

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 - THE NEW MUSEM Art + the City Re-wired	
Main mentor	Henk Bultstra	Architectural Design
Second mentor	Florian Eckardt	Building Technology
Third mentor	Sang Lee	Theory
Argumentation of choice of the studio	The civic role of architecture is always my interested field. The studio offers me a chance to explore the social and cultural meaning of public buildings. Museum, as an institution conserving and exhibiting objects of significance, engages with social and cultural issues actively. Under this globalized world where social lives are increasingly mobile, flexible and transformative, I want to explore how art museums, can be re-defined in terms of multiplicity, so that social and cultural diversity can be facilitated in the 21st century.	

Graduation project	
Title of the graduation project	The Boundless Museum: intercultural exchanges across boundaries
Goal	
Location:	Maashaven Zuidzijde, Tarwewijk, Rotterdam South, the Netherlands
The posed problem,	Cities are transformed by migration socially, culturally and spatially. While this transformation promotes heterogeneity, it also causes discrepancies and segregations. Due to social, economic and cultural contradictions, immigrants and non-immigrants often face challenges in associating with each other.

	<p>In South Rotterdam, where an influx of immigrants has been appearing since the 1960s, segregations can be obviously seen from the discrepancies between immigrants and non-immigrants in terms of income, education level and cultural background. As shown by the fact that more and more people move out from South Rotterdam, the problem of segregation has brought perceived boundaries which reduces the eagerness of people entering and living in the neighborhood.</p> <p>In view of this problem, the project aims to explore the role of a museum as intercultural exchange across perceived boundaries in South Rotterdam, so as to rediscover the inherent and multifaceted depth the port city: a place of superdiversity. Using migration as a theme, the museum is a collection of art and cultural spaces which restate the feature of South Rotterdam as a multicultural city.</p>
<p>research questions and</p>	<p><u>Main question</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How can a local art museum facilitate intercultural exchanges beyond boundaries in Rotterdam? <p><u>Sub questions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What are the problems brought by cultural divides and how do people in South Rotterdam confront them? - How do cultural differences create opportunities for art production? - In what ways have immigrants superimposed new cultural and artistic scenes to South Rotterdam?

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What is the role of art and museum in overcoming the problem of segregation?
<p>design assignment in which these result.</p>	<p><u>Urban Scale</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In an urban view, the design aims to connect the museum across physical and perceived boundaries, such as the dyke and waterfront area. The project would search for connection with other museums in the city under the theme of migration <p><u>Architectural Scale</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The design assignment aims to reflect transitions and mobility of the lives of immigrants. The translation of immigrants' encounters to architectural languages is expected. Spatial typologies would be combined and arranged to create a collage of diverse spatial experience, opening up a narrative of movements, events and space

Process

Method description

Quantitative research

- Statistics of Rotterdam, particularly demographics of neighborhoods in South Rotterdam, such as differences in income, education background and household sizes between immigrants and non-immigrants
- Statistical information about art related to or produced by immigrants, such as its market value, accessibility and popularity in the Netherlands

Qualitative research

- Immigrants' attitude towards art and how art is used as a medium to express immigrants' situations
- Current and future exhibition projects about immigrants in museums

Historical research

- The history of immigrants in Rotterdam, particularly South Rotterdam and their quality of life in these neighborhoods based on site observations, books and articles
- Relationship of guest workers and Rotterdam as a port city

Theoretical research

- Theoretical concepts such as migration, displacement and transnationalism
- Acculturation processes and cultural identity of immigrants

Literature and general practical preference

1. Experience and cultural adaptation of immigrants

Algan, Y., Bisin, A., Manning, A., & Verdier, T. (2013). *Cultural integration of immigrants in Europe*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
doi:10.1093/acprof:oso/9780199660094.001.0001

Berry, J.W. (1997) Immigration, Acculturation and Adaptation. *Applied Psychology International Review*, 46, 5–34.

Kruzykowski, K. (2007). Reconciling Two Cultures: The Experience of Immigrants and First Generation Americans from Non-Western Countries. *Social Sciences Journal*, 7 (1), 7th ser.

2. Transnationalism and Cultural Identity

Basch, L., Schiller, N. G., & Blanc, C. S. (1994). *Nations Unbound: Transnational Projects, Post-colonial Predicaments, and Deterritorialized Nation-States*. Langhorne: Gordon and Breach.

Hall, S. (1990). *Cultural identity and diaspora: Identity: Community, culture, difference*. London: Lawrence and Wishart.

3. Immigrants in Netherlands/Rotterdam

Scholten, P., Crul, M., & Laar, P. V. (2019). *Coming to Terms with Superdiversity: The Case of Rotterdam*. Cham: Springer International Publishing.

4. Art related to immigrants

Dogramaci, B., & Mersmann, B. (2019). *Handbook of art and global migration theories, practices, and challenges*. Berlin: De Gruyter.

Martiniello, M. (2016). *Multiculturalism and the arts in european cities*. London: Routledge.

5. Theoretical Projects

- The Manhattan Transcripts, Bernard Tschumi
- Parc de la Villette, Bernard Tschumi

6. Case Studies of Museums

- German Emigration Centre, Germany
- National Museum of History of Immigration, France
- Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam (Migration Program)
- Tijdelijk Museum, Amsterdam
- Tropen Museum, Amsterdam
- Van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven

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 graduation topic explores the social function of architecture in order to create intercultural dialogues. It aims to rediscover what an art museum can offer to the public, and how a city's social scene can be translated and reflected through architectural means. This matches with the purpose of this studio of designing culturally valuable civic spaces for communities, and rewiring the city through art and architecture.

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

This project strives to contribute in a larger discourse by stimulating reflections about existing social divides because of inherent differences of human, such as races, languages and religions. Traditional binary oppositions and homogenization have suppressed the voices of those who are considered being "different", strangling cultural and artistic diversity. Through bringing up the topic of "The Boundless Museum", the project aims to underline the possibility of co-existence and cultural heterogeneity across traditional contexts.