



Module Specification

International Academic Placement Year (Architecture)

Version: 2023-24, v3.0, 25 Mar 2024

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Part 1: Information

Module title: International Academic Placement Year (Architecture)

Module code: UBLLQ1-15-3

Level: Level 6

For implementation from: 2023-24

UWE credit rating: 15

ECTS credit rating: 7.5

College: College of Arts, Technology and Environment

School: CATE School of Architecture and Environment

Partner institutions: None

Field:

Module type: Module

Pre-requisites: None

Excluded combinations: None

Co-requisites: None

Continuing professional development: No

Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements: None

Part 2: Description

Overview: This module is for students who successfully apply to study for one placement year from the following degree programmes:

BSc (Hons) Architecture

BA (Hons) Interior Architecture

BSc (Hons) Architectural Technology and Design

Note: A separate study placement scheme operates for students from:

BA (Hons) Architecture and Planning

BEng (Hons) Architecture and Environmental Engineering

Students taking this module will normally spend one academic year (or shorter as agreed) at a placement provider that has been agreed with the Module Leader, to support the student's development of design, technical and cultural understandings.

Students are selected by competitive application (spaces are limited) and will take this module as an 'academic placement year' between years 2 and the final year of their standard degree programme.

Only students who have passed all level 1 and 2 modules (ie years 1 and 2) of their degree programme and are successful in their application are eligible to study this module. There is therefore no guarantee that any student who so desires can automatically undertake this.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: Provide the opportunity to experience and learn architecture design in a different practice context.

Manage an extended piece of work using a full range of resources including those which are specialised or advanced within the field of architectural study/practice.

Enhance confidence and self-responsibility.

Develop networking, employability and communication skills.

Outline syllabus: The department sees great benefit for some students being able to experience practice in a different environment, and in the contribution another setting can make to a student's learning experience in architecture and related subjects.

The module requires students to display a high degree of autonomy in following a suite of learning activities that will develop their design, technical and cultural

understanding of architecture and architectural education. Along with that it also requires students to develop a critically reflective and comparative attitude to architectural education.

The main topic areas covered are: design, technology and cultural contexts related to architecture and associated subjects.

The students on this module will be expected to use a wide range of resources including those which are specialised or advanced within their field of study/practice, to produce evidence and explanations of their engagement as well as critically reviewing their experience and producing conclusions and recommendations.

Topic areas typically covered include:

Academic learning in the fields of architectural design, technology and cultures

Portfolio production (including graphic design and layout)

Critical reflection

Report writing

Professional practices (record keeping, time management, responsibility)

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: As this module requires students to learn in a different academic or professional environment to that they normally experience, it draws on a wide range of methods. These methods are complementary to those already used in the students' programmes at UWE.

The module supports students to achieve added value whatever their starting point and the teaching and learning methods employed are such that they will enhance student employability by reflecting practitioner requirements.

METHODS

Creating a personal design, technology and cultural programme for the year.

Visits: self directed or as part of placement provider's programmes.

Assimilation and reflection on learning.

Preparation and submission of work for review / feedback / assessment.

Online contact with UWE to discuss progress.

Module Learning outcomes: On successful completion of this module students will achieve the following learning outcomes.

MO1 Demonstrate competence in architectural design and technical skills appropriate to the learning activities undertaken at your host institution, to include understanding of briefs, projects and development of suitable solutions

MO2 Formulate and apply an appropriate framework for critically assessing your experience in placement and the different approaches encountered to architectural education

MO3 Comprehensively describe in detail and justify the academic activities undertaken in the year in placement and relate them to your UWE degree programme and your future professional practice

MO4 Create a professional quality portfolio explaining the design, technical, cultural and reflective experience of the year in placement

Hours to be allocated: 150

Contact hours:

Placement = 150 hours

Total = 150

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at [readinglists.uwe.ac.uk](https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/ubllq1-15-3.html) via the following link <https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/ubllq1-15-3.html>

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: The assessment strategy has been designed to support the student in working in a different academic or professional environment to that they normally experience.

Students will choose (with support from the module leader and host university or company) a suite of learning activities to follow. This will be balanced across the various learning activities required for the final portfolio (described below) and the student's justification of that choice will be included in that portfolio.

Each student will develop a portfolio of work based on their chosen suite of learning activities. There will be four parts to this, identified as: 'design' 'technical' 'cultural' and 'reflective'.

The portfolio will track the student's activity and outputs throughout the year in placement. Activities within it will be recorded by the host university or company and an official statement (transcript) of completion obtained for each activity. This will ensure a framework for learning and a check against plagiarism.

The host university or company will provide opportunities for work to be formatively reviewed during the course of the year and the module leader will also provide formative feedback as appropriate on the production of the final portfolio.

Along with the design, technical and cultural knowledge and skills section which are provided and taught by the host university or company, the portfolio requires a reflective section. Students will be guided on this by UWE staff. Students will set up a framework for reflection which will be discussed with UWE staff to ensure that it is good, robust and fit for purpose when considered alongside the learning activity being undertaken.

It is the portfolio that is assessed for 15 credits. This is assessed at the end of the

year and the assessment comprises a review of the portfolio plus a presentation with questions. On top of the subject based skills this supports the development of communication skills which are an essential element of an individual's personal development.

The portfolio (and in particular the reflection section) provides evidence that the student can produce a critical analytical study relating to the academic experience of their chosen learning activities and relate them to his / her own professional development.

Resit assessment strategy

Students need to resubmit the portfolio (improved from the first sit as necessary / appropriate) and where required undertake the interview. A student who fails the first sit will receive feedback to help with the re-assessment.

Assessment tasks:

Presentation (First Sit)

Description: A verbal 'examination' a set of questions enabling the student to explore their portfolio that follows the submission of the portfolio (20 mins).

This allows for the demonstration of verbal communication skills and offers staff the chance to ask questions about the year out.

Weighting: 20 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO3

Portfolio (First Sit)

Description: Portfolio comprising four parts: (i) design, (ii) technical, (iii) cultural and (iv) reflective.

A portfolio is a normally recognised method of assessing students in architectural disciplines and understood by all the relevant professional bodies.

Weighting: 80 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

Presentation (Resit)

Description: A verbal and visual presentation (20 mins) of the year that follows the submission of the portfolio.

This allows for the demonstration of verbal communication skills and offers staff the chance to ask questions about the year out.

Weighting: 20 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO3

Portfolio (Resit)

Description: Portfolio comprising four parts: (i) design, (ii) technical, (iii) cultural and (iv) reflective.

A portfolio is a normally recognised method of assessing students in architectural disciplines and understood by all the relevant professional bodies.

Weighting: 80 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Interior Architecture [Sep][SW][Frenchay][4yrs] BA (Hons) 2021-22

Architecture [Sep][FT][Frenchay][3yrs] BSc (Hons) 2021-22

Architectural Technology and Design [Sep][SW][Frenchay][4yrs] BSc (Hons) 2021-22