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# Honors thesis

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COURSE OF  
ARCHITECTURE CONSTRUCTION CITY

*Abstract*

**HONG KONG URBAN LAB**  
**Explorations into city's density**

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Hong Kong urban environment is strongly characterized by super-density features, namely representing a problem in terms of liveability and space quality. This thesis elects the city as a research lab to inquire into urban density issue, both on a theoretical and strategical level. Indeed the argument is composed by two parts. The first one deals mainly with Hong Kong as urban entity, trying to analyse its features under different point of views; conversely the second one focuses on Kwun Tong district, an underdevelopment urban fragment that acts as micro-scale city mirror. The former section looks at understanding current urban circumstances and how the city became a super dense metropolis. Indeed, historical, geographical and political assumptions are explored in order to illustrate how they affected last centuries city's development. In particular a research about real estate management clarifies land administration and market potentialities together with related social issues. On the other hand, latter chapters concentrate on design strategies able to cope with such reality. The effort involves an innovative evaluation process that aims at considering stakeholders position throughout a combination of tangible and intangible values.



Indeed, the method foresees the application of project evaluation tools, that by ranking likely development scenarios, ensure transparency and consistency to the whole work, besides making the method transferable to other plausible situations. Finally the most performing alternative is developed in a strategical design proposal, according to desired architectural features pointed out by prior researches.

Eventually Kwun Tong Marina Bay is the result of such process, and represents a likely development that tries to answer to density related concerns while coping with the complexity of a big scale urban regeneration.



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