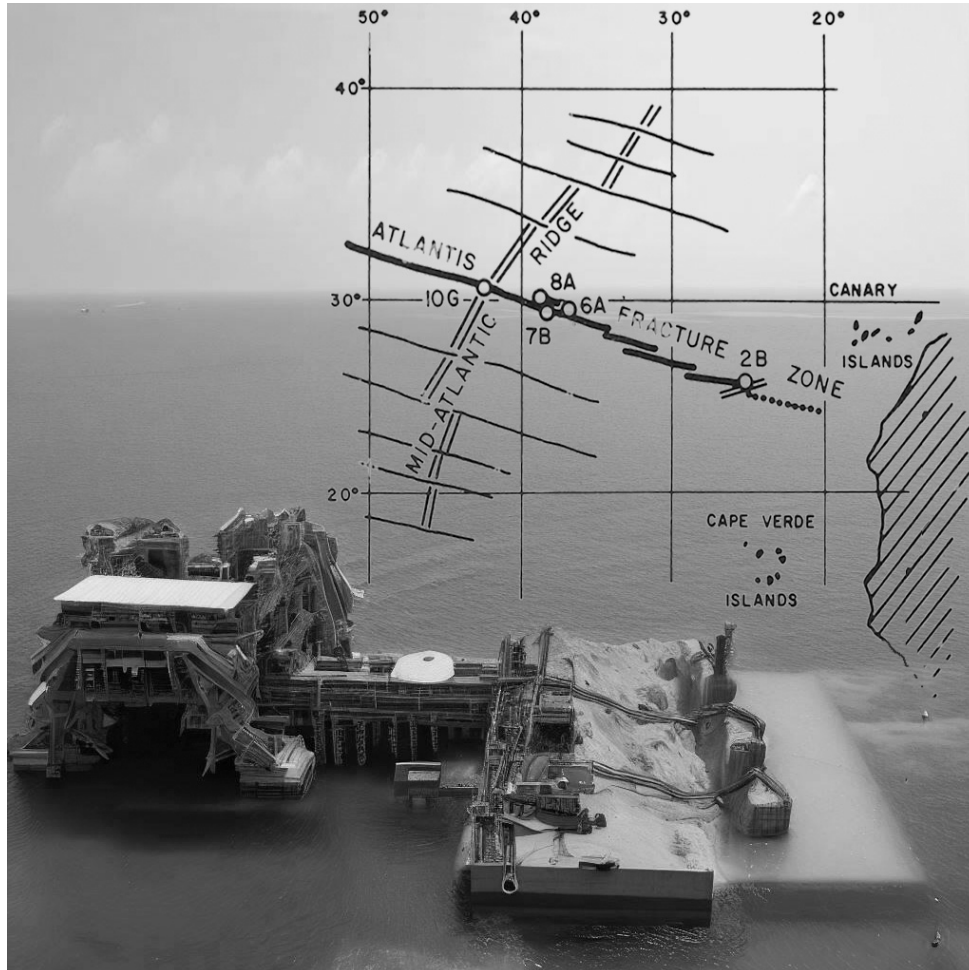


# BORDERS & TERRITORIES

MSc1 Borders and Territories Design Studio  
*Into the deep. Abyssal frontiers*



Bing image creator + Location of dredge sites where manganese crusts were encountered.

Tutors  
Negar Sanaan Bensi

Filip Geerts  
Micha de Haas

Code	AR1BO010
Credits	10 ECTS
Location	Nauru, Okinawa (Japan), and Namibia

Excursion	Yes, Inside NL
Costs	n.a.

The educational program of 'Borders & Territories' focuses on the role of architecture in relation to socio-political developments within contemporary society. The B&T MSc1 Studio is a laboratory for the investigation of complex territorial, spatial, ecological, technical, and architectural practices, this semester through formulating a project for a deep sea mining institute.

Next in line in the history of extraction practices, transforming the (sub)surfaces of our planet could be deep sea mining: the controversial other side of green technologies, dredging up rare earth materials and other riches from the deep sea. What is the role of architecture for future institutions and organizations operating on a planetary scale, which commercialise, regulate, and contest or educate about the exploitation of the mineral wealth of the ocean floor, involving various nations, private commercial bodies, legal frameworks, and (robotised) infrastructures? Each student will produce an innovative design for a medium sized building for the emerging deep sea mining industrial

complex. The ocean as a periphery or transit space for global economic exchange becomes a vast centre, where control rooms, onshore staging grounds, mineral processing facilities, and pricing mechanisms, compete with marine biology, 'fair' distribution of concessions. At the crossroads of geopolitical anomalies, the institute will be given form from unique programmatic and site conditions, and legal, technical and ecological requirements.

Precise acts of surveying and mapping are an integral part of the design process. Drawings and models mediate between investigation and design, both as a systematization of concepts and relations and a mode of representation. During the first quarter, a series of exercises will familiarize the students with the approach of the B&T studio.

For the 2023/2024 fall semester, a series of sites, with both deep sea mining futures and relevant histories of extraction, will be considered: Nauru, Okinawa (Japan), and Namibia. B&T's MSc1 Design Studio is integrated with BES.