

ERASMUS

*Internship
report*

StudioRAP

*Rotterdam,
Netherlands.*

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Director: Arch. Lucas Ter Hall

Organisation: StudioRAP

Field: Advanced Architecture

Granted by: Erasmus, TH-OWL

Duration: 6 months (Mar-Aug 2024)



Internship Report

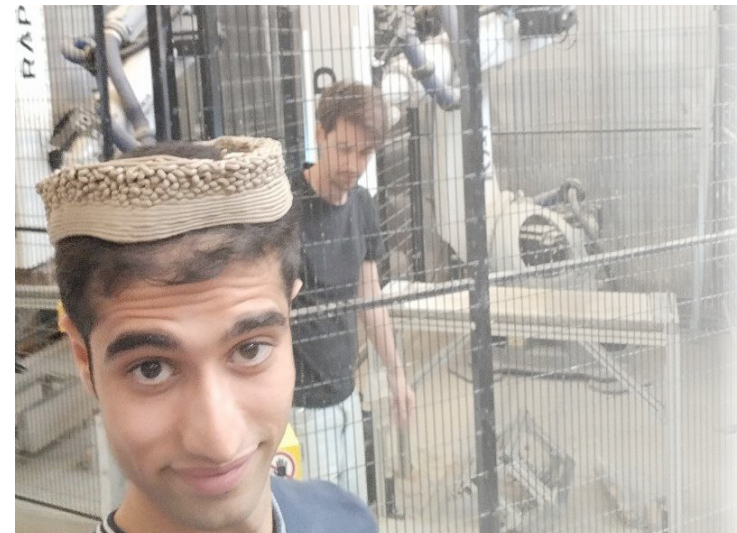
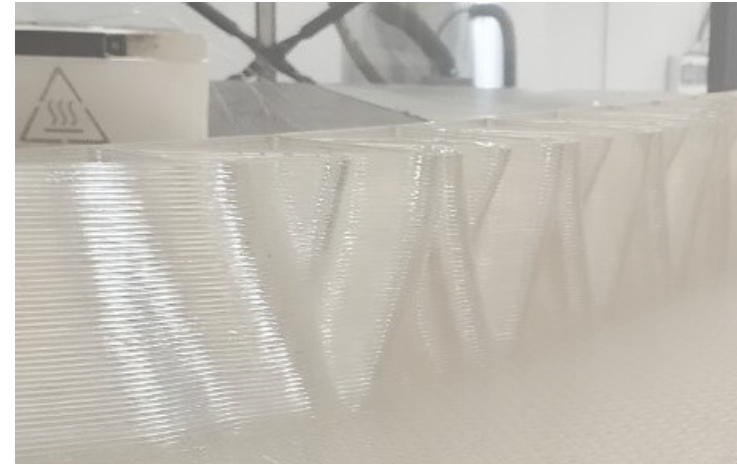
My Erasmus internship in Rotterdam, Netherlands, spanned six months from March 4th, 2024, to August 31st, 2024, and it was enjoyable and an unforgettable journey. As a student of architecture, I had long dreamed of working at StudioRAP, a cutting-edge architectural firm specializing in advanced robotic fabrication. The firm's focus on sustainable design and unique architectural expression, driven by the latest developments in design and production techniques, aligned perfectly with my aspirations. Applying for this internship felt like a natural step in my professional journey.

The application process was straightforward but required careful preparation. I applied online, submitting my CV and portfolio, which led to an interview. The conversation was engaging, and I was thrilled when I was offered the internship. It felt like a dream come true—an opportunity to work in a place that combined architecture, technology, and smart manufacturing in ways I had always admired.

StudioRAP turned out to be even more inspiring than I had imagined. The firm embraces the role of a contemporary, digital master builder, designing and producing sustainable buildings that are both innovative and aesthetically striking. During my internship, I had the opportunity to work on several exciting projects. I contributed to the design and production of 3D-printed clay vases and tiles, collaborated on a pavilion for the Dutch Design Week using AI, and was involved in creating a 3D-printed bus stop for the Dutch national public transportation company. The highlight of my internship was a highly experimental project that utilized the smart methods, and sustainable practices. I was deeply involved in the entire process, from design and detailing to production tests, and I learned an immense amount through this hands-on experience.

Skills and Experience Gained

Throughout my time at StudioRAP, I honed various skills, from architectural design proficiency to project management, problem-solving, and teamwork. The experience also deepened my understanding of how to integrate technology into architecture effectively. The combination of architecture, technology, and smart manufacturing at StudioRAP pushed me to think creatively and work efficiently, which was incredibly rewarding.





Rotterdam City

However, finding accommodation in Rotterdam was not without challenges. The housing market is tough, especially for short-term stays. I faced difficulties, including encounters with scammers, but eventually, I secured a suitable place in a pleasant neighborhood. The rent was high at 900€ per month, but I was fortunate compared to others—some of my neighbors and a German colleague, who was also an intern, were paying as much as 1500€ per month. Despite the high cost of living, including transportation, which is more expensive than in Germany, I managed my expenses, especially since my commute to the office was partially subsidized based on the distance.

Rotterdam itself is a vibrant city, much like other major European cities, yet it possesses its own unique attractions and a wealth of brilliant architecture. Balancing work and leisure was key to fully appreciating my time there. I explored the city's rich cultural scene, from museums to parks and various events, making the most of my free time.

For future students considering an internship in Rotterdam, I offer this advice: be cautious when searching for accommodation. Scammers are prevalent, so take the time to verify rental agreements and ensure everything is legitimate. Patience is crucial—finding the right place might take time, but it's worth the effort. And most importantly, enjoy the journey. The experiences you'll gain, both professionally and personally, are invaluable.

In conclusion, my Erasmus internship at StudioRAP was a transformative experience that exceeded my expectations. I learned more than I ever imagined, both in terms of professional skills and personal growth. Working on cutting-edge projects that push the boundaries of architecture and technology was incredibly fulfilling. Although the challenge of finding accommodation was a significant hurdle, it was a small price to pay for the wealth of knowledge and experience I gained. This internship was an invaluable chapter in my architectural journey, and I will carry the lessons I learned with me for years to come.

