

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	
Student number	

Studio	
Name / Theme	Public Building Graduation Studio
Main mentor	Project Design - PD
Second mentor	Technical Building Design - TBD
Third mentor	Research - TD
Argumentation of choice of the studio	An architect should deal with social and political problems – a politician wearing a hat of an architect. Nowadays, politicians have the power to "solve" common problems. However, how reliable is a politician, or a journalist in society? The choice of this Studio consists in exploring how a "public building" functions differently from how we are used to seeing it. An alternative model, which may become an example for the current society we live in.

Graduation project	
Title of the graduation project	TITLE: Hosting Binary Opposites SUBTITLE: A RPEE Center in Friedrichshain, Berlin
Goal	
Location:	Friedrichshain, Berlin, Germany
The posed problem,	<i>Judicial closed cases, but not clarified -</i> In Berlin, on January 18, 2023, thousands of people hit the streets to demonstrate – 8,000 according to the police, more than 20,000 according to the organizers. Protests have to do with cases that are not clarified yet – social and juridical problems or State violence. An example is the case of a 21-year-old guy, Halit Yozgat, murdered in the Internet cafe, with the presence of the intelofficer in the room next door. During interrogation, the officer denied witnessing the incident; 'not heard, not smelled, not seen'. Several weeks after the murder, the investigating police declared that he was no longer a defendant. After, the German courts also accepted his testimony. Another situation is the murder of nine people on Feb. 19, 2020,

	<p>in Hanau. In a criminal case filed by family members and relatives, the allegation was discussed that the bar's emergency exit was often closed by police. Reports indicate that the emergency exit was indeed previously closed. <i>If anyone of the attendees had run to the emergency exit, and it had been open, would they have had time to escape and would they have survived?</i></p> <p>The relationship of politics to space, not only determines the line of politics, but also influences both the physical properties and symbolic meanings of space. According to Buci-Glucksmann, "urbanization" is one of the devices for hegemony. Thus, public buildings as educational institutions, cultural institutions, information organization, the residential framework and urbanization can be <u>hegemonic devices</u>. According to Edward Soja, 'hegemonic powers do not simply naively manipulate given differences between individuals and social groups', but actively produce and reproduce differences as a key strategy to create and maintain forms of social and spatial division conducive to their continued dominance.</p>
<p>research questions and</p>	<p>The strategies of social and spatial division can be accepted as one of the means of hegemonic power. Therefore, in this case, <u>a counter hegemonic</u> process must oppose this differentiation and division. So, this space doesn't have to be just a new meeting place, but <u>a space for oppositional practices, for multiple communities of resistance</u> (Soja, 1996). Soja calls this possibility 'Thirdspace'.</p> <p>RQ: <u>'How can a Public Building act as Thirdspace?'</u></p> <p><i>Sub-questions: What urban and architectural strategies are necessary to implement forms of civic engagement and resistance? How can architecture host and celebrate binary opposites? What spatial features will the third space have in Berlin?</i></p>
<p>design assignment in which these result.</p>	<p>Soja defines that the Thirdspace has the potential to expand its borders by theorizing the relationships between all <u>binary opposites</u>. Consequently, this graduation project will consist in a multi-scale proposal:</p>

	<p><i>Urban Program - Protest Route</i> Staging binary opposites - The protest route takes place from the bridge near the Berlin Wall via Warschauwerstrasse to the new building with a number of stopovers.</p> <p><i>Building Program – RPEE center</i> A center for Research, Production, Exchange and Exhibition (RPEE) - The building is an international research center that brings cases under scrutiny, but also addresses juridical and social problems. The building will accommodate the work of an interdisciplinary team, who will look at things from a new, unbiased perspective. Research, production, exchange and exhibitions constitute the main programmatic activities of the building.</p>
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Process

Method description

Taking own position with literature and case study

Part 1 Theoretical Framework 'Thirdspace' (sub-literature, see bibliography)

- Edward W. Soja (1996). *Thirdspace*. In addition to the literature, also a practical example is provided. The second part of the book *Thirdspace* is a reflection on the applicability of his ideas in the reality of Los Angeles and Amsterdam. For his micro-geographical explorations, Soja spent some time in the city in 1990, observing daily life from the Spuistraat. Much attention is paid to the spatial effects.

- Bhabha, Homi K. (2004). *The Location of Culture; Bhabha's Hybridity and the Third Space in Postcolonial Discourse*. Third space can also be found in the work of Homi Bhabha. He uses it to explain postcolonialism as an elusive cultural function that constantly eludes and undermines the image of the cultural centre. The third space is the means by which configurations such as 'self' and 'other' express their power relations and thus give them a place. A Case Study of Fifth Chinese Daughter with Homi Bhabha's Theory Jade Snow Wong, a Chinese American writer and ceramicist, published *Fifth Chinese Daughter*, an autobiographical novel. The paper interprets *Fifth Chinese Daughter* using Homi Bhabha's theory and provides a systematic analysis of how Jade Snow Wong absorbs and rejects Chinese and American cultures, and how she achieves her accomplishments," from which we can conclude that people with a hybridity mindset are able to inherit their own culture and embrace a foreign culture with an open mind".

Part 2 Observational Fieldwork Collecting 'opposites', emerging during site observation (excursion).

Part 3 Assess/Test Assessment of the elements that emerged from the literature and the case studies.

Part 4 Conclusion/taking own position Taking own position and finally answer the main question: 'How can a Public Building act as Thirdspace?'

Time planning

P3 - P2 final submission as evidence of progress of schematic design illustrating direction and content of design development. - Submission and development in Engineering Design, materialization and representative construction details.

P4 - Completed thesis report according to instructors' specifications.

P5 - Further improvements and any additional material to P4 in presentation addressed, drawings and models.

Literature and Case studies

Literature

Bhabha, Homi K. (2004). *The Location of Culture; Bhabha's Hybridity and the Third Space in Postcolonial Discourse*

Cubitt, S. (2013). *The Politics of the Line*. In: Jonathan Harris and Richard Koeck, eds. *Picasso and the Politics of Representation: War and Peace in the Era of the Cold War and Since*. Liverpool, UK: Liverpool University Press, pp. 69-88.

"Difference, Democracy and the City." In *The Promise of the City: Space, Identity, and Politics in Contemporary Social Thought*, 162-185. Berkeley, London, Los Angeles: University of California Press, 2001.

Edward W. Soja (1996). *Thirdspace*. Cambridge: Blackwell Publishers.

Fraser, N. "Politics, Culture and Public Sphere: Toward a Postmodern Conception." In *Social Postmodernism: Beyond Identity Politics*, edited by L. Nicholson and S. Seidman, 287-312. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1995.

Foucault, M., & Miskowiec, J. (1986). *Of Other Spaces*. *diacritics*, 16(1), 22-27.

Fyfe, N. R. "Introduction: Reading the Street." In *Images of the Street: Planning, Identity, and Control in Public Space*, edited by N. R. Fyfe, 1-13. London and New York: Routledge, 1998.

Keith, M. and Pile, S. "The Politics of Place, The Place of Politics." In *Place and the Politics of Identity*, edited by Michael Keith and Steve Pile, 1-41. USA and Canada: Routledge, 1993.

Massey, D. "Politics and Space/Time." In *Place and the Politics of Identity*, edited by M. Keith and S. Pile, 141-162. USA and Canada: Routledge, 1993.

Soja, E. *Thirdspace*. Cambridge: Blackwell Publishers, 1996.

"Spaces of Exclusion: Home, Locality, Nation." In *Geographies of Exclusion: Society and Difference in the West*, 90-119. London and New York: Routledge, 1995.

Sudradjat, I. (2012). *Foucault, the Other Spaces, and Human Behaviour*. *Procedia Social and Behavioural Sciences*, 36, 28-34.

Wilson, J. Q., & Kelling, G. L. (1982). *Broken windows: The police and neighborhood safety*. *Broken Windows: The Police and Neighborhood Safety*.

The "Broken Window Theory" developed by Wilson and Kelling (1982) identified four elements essential to crime: law, offender, target and place.

Case studies

Bernard Tschumi, *Museum in Athens*, 2009

OMA, ZKM Center, Zentrum fur Kunst und Medientechnologie, Karlsruhe, 1989

Toyo Ito, Sendai Mediatheque, 2001

Lina Bo Bardi, Museo de Arte de Sao Paulo, 1968

RCR Arquitectes, La Lira theatre public domain, Spain, 2011

MVRDV, Villa VPRO, 1997

CIVIC architects, Train station, Library, Adaptive Reuse, Tilburg, 2019

OMA, Axel Springer Campus, Berlin, 2019

OMA, De Kunsthal, Rotterdam, 1988-1989

M space Architects, DADFA Community Mall, Bangkok, 2018

Studio Bernardo Secchi & Paola Viganò, Theaterplein, Antwerp, 2015

David Chipperfield, Turner Contemporary, Margate, 2011

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 foundational concepts of the studio assignment are multiplicity, hybridity, sustainability, and resilience. It is argued that the Thirdspace has the potential to generate counter-spaces with its radically open perspectives on difference and others. The research focuses on the study of the Warschauerstrasse as a political choice and its subordinates (peripheral or marginalised) within the framework of the relationship between space and politics. And the relationship ultimately with the master's program and the Architecture track, which includes the choice of studios such as FSA (Form, Structure, Aesthetics), Architectural Design Crossover, and ultimately Public Building, is therefore that this track allows special attention to technological problems, but also to the critical relationship between Architecture and its political contexts.

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

In a time when cases on "fake news" are daily occurrences, this work could be increasingly relevant. The RPEE will show how conveniently we use unconscious biases and assumptions to make judgments about an event. And how often research or reports about a conflict of violence are politically "colored". Furthermore, the exhibition will be a good "eye-opener". In the world where we constantly question whether news is real or fake, expository examples here explain how quickly and conveniently we (humans in general) make wrong statements/conclusions.