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	Pia Bosveld
Student number	5044820

Studio		
Name / Theme	Urban Ecology	
Main mentor	Nico Tillie	Landscape Architecture
Second mentor	Mo Smit	Architecture
Argumentation of choice of the studio	Vast interest in ecology and how to connect ecological intervention on multiple scaless	

Graduation project	
Title of the graduation project	The circular peat farm landscape
Goal	
Location:	Area 'low midlands', Friesland, The Netherlands
The posed problem,	The area 'low midlands' in the province of Friesland in the Netherlands, needs to address the development of a sustainable circular farm landscape – that integrates circular agricultural practices, considers regional peat soil, and evaluates its correlation with water-related challenges that cause peat oxidation – by formulating a spatial framework to foster agricultural sustainability in the region.
research questions and	On the posed problem a hypothesis has been formed. **Hypothesis** Circular agriculture practices will relieve the peat oxidation in the ´low midlands´ in Friesland, the Netherlands.

	Research question "What is the spatial framework based on circular agriculture to relieve peat oxidation in the 'low midlands' in Friesland, the Netherlands?" **Sub question 1** "What is the ecosystem of the peat landscapes in Friesland, the Netherlands?" **Sub question 2** "What are the characteristics of circular agriculture practices in relation to peat oxidation?" **Sub question 3** "What heritage agriculture practices align with circular agriculture practices in relation to peat oxidation?"
design assignment in which these results.	The design assignment will be to formulate a regional vision of circular agricultural practices that will relieve peat oxidation. Followed by multiple zoom-ins focusing on the ecological, spatial, and social implications of a circular farm landscape.

Process

Method description

Each sub-question will be answered following multiple methods. They are first answered based on literature research, developing the theoretical framework with each sub-question. The questions are furthermore researched by interviewing the main stakeholders of each subject, such as circular peat farmers, organizations relating to peat landscapes, and remaining practitioners of heritage agriculture practices. Lastly, design research will be done to understand the implications of the changes in the landscape. These different methods ultimately give a scientific, practical, and spatial understanding of a circular peat farm landscape.

Literature and general practical references

Kuipers, S. F. (1966). *Bodemkunde*.

Huizenga, K.E.A. (2014). *Oogst van de Veenlandschappen: cultuurhistorie en bijna vergeten beheertechnieken voor opbrengst van erf en terrein.*

Stichting Demeter. (2023, juli). *Demeter-voorwaarden handboek*. https://www.stichtingdemeter.nl/uploads/2023-07-demeter-voorwaarden-handboek-webversie.eac82f.pdf

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 focus of my topic is the peat landscape, the circular economy, and agriculture practices. This relates to my studio topic, urban ecology, as I will be researching the peat landscape and its ecological implications. The goal for the graduation project, and the relation to landscape architecture, is to design a landscape that is suitable for a circular society, taking spatial, social, and ecological implications into account. The research into the circular economy forms the relation to the master program.

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

   This project will bring a new look into the transition towards a circular economy. It also will add to the discussion that has been happening over the last few years about the sustainability of agriculture. Finally, it will result in a design decreasing peat oxidation of the peat landscape.