Graduation Plan

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

Submit your Graduation Plan to the Board of Examiners (Examencommissie-BK@tudelft.nl), Mentors and Delegate of the Board of Examiners one week before P2 at the latest.

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

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<th>Personal information</th>
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<td>Name</td>
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<td>Private e-mail address</td>
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<th>Studio</th>
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<td>Teachers / tutors</td>
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<td>Argumentation of choice of the studio</td>
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stands for those who are not in Employment, Education or Training, and have already caused social problem in contemporary society. The number of NEETs in Europe, America and Asia increase every year, posing threat to economy and public health.

In 2100, it is believed that the number of NEETs even will soar to an unimaginable level. This is mainly due to three factors. The problem of addiction brought about by the advanced technology will make human beings more isolated. The dramatic changes in the job market will eliminate those who are less competitive and lack adaptability. The gap between the rich and the poor will result in serious health gap. These factors all lead to NEETs, and make them probably the most vulnerable marginal group in the future society. We can even say that in 2100, we are all likely to become NEETs.

There are two main problems of the NEETs. The first one is their poor living environment. They usually put themselves in enclosed, narrow and messy living conditions that are extremely damaging to mental and physical health. The second is that they have no ways to improve their skills and establish confidence. They need places for human interaction, to learn and work together: not only to gain knowledge, but also to enhance their interpersonal skills and regain their self-esteem, so that they can return to society.

**Research questions and**

1. How to cleanse, heal and reintegrate NEETs, by improving their living condition and offer self-development opportunities?
2. To what extent can collective activities and communal support benefit the reintegration of NEETs?
3. Is it possible to define a new type of community that combines habitation,
skill acquirement and mental care together for the detox process of NEETs?

4. How to define the specific programs inside this community? And how to determine the detox process and reintegration timeline?

**Design Assignment in which these result.**

A detox life sharing community providing temporary residence and personal improvement programs for NEETs. This community focuses on treatment of NEETs, by introducing nature and serenity and creating a technology limited environment. Various collective activities will be encouraged such as co-living, co-working, co-learning, collective farming, etc. By building a strong community bond through these activities, the NEET people learn all kinds of knowledge and skills that are necessary for returning to society. Most importantly, they will be able to rebuild their self-confidence, regain trust to others, and retain hope for life. This community also features a smooth transition between specially designed detox housing and normal housing neighborhoods, which corresponds to the social reintegration process of NEETs.

**Process**

**Method Description**

The main research methodology I choose for my thesis is Historical Research. Specifically, I look into how to build up a historical narrative, along with the study of chronology and mapping. Historical narratives are always associated with two important concepts: time and space. Historians construct stories through chronology (time), and set physical backdrops (space) to describe events. Our research assignment strongly relates to “space” and “time”, as we are inspecting how Amsterdam will change spatially in a time frame of 80 years. This correspondence to some extent also leads to my decision of choosing chronology and mapping as supplemented research technique.

The process of historical research is also in line with that of Complex Project. Our studio exercise can be summarized by three stages: data collection, analysis of trends, and formation of a personal perspective. Students are required to look back in history, collect data, identify development patterns and build their own story lines.
accordingly. This is strongly in accordance with structuring a historical narrative. According to American historian Hayden White, historical narrative is a practice which is critical about the explanation of the structures and process of its study object. Historical research first accumulate data and evidence from the past, then arrange them in “an interpretative framework”. By drawing on historical experience, one recognizes the law of development of specific affairs, thus forming a unique interpretation.

Literature and general practical preference

Precedents:
- Bridgepoint active healthcare center, Toronto
- Rehabilitation Centre Groot Klimmendaal, Arnhem
- Center for cancer and health, Copenhagen
- Tietgen dormitory, Copenhagen
- The Collective, Stratford
- Welive 110 Wall Street, New York

Literature:

Reflection

Relevance

In the 2100 vision, our group defines the Amstel area as a sub-city center dominated by (P)leisure, where a large number of residents will enjoy a splendid high quality life. However, the coin always has two sides. When other projects are based on the positive side of the future, we must see that in a densely populated urban area, many vulnerable groups will not be taken care of. Future technologies and medical services may guarantee the basic survival of all, but it can’t be guaranteed that everyone can live a meaningful life. NEETs is one of these minorities that cannot be ignored. They are addicted to technology, unable to adapt to the future working environment, and are physically and mentally suffering. Attention needs to be paid to NEETs in order to make our future vision more realistic and comprehensive.
This project is reflecting on the notion of (P)leisure. What is the truth of a meaningful life, if everything can be taken care of by automated machines? Does the joy of life equal to a variety of entertainment activities, such as social media, gaming, augmented reality? What awaits us in the end when our lives are filled with this overwhelming excitement? In such a society full of all kinds of stimuli and even temptations, will people instead be indifferent, isolated, and lose their meaning of life and mutual care? The treating process of NEETs goes against this tide, by letting them return to nature, regain peace of mind and re-establish the connection between people. This is an exploration that may act as a wake-up call for future life.

**Time planning**

**p0.5: (week 1-5) Introduction:**
- site investigation, general research,
- spatial impressions by collage making,
- development of first spatial fascinations

**p1: (week 5-10) Research:**
- hard data + soft data group research,
- define personal research methods, form first research question

**p1.5: (week 10-15) Position & Ambition:**
- further group research, define clear group vision,
- clarify personal interest, further personal research,
- first program decision

**p2: (week 15-20) Design Brief:**
- all-round group research,
- comprehensive personal proposal, design ambition
- site selection and urban strategy, rough massing

**p2.5: (week 20-25) Massing and Concept:**
- massing studies, (final massing)
- conceptual design, clearly define programs (1:500 plan & section)
- final decision on site selection (1:1000 site plan)

**p3: (week 25-30) Spatial and climate design:**
- spatial qualities, plans development, (model making, 1:200 plan & section)
- climate and mechanical strategies (rough detail drawings)

**p4: (week 30-35) Materialization:**
- finalize program relationships, circulations, spatial qualities, (1:200 plans and section finalization)
- confirm details, material selection, (1:50 & 1:10 details)
- rendering and other visualizations

**p5: (week 35-40) Finalization:**
- architectural drawings 1:200, 1:50, detail drawings 1:10/1:5
- graphic presentation, artist impressions,
- final model