Combining theory, practice and personal research

At Master’s level, students follow an integrated teaching program encompassing current issues, architectural theory, discussions ranging across the full spectrum of design and construction – from design details through to urban planning, and guidance as they embark on their personal research. The course is structured around the production of a dissertation (where the focus is theoretical) and a Master’s project, developed with a supervision panel selected by the student.
Mexico City and its millions of inhabitants are facing a massive overexploitation of the local water resources. The underground aquifer that is the city’s main source of supply is in a critical state of depletion with little hope of recharge. To offset this shortfall the city needs to make better use of the available local resources such as wastewater and rainwater by creating new wastewater treatment plants (WWTPs). Yet when designing an infrastructure of this kind within a dense urban fabric it is essential to give it a clear positive status so that its presence in the city is perceived as an opportunity rather than arousing negative feelings and rejection. This project proposes to combine the WWTP with a municipal swimming pool – to demonstrate what the treatment process can achieve. Located to the west of the city, the project is set in an area where the urban fabric is conducive to recharging the aquifer. Located downstream from a retention dam, the planned WWTP generates a green corridor in which the treated water is used to revitalise the river as it flows towards a park located 1.5 km further downstream. The swimming pool is the first element in this green corridor sequence.

Urban Recharge Area

Steffan Heath and Edouard Philippe
Master of Science in
ARCHITECTURE

2-year program - 120 ECTS

Students must choose among one of the following orientations:
A Form - Data
B Habitats - Housing
C Cities - Territories
D Sauvegarde - Resources
E Types - Typologies

An orientation is composed of mandatory courses and projects depending on its subject.

Possibility to choose a 30 ECTS minor in:
• Engineering for sustainability (DUR)
• Integrated design, architecture and sustainability (IDEAS)
• Transforming territories under climate change (ITC)

Prerequisites for admission:
• Bachelor in Architecture
• Practical experience of 12 months
• An excellent command of French or English, and a good command of the other language are recommended
• Present a portfolio (A4 size) including several projects made by the candidate in the course of his/her studies and possibly practice

Career prospects

Studying architecture is the natural pathway towards a career as an architect, and it can also open up opportunities in many related professions – and in other, more unexpected areas, too:
Architect – freelance or in a practice; Government official in a department dealing with the built environment (heritage conservation, regional/landscape planning, urban planning, etc.); Set designer (for shows and exhibitions); Project manager; Logistics specialist; Involvement in a humanitarian project; Real-estate manager; Real-estate expert; Researcher; Teacher; University lecturer; and Publisher.

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