

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:

Personal information	
Name	Yi Go
Student number	5786924

Studio		
Name / Theme	Complex Projects: Body and Buildings	
Main mentor	Olindo Caso	Architecture
Second mentor	Rico Heykant	Building Technology
Third mentor	Martin Grech	Architecture
Argumentation of choice of the studio	<p>The Complex Projects graduation studio provides an opportunity to study, question, and speculate the trajectory of public buildings. Since these building types are intrinsically serving people, it aligns with my personal belief that although architecture cannot “solve” social issues, its presence in our daily lives can foster social processes. Of course, in reality, this can only occur in relation and in response to various societal forces beyond the scope of an “architect”, which this studio recognizes and therefore integrates in its framework (Site, Program, Client) when developing the design brief.</p> <p>Furthermore, the graduation studio culture fosters a collaborative working method; and the use of various presentation formats equip us with professional communication skills. I believe that these are integral skills when practicing as an “architect”, who not only designs space, but must also act as an active mediating agent between different parties.</p>	

Graduation project	
Title of the graduation project	Treffpunkt Berlin – An Intercultural Public Library in Gesundbrunnen
Goal	
Location:	Gesundbrunnen, Berlin, Germany

<p>The posed problem,</p>	<p>Global migration flows are increasing for various reasons, and societies around the world are becoming increasingly culturally diverse.</p> <p>Germany is currently the second top destination for international migrants. The country has already received multiple waves of immigrants in the past century – from guest workers to refugees – but its attitude toward foreign newcomers has historically been conservative. However, with the Skilled Immigration Act (<i>Fachkräfteeinwanderungsgesetz</i>) passed in 2023, the Federal Government now aims to push Germany into a “Modern Immigration Country” (<i>Ein Modernes Einwanderungsland</i>).</p> <p>Within this new national ambition, the integration of foreign newcomers is highly prioritised; and public institutions are expected to facilitate this two-way process between local Berliners and foreign newcomers.</p> <p>To support this, the public library emerges as a highly relevant institution. As an architectural typology, it began as a house for collections and on-site reading. Yet over time, digitalisation has largely reduced the need for this building to fulfil this specific function; thus liberating and shifting its focus to become an active site of social connections, where people from all walks of life can encounter each other regularly.</p> <p>Furthermore, in Berlin’s future city development, the Senate envisions the public library as a mixed-use centre for strengthening social cohesion and bringing life to new residential districts (<i>Neue Stadtquartiere</i>). While there are already well-located public libraries – already enjoyed by existing Berliners of the vicinity – that can serve these districts, they are not spatially nor technically equipped to meet the multimedia & multi-programmatic needs for this social ambition.</p>
<p>research questions and</p>	<p>How can we design a public library that facilitates the integration of migrants into the local community?</p>
<p>design assignment in which these result.</p>	<p>This calls for the project to critically examine and design a district-level public library, which primarily aims to be a social connector for facilitating integration. The secondary goals are to host and disseminate diverse media types; and to serve as an upgraded futureproof district centre.</p>

	<p>Corresponding to its projected catchment population, the total building size should offer 15500m² (GFA) with the following thematic program groups and corresponding key spaces:</p> <p>Informal Intercultural Exchange (Market)</p> <p>Co-Creation & Dissemination (Studios)</p> <p>Conscious Language Learning (Open Collections)</p> <p>Support (Data Stacks)</p> <p>Relation between programs must be cautiously arranged, due to the wide range of sound levels (30-115 dB) involved.</p> <p>Furthermore, with respect to city development, the project should be a flexible implant – a futureproof building that can adapt to changes.</p> <p>The site of this project is the urban block of Luisenbad, in Gesundbrunnen – the locality with the highest percentage of migrant residents in Berlin today. There is already an existing library (<i>Bibliothek am Luisenbad</i>) that the project should consider reusing, in accordance with its monument status and historical meaning to the area.</p>
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Process

Method description

Under the Complex Projects graduation studio methodology, a project design brief is developed with three chapters – Program, Site, Client – that have been respectively researched with the following methods:

Program

Nine key case studies are chosen and categorised in relation to the project's interests. They are understood and examined via GFA Benchmarking, Relation Diagramming, and Context Mapping. In addition, the spaces of individual programs are extracted and studied to understand and compare their functional requirements, thus forming an Inventory for the project.

Site

Mappings are primarily used to understand the urban context in terms of density, land use, accessibility, and distribution of relevant facilities in the vicinity. Historical studies (via newspapers, online literature) are done to understand the significance of

the site; physical visits add an experiential layer to this. Furthermore, thorough knowledge of the existing library *Bibliothek am Luisenbad* was directly obtained from the architect, through email correspondence and drawings. The site is also understood by “optioneering” massing models, in order to gauge the impact and feasibility of certain architectural moves. In this process, further case studies with similar spatial conditions have also been referenced.

Client

Since there are a variety of stakeholders involved with integration efforts, public library services, and city development processes, it is important to extract the most important ones and highlight their interrelations. This is primarily done by examining their ambitions, via self-published introductions (primary source, e.g. official website), and funding projects.

Literature and general practical references

Literature

Becker, Charlotte Clara. "Migrants' Social Integration and Its Relevance for National Identification: An Empirical Comparison Across Three Social Spheres." *Frontiers in Sociology* 6, (January 2022): 1-15. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fsoc.2021.700580>.

Berlinghoff, Marcel. "Germany: From a Non-Immigration Country to a Country of Integration and Back?." *Fair Observer*, July 17, 2011. <https://www.fairobserver.com/region/europe/germany-non-immigration-country-country-integration-and-back/>.

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European Parliament. "Digital Cultural Diversity." Accessed October 12, 2023. [https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/BRIE/2021/690570/EPRS_BRI\(2021\)690570_EN.pdf](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/BRIE/2021/690570/EPRS_BRI(2021)690570_EN.pdf).

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Federal Ministry of the Interior, Building and Community. *Welcome to Germany: Information for Immigrants*. Berlin: Federal Ministry of the Interior, Building and Community, 2021.

Federal Ministry of Justice. "Act on the Residence, Economic Activity and Integration of Foreigners in the Federal Territory." Accessed November 10, 2023. https://www.gesetze-im-internet.de/englisch_aufenthg/englisch_aufenthg.html.

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International Organization for Migration. No. 34 International Migration Law: Glossary on Migration. Geneva: IOM, 2019. https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/iml_34_glossary.pdf.

International Organization for Migration. World Migration Report 2022. Geneva: IOM, 2021. <https://publications.iom.int/books/world-migration-report-2022>.

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Klarenbeek, Lea M. "Re-conceptualising 'integration as a two-way process'." Migration Studies 9, no. 3 (2021): 902-921. <https://doi.org/10.1093/migration/mnz033>.

Marie D. Martel, Marie D. and White, Bob. "Third Place Libraries as a Space for Intercultural Participation: A Dynamic Learning Model for Creating Culturally Safe Environments." Accessed November 9, 2023. <https://scholarcommons.sc.edu/newlibrarianshipsymposia/newlibrarianshipsymposia/edi/16/>.

Key Precedents

DOKK1, Schmidt Hammer Lassen Architects (2015)

Lochal, CIVIC Architects et al. (2019)

Fondo, Pich-Aguilera Architects (2008)

Tūranga, Schmidt Hammer Lassen Architects (2018)
Markthalle IX/Neun, H.W.A. Blankenstein/Raumlabor (1891/2011)
Markthal, MVRDV (2014)

Reflection

1. What is the relation between your graduation (project) topic, the studio topic (if applicable), your master track (A,U,BT,LA,MBE), and your master programme (MSc AUBS)?

The Complex Projects graduation studio – titled “Bodies and Building” – speculates on how typologies have changed over time, potentially in response to evolving human practices. In connection to this, this project speculates on the trajectory of the public library, whose focus is shifting further away from merely housing collections, toward an active site of social connections. This entails architectural challenges that the project should respond to.

Within the studio, we have been divided into groups, each invited to approach the building with an additional “lens”. This project engages with the digitalisation lens in three main ways. Firstly and most importantly, digitalisation has exacerbated the typological shift from the public library as a house of collections to a site of social connections. Secondly, it has diversified mediums of information which should be spatially catered for. Thirdly, it allows this information to be disseminated for a wider audience, which shall be architecturally expressed in alignment with our group strategy of making invisible data infrastructure visible.

In relation to the Architecture track and master programme, the studio requires the project to be addressed by a building. This particular project will touch upon the architectural challenges of how to relate to existing buildings and the ground level; how to spatially organise programs of different sound level & technical requirements; and how to achieve “futureproof” space.

2. What is the relevance of your graduation work in the larger social, professional and scientific framework.

Socially, the project responds to facilitate the two-way integration of foreigners and locals. This would not be only relevant to Berlin or Germany, but also to other receivers of migrants and diverse societies around the world, owing to a global increase in migration flows.

In the professional and scientific fields, the project contributes to a specific understanding of what the library typology today demands from architects – the ability to host programs and media of varying technical & spatial requirements, organized by sound – and, by materializing this through design, the project should provide a broader speculation of how the typology can evolve.