

# 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](mailto: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:

<b>Personal information</b>	
Name	Martina Marone
Student number	4924614
Telephone number	
Private e-mail address	

<b>Studio</b>		
Name / Theme	Urban Architecture / Spolia	
Main mentor	Paul Vermeulen	Architectural Design
Second mentor	Aurelie Hanchez	Architecture
Argumentation of choice of the studio	The reason behind the choice of the studio lies behind a pragmatic reason: in nowadays context one of the main themes that are ought to be faced is the great repertoire of spolia available, and the necessity and potentials of material reuse related to it. This topic is strikingly valuable to contemporary demand, given the fact that there is a considerable amount of buildings and building elements that do not carry a strong historical or cultural value, but that still retain a certain value for potential reuse themselves. This studio represents a great opportunity to tackle and comprehend this matter.	

<b>Graduation project</b>	
Title of the graduation project	Material reuse as a design promoter for urban regeneration
<b>Goal</b>	
Location:	Anderlecht, Brussels, Belgium
The posed problem,	The main issue to be tackled consists of the realization of an urban/architectural design project using second-hand construction as a driving element for the design, in combination with the identity and the demands of the site, such as the interaction between the different cultures and social groups present on the site, the emerging coexisting and relation between living and working, and the safety perception as well as comfort of the area.
research questions and	The questions of this research investigate the role of bricolage in today's context and the way in which bricolage can be applied to architecture; the value that bricolage assumes within it, in particular, related to monetary value, durability, and sustainability.

	<p>More specifically, the focus is directed towards the material sphere, to what are the potentials of re-use and adaptation of building elements of various nature, and how is and how can their relation with the existing be.</p>
<p><b>design assignment in which these result.</b></p>	<p>The design will result in a series of buildings realized with the most reused materials possible, with a program and a composition responding to the needs of the area. To be more specific, it will involve the realization of a promenade composed on one side by a work of <i>sew and cut</i>, dealing with existing buildings combined with new ones, that are covered by the program of living and working together with some segments dedicated to public and communal activities. On the other side, this new front, that was previously a rear, is going to be in direct contact with the design of a new strip park, to provide a safe and enjoyable place that the residents so strongly seek.</p>

## Process

### Method description

The methodologies of research to be adopted for this specific topic are going to be diverse.

Firstly, in regards to the initial approach to the subject matter, the methodology of logical argumentation is adopted, to create a substantial and solid ground for the meaning and development of the research. Although the latter cannot be characterized as the most extensive segment for the articulation of the research, it inevitably outlines the general perspective that accompanies the whole investigation, providing a common view to each approach taken.

Secondly, the methodology of the investigation of case studies represents a pivotal point while structuring the research, and, additionally, serves as a transition strategy from the theoretical position to the practical one, providing an interrelation between them. The strategy turns into the answer of the research questions by itself, in a particular way as regards to the existence of the practitioners that pursue the notion of reuse of materials, adaption of parts of buildings, of fittings and of whatever is available to provide them with a new life. The aforementioned are grown into case studies themselves, that will lead to the clarification of the definition of generalizable theories regarding the subject matter.

Lastly, the qualitative methodology appears to be one of the most appropriate and exact approaches for this specific research for several reasons. To begin with, once faced the case studies of the material bricoleurs, the practitioners, the logical subsequent way of proceeding would be to empirically observe one of them. The idea is to get in contact with one of the practices and to be able to observe their practice and their procedure of working manoeuvring and handling this multifaceted business. Thus, the participation in person is crucial, to provide insight as an outsider as well as participating as an insider. Hence, the observation through prolonged contact would allow to not only obtain a close contemplation to their ways of approaching the subject matter, but it would also lead to an extensive comprehension of what are the possibilities of this specific work of bricolage. As a result, a ground for an interpretative approach to the research would be established to conclusively reach a distinguishing demarcation of the issue.

The design strategy will be identified through the processes in parallel of a traditional approach to the project development and of a reversed procedure, in which the advancement starts from the materials available, that are to be adapted to the situation.

### Literature and general practical preference

Michaël Ghyoot, Lionel Devlieger, Lionel Billiet, André Warnier. *Déconstruction et réemploi, Comment faire circuler les éléments de construction*. Presses polytechniques universitaires romandes (PPUR), 2018

Gorgolewski, Mark. *Resource Salvation: The Architecture of Reuse*. John Wiley & Sons, 2017.

Bennett, Jane. "Vibrant matter: A political ecology of things". Duke University Press, 2010.

Gibson, James J. "The ecological approach to visual perception: classic edition". Psychology Press, 2014.

Jacobs, Jane. "The uses of sidewalks: safety." *The City Reader*, 2011.

Engels, Friedrich. "The Great Towns": from The Condition of the Working Class in England in 1844(1845)." *The City Reader*. Routledge, 2011.

Cuff, Dana. "Architecture: The Story of Practice". Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 1991.

Ingold, Tim. "Writing texts, reading materials. A response to my critics." *Archaeological Dialogues* 14.1, 2007.

Clifford, James. "Notes on (field) notes." *Fieldnotes: The makings of anthropology* 1990: 66-68

Lvi-Strauss, Claude. *The savage mind*. University of Chicago Press, 1966.

Rowe, Colin, and Fred Koetter. *Collage city*. MIT press, 1983.

Langer, Monika M. *Merleau-Ponty's "Phenomenology of perception": a guide and commentary*. Springer, 1989.

Groat, Linda N., and David Wang. "Architectural research methods". John Wiley & Sons, 2013.

Levi, Jerome M. "Structuralism and Kabbalah: Sciences of Mysticism or Mystifications of Science?." *Anthropological Quarterly* (2009): 929-984.

Applin, Jo. "Bric-a-brac: The everyday work of Tom Friedman." *Art Journal* 67.1 (2008): 68-81.

Phillimore, Jenny, et al. Bricolage: potential as a conceptual tool for understanding access to welfare in superdiverse neighbourhoods. IRiS Working Paper Series 14. Birmingham: Institute for Research into Superdiversity, University of Birmingham. Online: <https://www.birmingham.ac.uk/Documents/college-social-sciences/social-po...>(accessed: 27 April 2018), 2016.

Yee, Joyce, and Craig Bremner. "Methodological bricolage: What does it tell us about design?." (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 graduation project chosen aims at one of the main focuses of the topic of the studio, which regards the concept of spolia and the practice of collecting, composing and re-using. Consequently, whether to demolish and how to re-use are considered crucial questions, providing an awareness for scale and material relations. This subject matter represents the connection between the disciplines faced in my study program, touching upon the different scales and topics, in combination with the coping of real life issues: social, anthropological, urban, technological, matters of sustainability and so on.

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

In nowadays context this issue of material reuse represents a critical matter, given the fact that there is a great presence of materials available, and over the years continuous transformations in several contexts, and construction and deconstruction flows are strongly in the picture. Thus, there is an urgency to learn about how to deal with all of these resources, especially given the fact that their prospects are otherwise directed towards waste, and that there is the need of a vision towards the future. This study is only at the beginning stages compared to what it could be, and it has started to happen in different places at different rates, as I could get a glimpse of through my research of how it is developing in Belgium, and as I will be able to more closely understand through my graduation project.