

S.W.A.T. Studio

MSc3 Social-sustainability Workshop Advancing Technology



Image: Circular Sail Market by Jesse Bakker, SWAT Kattenburg

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Code	AR3B015
Credits	15 ECTS
Location	BK TU Delft
Excursion	Yes

SWAT aims to meet societal challenges and spatial inequalities in the urban built environment by promoting well-being, health and carbon neutral lifestyles in an era of unprecedented global uncertainty.

By engaging with citizens, real urban contexts, global trends and future scenarios, students develop design solutions that are greater than the sum of their technological parts. Ensuring that societal value is revealed at various city scales, from neighbourhood to facade.

Interested in how technology can solve societal challenges? Collaborating with people from different disciplines and backgrounds? Scenario based thinking? Engaging with city stakeholders? Sharing ideas and knowledge? Listening, offering feedback and presenting to others? Making freehand design sketches and graphically communicating design possibilities? Reimagining the built environment? If yes, SWAT is for you.

To help describe what to expect, and what experiences you may encounter during the studio, here is a sample of testimonials from former SWAT students, our alumni:

"I chose the course as it had a big focus on the urban scale. Although we usually focused on the smaller scale within Building Technology, every building and building component should always be considered in its context and should never be seen as a standalone object."

"A great way to understand and identify the challenges that need to be tackled in a particular city, and to use your building technology knowledge to come up with innovative solutions combining design, technology and sustainability."

Aviva Opsomer
Researcher @ von Karman Institute for Fluid Dynamics
Belgium

"SWAT reminded us that everything we do has a purpose. Our designs are meant to benefit people, merging social needs with the more technical part of sustainability."

"What set the studio apart was the opportunity to really interact with the 'client'. It was really nice to hear from the citizens themselves. We were able to get to know the neighbours and walk their streets. We had our meetings in the local library, popular restaurants and even in one of the neighbour's photo studio."

Javier Montemayor Leos
Designer @ Sustainability Engineering Group (SEG)
Mexico & USA

"SWAT helped me understand the inherent relationship between the Built Environment and Sustainability. This made the project highly context-specific, whilst developing innovative technical solutions from a facade and climate perspective, allowing me to understand how a conceptual design becomes a tangible engineering strategy."

Tania Cortés Vargas
Façade Engineer @ Eckersley O'Callaghan
San Francisco USA

"The project offers you to choose your own battles. Coming up with sustainable solutions on urban to detail scales, to solve societal challenges, which was incredibly enriching."

Jesse Bakker
Research Assistant in Acoustics @ TU Delft

"The SWAT particularly stood out to me due to its focus on the societal elements of design. Having the opportunity to visit the site, speak with the locals and address the neighbourhood scale provided me with insights to tackle sustainable design in the most holistic approach possible."

Eve Farrugia
Building Physics Engineer @ Mott MacDonald
London

If you would like to get in touch with our team and/or alumni to gain more advice on the SWAT course please do contact Dr. Craig Martin via email on c.l.martin@tudelft.nl