

Do you want to graduate and contribute to happy cities?

The knowledge- and innovationlab The Happy City, an initiative of the universities of Delft, Leiden and Rotterdam and the Centre for Sustainability, is looking for graduates! As a student in the lab, you have access to a broad network of professors, PhD's, non-profit-organizations, government institutions and companies. You create your own research question, based on a collection of diverse urban issues set by the different stakeholders. The graduation process will not take place in solitude, but becomes an active quest for new solutions for the happy city, in co-creation with these partners. You graduate with a supervisor from your own faculty, but are free to make use of the data and expertise of all involved parties, support from three universities, meetings with graduates from other faculties within the same framework and, where possible, our facilities in the Groot Handelsgebouw in Rotterdam. A multidisciplinary challenge, in which you operate independently in a versatile network.

Why?

Cities are the melting pots and pressure cookers of our society and have collective solutions for the basic needs of their inhabitants. Health care, safety, mobility, shelter and sustainable solutions work better when streamlined at an urban scale. The more abstract human needs, however, have a surprisingly individual character; it is ones own responsibility to be happy. A city defines to a large extent what we do, who we know and where we have access to. Is its influence on a happy life not broader then we have always seen it?

Additionally finding and deploying citizen's intrinsic motivation and working from a positive and humane approach helps to generate involvement for complex urban issues. Collective places and facilities, new organizational forms and activities can trigger transitions at a much larger scale then merely individual resolutions. In the lab we believe that new ideas can originate when we approach city life and happiness in a collective way and conduct research with knowledge and methodologies

from positive design, urbanism, philosophy, sociology, philanthropy and (industrial) ecology.

What and where?

Many graduation topics are welcome. It is also possible to work on a case with multiple students, as long as every student works from a personal research question. We are preferably looking for graduation projects situated in South-Holland, the non-academic network of the lab is concentrated around the metropole region of Rotterdam/The Hague. If you are curious to know more, we hereby invite you to the kick-off event in the afternoon of November 30 in the Groothandelsgebouw. Interested students can attend the event (free of obligation) for orientation and more information. Coming year six vacancies are available.

Interested? Send an e-mail to info@gelukkigestad.nl

More information? Go to www.gelukkigestad.nl and www.centre-for-sustainability.nl

