We see optimism as the only option. Turning problems into solutions. Turning global challenges into solutions that manifest in architecture. Architecture is an incredible means to create change. It can sit right in the nexus of people, profit, and politics. We see it as our responsibility to help speed things up. To accelerate an inevitable transition towards self sufficient cities. Cities that have no inputs out output. Cities that operate using infinite resources. Taking care of the next generation and every generation after that.

Architecture is the perfect tool to help accelerate this transition. But it’s important to do your due diligence before you get started designing. Numbers can help. Thinking about money can help too. Then translating that complex information into something simple and digestible is where all the magic happens.

This course will teach you how to design a completely self sufficient building in terms of energy, water, waste. We will also explore materials, food, transport and other topics. We will aim for the holy trinity: On budget. Zero operating costs. Positive environmental impact.

Each student will pick a site to design a new building or retrofit an existing building, find a solution to push the limits environmentally in a financially viable manner. Then, turn it into something that connects with humans while simultaneously aiming to help speed up much needed policy we require for the transition ahead. It’s a bit like activism, but more like optimism.

“Make them an offer they can’t refuse.” The godfather. We will teach you how to make a proposal to a developer to deliver a radical project in a way that it’s very hard from them to say no. Why? Because the premise it logical, practical and functional.

This course will take numbers, communicate those numbers, and then turn that information into architecture.

See you there.