

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:

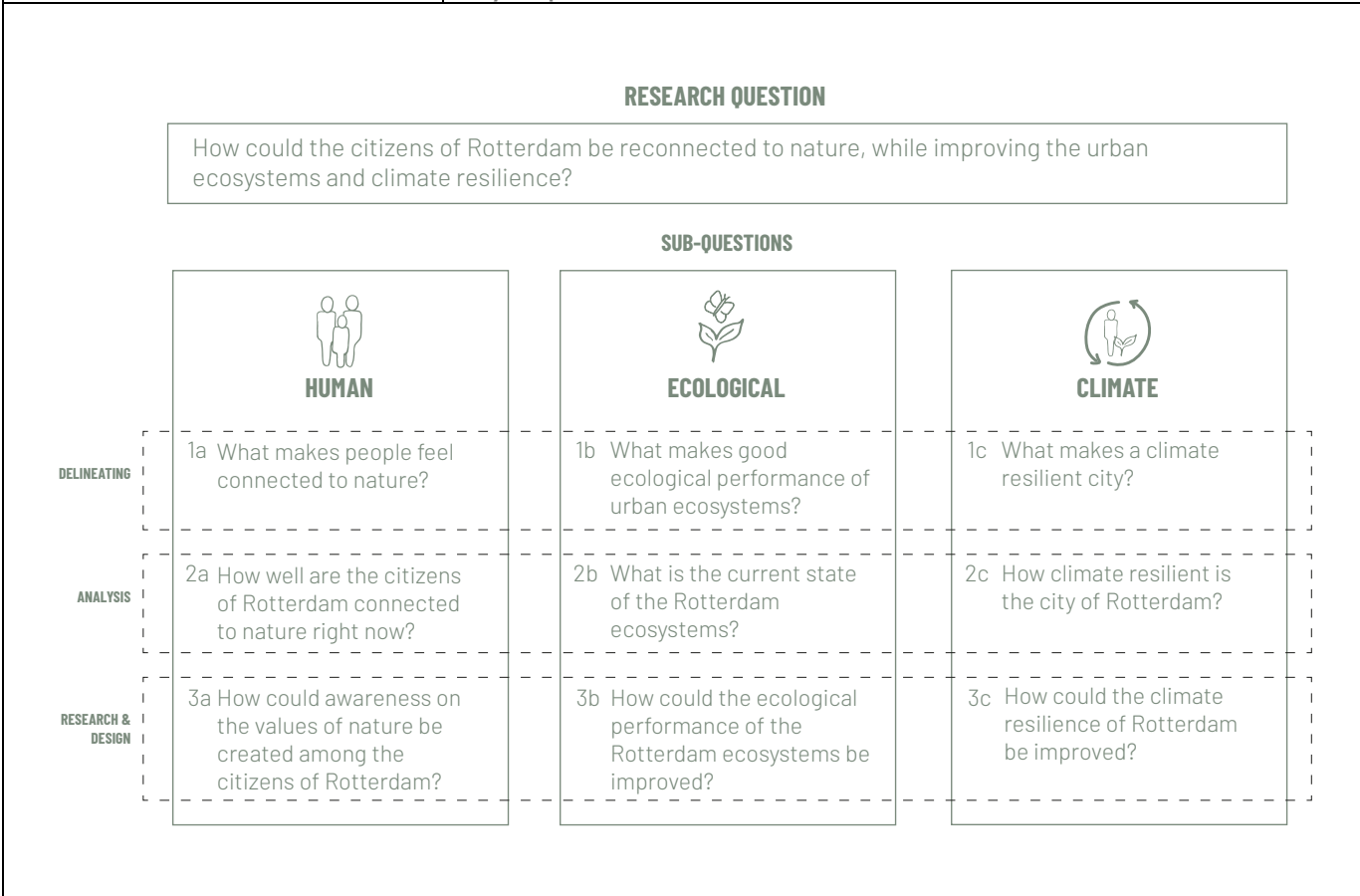
Personal information	
Name	Sanne Leonie Francissen
Student number	4563506

Studio		
Name / Theme	Urban Ecology & Ecocities	
Main mentor	Dr.ir. R.M. (Remon) Rooij	Spatial Planning & Strategy
Second mentor	Dr.ir. N.M.J.D. (Nico) Tillie	Landscape Architecture
Argumentation of choice of the studio	<p>With this graduation project, I would like to address the changing climate, the lack of natural ecosystems within the urban environment and the missing connection and awareness on the values of nature.</p> <p>The studio, Urban Ecology & Ecocities, would support this, as it is specialized in the ecological systems and what influence it has within the urban environment.</p>	

Graduation project	
Title of the graduation project	Dissolving Distinction <i>Making the city of Rotterdam part of nature</i>
Goal	
Location:	Rotterdam, The Netherlands
The posed problem,	The city of Rotterdam has lost its connection with nature as the city expanded over the years. As a result the ecological values of the city environments are low, as well as the awareness among citizens on the values and importance of nature. Besides this, the changing climate causes negative effects and future treats for the urban environment.
research questions and	<p>Main research question: "How could the citizens of Rotterdam be reconnected to nature, while improving the urban ecosystems, creating a resilient city?"</p> <p>Sub-questions:</p>

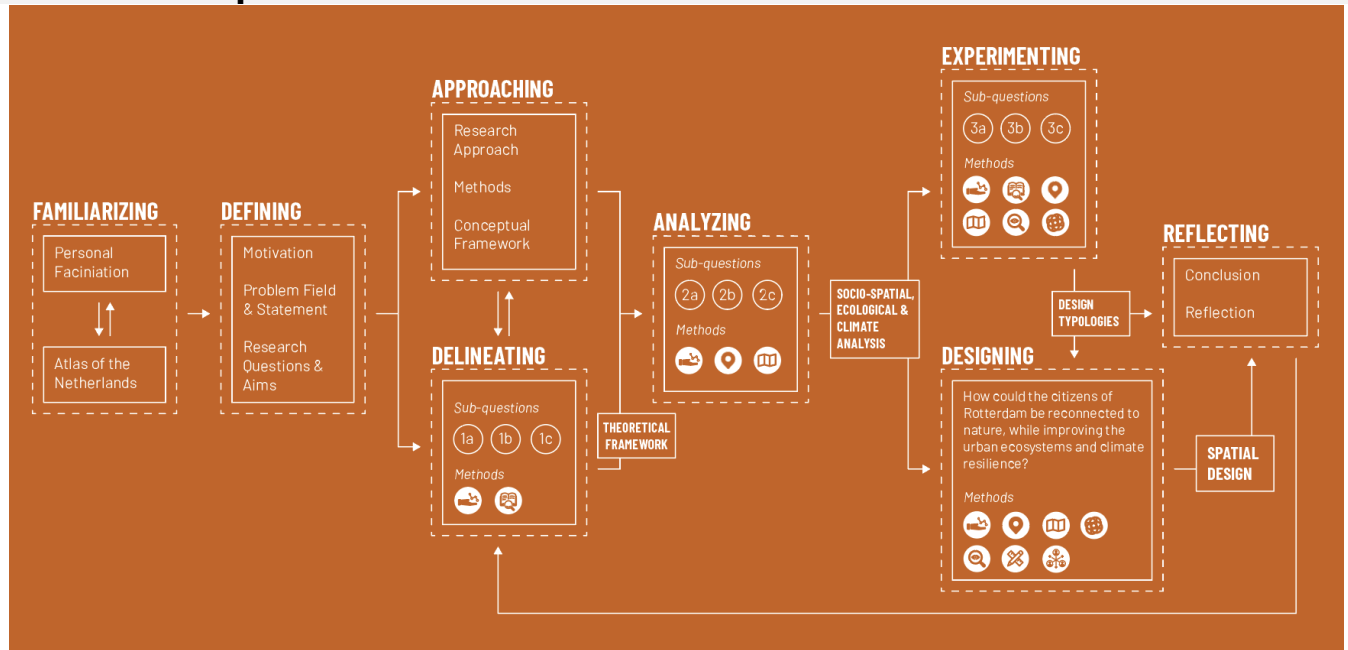
	<p>Human perspective</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - "What makes people feel connected to nature?" - "How well are the citizens of Rotterdam connected to nature right now?" - "How could awareness on the values of nature be created among the citizens of Rotterdam?" <p>Natural perspective</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - "What is a good ecological performance of urban ecosystems?" - "What is the current state of the Rotterdam ecosystems?" - "How could the ecological performance of the Rotterdam ecosystems be improved?" <p>Climate perspective</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - "What makes a climate resilient city?" - "How climate resilient is the city of Rotterdam?" - "How could the climate resilience of Rotterdam be improved?"
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<p>design assignment in which these result.</p>	<p>The aim of this research is to create an evidence informed design for (a certain location within) Rotterdam in which this city is part of nature.</p>
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Process

Method description



The figure shown above projects the process of this graduation project. In the table below, the different methods are described.

METHOD	AIM	SOURCE/SCALE/TOOLS
 DATA COLLECTION	to collect qualitative and quantitative data	literature, policy documents, QGIS, websites, news
 LITERATURE REVIEW	to delineate and substantiate the project	literature, policy documents, websites
 SITE VISITS	to understand the dynamics of the location from eye perspective	photography, filming, sketching
 MAPPING	to understand the composition of the landscape and use it as a design tool	regional, city and district
 PATTERN LANGUAGE APPROACH	to link research to design and create a set of design typologies	literature, reference projects
 REFERENCE ANALYSIS	to get inspired	literature, websites, surroundings
 DESIGN	to create an evidence informed spatial design for (a certain location of) Rotterdam	regional, city and district
 STAKEHOLDER ANALYSIS	to understand the involvement of different parties and the consequences for both them and this project	to collect qualitative and quantitative data

Literature and general practical preference

Reference List:

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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 project Dissolving Distinction focusses on creating a city that is part of nature. The studio, Urban Ecology & Ecocities, focusses, as the name already suggests, on the ecology of cities and its ecosystems. This is one of the main aspects of the graduation topic as well. The link with the master track Urbanism can be found in the context of the project, which is the city, and the outcome of the project, which will be an urban design. The goal is to encourage sustainable development within the built environment, linking to the master programme of MSc AUBS.

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

The changing climate in combination with urbanization leads to challenges within the urban environment. The consequences of climate change are already visible in the city and form a threat. Therefore, there is a high urgency to come up with solutions to create a climate resilient city. Urban ecosystems can play a big role in these solutions and the extinction of biodiversity in the city could be counterproductive. Creating awareness on the values and importance of the natural systems could contribute to sustainable development. Creating a spatial design with interventions that touch upon each of the above stated challenges is therefore relevant on both social, professional and scientific level.