Graduation Plan

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

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<th>Personal information</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student number</td>
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<td>Telephone number</td>
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<td>Private e-mail address</td>
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<th>Studio</th>
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<tr>
<td>Name / Theme</td>
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<td>Teachers / tutors</td>
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<th>Graduation project</th>
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<td>Title of the graduation project</td>
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<td>Goal</td>
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<td>Location:</td>
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<td>The posed problem, research questions and design assignment in which these result.</td>
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Nowadays Europe is facing rise in intolerance towards non-western and western immigrants. Crisis emerges between ethnic minorities and eastern European migrants. Although, the problem is a global issue, I decided to focus on Netherlands – particularly on Rotterdam as my case study. Immigrants and asylum seekers are facing increasing difficulties in the Dutch realm. Hampered access to health services and education contributes to health complications among children and lowers their chances for a successful future. Discrimination and violence causes rejection from society, a feeling of seclusion, which affects children’s development on multiple levels.

Within the research conducted I wanted to find out in what way an architect is able...
to bridge the gap between immigrant and native Dutch children, as well as their families. I decided to target 0-12 age group – a period of children’s life, which is said to be extremely crucial for shaping adolescence character, goals and attitude towards life. In order to find the tools for a design I explored the notion of happiness, and positive psychology principles.

The primary aim is to discovery how an architect can trigger changes on children’s emotional condition through architectural means. I want to translate the positive psychology dogmas into the language of architecture. Researchers admit that naturally and artificially created environmental circumstances may influence the joy of everyday life unconsciously. Among several examples, architecture is the field, which gives the possibility to achieve a goal in improving particular situation on a social level. Certainly architecture or urban planning is not the only answer or medium, however wisely performed can get a powerful meaning.

Ideally the design ought to include three significant elements of a positive design focusing on body mind and soul, where each of the component triggers a distinctive type of subjective well being, which differs from the length of joy to the medium experiencing it. With positive design strategy scientists are discovering what is right with you as a human and how to promote it and strengthen one’s qualities. Thus, within the project I’m not focusing on ‘treatment’ but on ‘prevention’, unveiling children’s potentials and provide them a head start. This methodology will be reflected in a design of a center for comprehensive early childhood, primary education, health, nutrition, parent and community involvement services for immigrant children and their families. Although, the primary goal is to focus on immigrant youth and bridge the gap between their and native’s development, I believe that such an institution will attract Native Dutch who will be finally willing to interact with the multi cultural society.

### Process

**Method description**

Research is divided into two parts.

The first step is to concentrate on statistic data and chosen literature on Dutch children status and current health and educational system looking though the lenses of immigrants as a study. This part of the research is extended with on-site visits (Feijenoord), meetings and interviews with people engaged in the topic and conference attendance.

Secondly, certain literature references will be analyzed to comprehend psychology of happiness, and relation of architecture and urban planning towards people’s condition.

The next phase will be a step between the main research observations and outcomes into architectural anatomy. A collection of movies, sketches and photographs of
children’s appropriation of space will be created, as well as analysis of existing references in regard to positive psychology dogmas and children’s socio-cultural development. I envision this as a step between P2 outcomes and P3 deliverables.

**Literature and general practical preference**

**Literature:**


van Eyck, A., Ligtelijn, V. (2008). The child, the city and the artist, SUN

**Statistics:**

CBS [www.cbs.nl]
Statistical yearbook of the Netherlands 2014
Rotterdam Sociaal Gemeten, 2e meting Sociale Index

**Articles:**


**Movies:**

Belic, R. (2011), Happy, USA

**Reflection**

**Relevance**

The project is developed in order to raise awareness of growing intolerance in European Union countries. I want to indicate the consequences of discrimination behavior in nowadays society and what we can do to change it in the near future. Moreover I want to underline the significance of recently developed off shoot of psychology, which steps away from treatment methodology into prevention, showing that every person can be responsible for their level of happiness, if only motivated and supported well.
The design program is aiming to provide proper educational and health care background for the children whose start is disadvantaged in comparison to Dutch children, with the use of positive psychology principles. Ideally, the project will reflect that people should treat everybody as unique human beings with equal rights, and that society can only gain from contacts with multi cultural groups.

### Time planning

The following time planning contains of specific stages within the process of graduation. The whole process consists of 5 phases, formal ones - P2 and P4 are followed by the examination. The phase P1 and P3 are informal, conduct within the studio. The project ends with a final product in the form of detailed drawings, models and a presentation during the P5 phase.

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<th>Phase</th>
<th>Stages</th>
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| **P1** | - Preliminary research is conducted.  
- Introduction of the topic of interest (fascination).  
- Statement regarding research question, project goal and methodology. |
| **P2** | - Research development.  
- Introduction of main research observations and outcomes: extended analysis of the situation in Europe and the Netherlands, comprehension of positive psychology principles; research methodology through: statistical data, literature and movies' references, on-site visits, interviews and thematic conference attendance; indication of analysis' results leading towards a design.  
- Transition into a design strategy: site and program indication; architectural statement as a draft concept design (including master plan sketches, axos, 3d views and plans of zoomed-in location, as well as a physical working model).  
- Presentation of further research and design steps: search for a proper transition between research outcomes and architectural anatomy; basing on literature references, appropriation of space observations etc. (a step between P2 and P3 deliverables). |
| **P3** | - Introduction of transition between theoretical research into architectural language (analytical drawings of chosen references, movies, sketches etc.) |
- Development of an architectural concept: conceptual physical models.
- Advanced design: plans, sections, facades in scales 1:100/1:200; master plan in scales 1:500/1:1000.
- Technical drawings: fragments of plan and section in scale 1:20; detail in scale 1:5.

P4:
- The end of a designing process.
- Final drawings development: plans, sections, facades in scales 1:100/1:200; master plan in scales 1:500/1:1000; fragments of plan and section in scale 1:20; detail in scale 1:5.
- Results of theoretical research, spatial analysis, and final drawings are presented.

P5:
- The project and drawings are being refined and prepared for final delivery and a public presentation.
- Reflection on the design in relation to the research previously conducted.
- Presentation of final materials: plans, sections, facades in scales 1:100/1:200; master plan in scales 1:500/1:1000; fragments of plan and section in scale 1:20; detail in scale 1:5; final physical model