Graduation Plan

Master of Science Architecture, Urbanism & Building Sciences
## Graduation Plan: All tracks

### Personal information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Stijn Stam</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Student number</td>
<td>4432304</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone number</td>
<td>06-30404921</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private e-mail address</td>
<td><a href="mailto:stijn_stam@hotmail.com">stijn_stam@hotmail.com</a></td>
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### Studio

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name / Theme</th>
<th>Complex Cities</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Teachers / tutors</td>
<td>Francisco Colombo &amp; Luisa Calabrese</td>
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<tr>
<td>Argumentation of choice of the studio</td>
<td>I want to get a grip on the complexity of the growth of Amsterdam and I want to get from researching the large into interventions which are key for this research group.</td>
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### Graduation project

| Title of the graduation project | Amsterdam-Noord: The development of and the liveability in the north side of Amsterdam |

### Goal

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Location:</th>
<th>Amsterdam Noord</th>
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<tr>
<td>The posed problem,</td>
<td>Amsterdam is a popular city which creates problems on the housing market and in the overcrowded inner city. Amsterdam-Noord has been, to a large extend, a problem area for a long time. Now that the city needs to develop I want to explore how Noord can contribute to the goals of the municipality. The so called transformation zone at the northern IJ-bank will probably be developed quite easily, the difficult and therefore interesting part is the area behind.</td>
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Research questions and design assignment in which these result:

Main question:
- How can the area above the transformation zone in Amsterdam-Noord contribute to the building- and crowd control goals of the municipality, whereby the liveability of the area will increase?

Sub questions:
- What is the best area to intervene in?
- How can the intervention contribute to the goals of the city?
- What identity fits the area where the intervention takes place?
- How can the liveability of the area north of the transformation zone increase?
Design assignment:
The place where the intervention will take place is the area around the last stop of the new metro line which will probably be operating in 2018, called Buikslotermeer. This new metro line connects areas with clear identities and a clear function for the city. However this area does not have a clear purpose to fulfil in this context while it has great potential. The design assignment is to create an identity for the area which will have a meaning on a city district-, city and regional scale. The intervention will be a design with a program related to this identity, whereby the liveability of Noord will increase.
**Process**

**Method description**

- **Source research**
  - Koers 2025 (Gemeente Amsterdam, 2016)
  - Stad in balans (Gemeente Amsterdam, 2015a)
  - Agenda groen (Gemeente Amsterdam, 2015c)
  - Toekomstvisie 2030 (Stadsdeel Noord, 2013)
  - Etc.

- **Literature research**
  - Historical research
  - Liveability
  - Trends
  - Area identity

- **Research location**
  - Historical research
  - Data analyses
  - Spatial analyses
  - Ongoing developments
  - Interviews municipality
  - Inventarisation
  - Fieldwork
  - Impact of Noord/Zuidoijn

- **Analysis of ongoing plans**

- **Establish a prognosis and define questions**

- **Define area to zoom in**

- **Global & local trends**

- **Create identity**

- **Scenario studies**

- **Define program**

- **Define interventions**

- **Design interventions**
Reflection

Relevance

Social relevance

Amsterdam is growing rapidly in number of inhabitants. The problem is that due to the lack of new built real estate and the popularity of the city, there is not enough housing for everybody. This creates an overheating market, which has insufficient supply for the demand. Real estate prices are going through the roof and affordable
rental housing is hard to find. The rising prices and waiting lists make the city inaccessible for certain people, especially in the middle class. They earn too much for social housing and cannot afford the rising real estate prices.

Furthermore the shortage of affordable housing will create a gap in the housing market for starters. This brings the city in need to build new houses to enlarge the supply to reduce prices. So densifying the city is of big social relevance to keep the city accessible for different kinds of people. Building houses areas have to facilitate in urban needs and have to have a good liveability to life in.

**Scientific relevance**
Other cities that are growing rapidly will often face the same problems as Amsterdam. In large cities such as Paris and London the problems Amsterdam is facing are already visible. London’s city centre has extreme real estate prices, where only rich and often foreign investors invest in. In Paris the segregation is extremely present, where the people in the outskirts often literally hate the ones from within the city centre. In smaller cities these problems often exist less, which is one of their strengths. However with the growth of these cities large cities’ problems will drop in. It is important to see how fast growing smaller cities can take advantage of the new incoming people who boost the economy and gentrify areas, but also pay attention to the accessibility of the city and its housing market. To find a way to keep the city divers and to see how higher classes can live together with lower classes.