The architecture competition for students by students spanning 120 hours

It’s the moment you’ve all been waiting for!
Here is the assignment for the 2019 edition of 120 HOURS!
Please read this document very carefully.
Welcome to Svalbard!

Svalbard is a remote archipelago in the Arctic Ocean with some of the strangest geopolitical, climatic, temporal, social, and natural conditions on the globe. The Svalbard Treaty of 1920 ensures that despite Norway’s formal sovereignty, no country can claim true possession over it or prevent others from settling there.

Few people live at Svalbard for a long time. Some people move to Svalbard as a career move – to have something to put on their resume – others do it for the adventure, and some odd individuals just long for the midnight sun. Both buildings and people have a short term perspective in Longyearbyen.

There is also a long term perspective in Svalbard. In the vast seed vault, built straight into the mountain side, plant seeds are being kept safe for the future. And deep down in one of the abandoned coal mines copies of rare manuscripts, from Brazil and other countries, are being stored. This frozen island acts as a last barrier for that which we must not lose.
The gradual increase of temperatures are already felt at Svalbard. All buildings in Longyearbyen are constructed on poles, resting on top of the permanently frozen, hard ground. If the permafrost melts, the buildings will sink into the earth and collapse. The rising temperatures have already led to several avalanches with fatal consequences for inhabitants of Longyearbyen and resulted in the destruction of many buildings.

With the means of energy and food production we have today, the most environmentally friendly way of living at Svalbard is to not live there at all. Nearly all food products are imported and Longyearbyen’s wastewater is being sent right out into the ocean.

New shipping routes are expected across the pole as a result of the melting ice. This would potentially mean an overwhelming shift of position for Svalbard. If heavy shipping through the north-west and north-east passages become a reality, then Svalbard will find that it is no longer located in a faraway stretch of icy water at the edge of the inhabited world, but that it suddenly lies in the middle of a busy, international waterway.

Today this distant group of islands has got one of the fastest internet connections in the world and a huge park for transfer and storage of data.

Why would any country spend resources on supporting a community at Svalbard? Is it only geopolitical?
The most difficult part of the assignment is to follow these instructions precisely. Failure to do so will lead to disqualification.

Your proposal will be handed in digitally as two pages of A3 size. The orientation must be landscape (not portrait).

Your team number should be written in the bottom right corner. Any other information which compromises your identity will lead to disqualification.

Read page 7 carefully before you hand in your proposal.

YES  NO

Write the team numbers on both the A3s (not your names)
The Task

A Twenty-Second Century Settlement

1. Write
Present a person, real or ficticious, who you suggest could move to Svalbard today. Give us their name or title, and tell us why they should live in Svalbard. **Maximum 60 words!**

2. Draw
Illustrate the first structure, building or intervention that this person would need for their activities in Svalbard. And suggest a location for it.

3. Draw
100 years later. A settlement or a community has grown from the place where this person lived. Illustrate the area. Minimum requirement: A section or plan of the area.

   If the settlement is large, your drawings can be schematic. If you draw too small details we won’t be able to see them, so make it readable in A3 size.

4. Write
Shortly describe the key features of the settlement. **Up to 200 words!**
The person you choose can be almost anyone. They can be a celebrity or a family member. They can be either a scientist or a poet, who travels to Svalbard to study its winds. Or they can be an international criminal who can take advantage of Svalbards unusual legislations and comprehensive data access to undermine democratic regimes elsewhere on the globe. Or they can be someone who has fallen outside of national belonging, they can be an employee at a tourist cruise ship who has settled down at svalbard to start a family, even though there are very few children on the islands. Or they can simply be your own grandmother who wants to bake cinnamon rolls to the cold inhabitants of the archipelago.

By choosing a person you choose a context – you choose which aspect of the island you will focus on.

Remember, if you choose someone from your own family, do not reveal your own identity.

Evaluation

1. Creativity. Think for yourself. Surprise us!
2. Be critical. Say something about the world!
3. Tell a story. We will emphasize coherence between the different parts of the assignment, over realism.

Jury

Kjetil Thorsen – Weijen Wang – Marta Tomasiak
Jakub Godzimirski – Eli Skatvedt – Ole Thomas Steinde
Delivery

Please read this information very carefully.

You are going to make FOUR files for the upload process:

1. High-resolution PDF containing both A3 posters for your project. This file will be used for the exhibition. THE MAXIMUM FILE SIZE IS 20MB FOR THIS FILE. THE NAME OF THE FILE YOU SHALL USE IS: teamXXXX-large-PDF.pdf

2. Low-resolution PDF containing both A3 posters of your project. This file will be used for the jury process. THE MAXIMUM FILE SIZE IS 2MB FOR THIS FILE. THE NAME OF THE FILE YOU SHALL USE IS: teamXXXX-small-PDF.pdf

3. FOR PRINT: High-resolution illustration of your project. This is the main illustration for your project. This can be a render, picture, collage, model photo, drawing etc. This file will be used for our web page and promotional purposes. THE FILE FORMAT MUST BE A JPEG, WITH 300DPI RESOLUTION. THE MAXIMUM FILE SIZE IS 5MB FOR THIS FILE.

   THE NAME OF THE FILE YOU SHALL USE IS: teamXXXX-large-JPEG.jpeg

4. FOR WEB: Low-resolution illustration for your project. This is the same illustration as the High-resolution illustration. This file will be used for our web page and promotional purposes. THE FILE FORMAT MUST BE A JPEG, WITH 72DPI RESOLUTION. THE MAXIMUM FILE SIZE IS 500KB FOR THIS FILE.

   THE NAME OF THE FILE YOU SHALL USE IS: teamXXXX-small-JPEG.jpeg

IF YOU FAIL TO FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS YOUR PROPOSAL WILL BE AUTOMATICALLY DISQUALIFIED, SO PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT YOU HAVE USED THE CORRECT FILE NAMES WHEN YOU UPLOAD YOUR PROJECT. YOU WILL ALSO ONLY BE ABLE TO UPLOAD YOUR PROJECT ONCE, SO BE SURE TO CHECK THAT YOU ARE UPLOADING THE RIGHT FILES, BECAUSE WE WILL UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES CHANGE THE FILES FOR YOU.

If you have any questions, you may search for answers in the online FAQ and our Facebook page, or send us an e-mail at contact@120hours.no. Remember to mark the e-mail with your participant code.

Good luck!