incarceration". Found at: <http://prospect.org/article/education-vs-incarceration>.

Reflection

Relevance

One of the main problems of the community of Garfield Park, as well as the USA in general, is mass incarceration. The costs - in lives and money - are enormous. Although prisons are often far away from the most problematic neighborhoods, they become one of the most important social institutions for many blocks.

Another big issue is reintegration of former inmates into society, which ends up most of times in prison reentry within 3 years. These facts have to be approached in order to enable people to make a better transition from prison to the community, and to interrupt vicious cycles of recidivism.

This project tries to examine the faults of existing American incarceration system and conditions that have created it, with the intentions of deriving a new design. A new transitional facility between the prison and outside world is proposed. "Exodus Home" is a halfway house for ex-offenders and non-violent criminals, merged with educational facility for residents and ex-convicts. It will provide therapy and an opportunity of positive daily life.

An investment into an educational facility for ex-convicts on a longer term helps to create new productive members of society, unlike investment into prisons, which ensures inmates have no future.

Time planning

Week 01 – 07: Research phase, research book production.

Week 07: Chicago trip, site visit.

Week 08: Reflection, trip conclusions.

Week 09: P1. Final studio research book.

Week 10 – 13: Urban strategy development

Week 14 – 15: Urban strategy presentation and master plan draft

Week 16 – 19: Finalizing master plan design and personal project design proposal

Week 20: P2 + 'Lecture Series Research Methods and Design Practices' position paper delivery.

Week 21 – 21: Design concept improvement, functional zoning, massing design + New Urban questions or minor infractions seminars essay delivery and 'Self' seminar presentation.

Week 22 – 26: Design detailing, materialization, site plan.

Week 27 – 28: P3

Week 29 – 31: Design detailing, structure detailing, technical drawings.

Week 32 – 33: Models, renderings

Week 34 – 35: P4

Week 36 – 39: Preparing final presentation, improving drawings and models.

Week 40 – 41: P5