



## **Programme Specification**

### **Architecture [SriLanka]**

Version: 2025-26, v1.0, Validated

#### **Contents**

<b>Programme Specification.....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Section 1: Key Programme Details.....</b>	<b>2</b>
Part A: Programme Information .....	2
<b>Section 2: Programme Overview, Aims and Learning Outcomes .....</b>	<b>3</b>
Part A: Programme Overview, Aims and Learning Outcomes .....	3
Part B: Programme Structure.....	12
Part C: Higher Education Achievement Record (HEAR) Synopsis .....	13
Part D: External Reference Points and Benchmarks .....	13
Part E: Regulations .....	13

## Section 1: Key Programme Details

### Part A: Programme Information

**Programme title:** Architecture [SriLanka]

**Highest award:** BArch (Hons) Architecture

**Awarding institution:** UWE Bristol

**Affiliated institutions:** City School of Architecture Sri Lanka

**Teaching institutions:** City School of Architecture Sri Lanka

**Study abroad:** No

**Year abroad:** No

**Sandwich year:** No

**Credit recognition:** No

**School responsible for the programme:** CATE School of Architecture and Environment, College of Arts, Technology and Environment

**Professional, statutory or regulatory bodies:** Not applicable

**Modes of delivery:** Full-time

**Entry requirements:** Candidates for admission to the top-up programme must have successfully completed all modules at Level 1 and Level 2 of the CSA Diploma in Architectural Studies programme or equivalent, including 120 credits at Level 1 and 120 credits at level 2.

Applicants whose first language is not English or whose previous qualification was not taught and assessed in English must provide evidence of attainment in English Language by achieving an IELTS score of at least 6.5 or an equivalent qualification.

Transitional arrangements have been made for those students who are at present studying under CSA old Structure. Please see appendix at the end.

**For implementation from:** 01 October 2018

**Programme code:** K10B00

## **Section 2: Programme Overview, Aims and Learning Outcomes**

### **Part A: Programme Overview, Aims and Learning Outcomes**

**Overview:** This programme is the first of two degrees needed to become an Architect.

There is a 2+1 arrangement whereby UWE Bristol:

- Recognises the first two years of the CSA Part 1 Diploma programme as the equivalent of 240 credits at Levels 4 and 5;
- CSA deliver Year 3/Level 6 of the programme, as approved by UWE Bristol.

On successful completion of all three years, students will be awarded:

- the award of BArch(Hons) Architecture which is conferred by UWE Bristol; and
- the award of Diploma in Architectural Studies which is conferred by CSA.

The Diploma in Architectural Studies is validated by the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) and gives exemption from the RIBA Part 1.

The UWE Bristol BArch(Hons) Architecture is not validated by the RIBA.

Appendix 1 is an example of the mapping and assessment pattern for the BArch(Hons) Architecture.

**Features of the programme:** Programme Structure and Requirements, Levels, Modules, Credits and Awards

The key consideration in the design of the programme structure has been to ensure that it provides the range of knowledge, skills and experiences to prepare students

for a career in architecture, delivering a series of educational and professional requirements that are necessary for validation by The Royal Institute of British Architects (as Part I qualification in architecture) and the Sri Lanka Institute of Architects (Part I).

### Programme Structure

YEAR 1 is the most interesting year of study and encourages students to understand and appreciate architecture. Considerable emphasis is placed on creative design and design appreciation through Design Projects and Drawing Exercises. In addition, Architectural Studies which includes Drawing, Writing, Experiencing Architecture and Computer Studies are done under the umbrella of design to provide a richer understanding of Architecture. Under Architectural Communication students are encouraged to work on architectural drawings and writing in addition to following lectures and studios in Architectural and Technical Drafting, Perspectives and Sciography, Free hand Sketching, Graphics, Model Making, Photography, Appreciation of Architecture through writing and Computer Studies. Experiencing Architecture is done through a series of organized visits to places of architectural and historical interest.

Theory subjects are classified as History/Theory/Society & Culture; Technology; Environment and Profession. The subjects taught are – Society & Culture (core subjects - History of Architecture, Ancillary Subjects – Art & Sculpture, Music, Cinema & Drama); Technology (core subjects–Architecture & Structures, Materials & Construction and Building Services); Environment and Profession.

YEAR 2 The aim in the second year of the Course is to further strengthen and reinforce the students' skills acquisition and awareness in Architecture. Students are encouraged to develop their drawing skills in 2D and 3D form. The design programme includes 5 Design Projects that focus on the various factors that influence architectural form - context, a community and its social values, anthropometrics and ergonomics and the programme culminates in the design needs of special users and a community of houses in an urban setting. Architectural Studies which includes Architectural Communication, Experiencing Architecture and Computer Studies are done under the umbrella of Design. The production of

architectural drawings and writing are encouraged under Architectural Communication (measured drawing of a house and an appreciation, book reviews in relation to design projects). Experiencing Architecture is done through a series of organized visits to places of architectural and historical interest.

Theory subjects taught during this year are classified as History/Theory/Society & Culture; Technology; Environment and Profession and is more detailed, to widen the students' awareness and knowledge. The subjects taught are – Society & Culture (core subjects - History of Architecture, Theory of Architecture); Technology (core subjects – Architecture & Structures, Materials, Construction and Building Services); Environment (ancillary subjects- Climate Studies, Landscape and Surveying) and Professional Practice.

**YEAR 3** The Year 3 is a year of systematic recollection of all subjects dealt with in the Part I years, with greater degree of concentration in preparing for the Part I Examination. In this year the learning process is consolidated and the students are exposed to the integration of design. The design programme guides the student to the overall synthesis of design issues to resolve architectural problems - handle design data, prepare a design brief; respond to development controls and building regulations, improve his/her decision making skills and design skills, reflect an integrated approach to design and display a general awareness of the profession and the construction industry. During this year the student undertakes a Pre CDP Project and a Comprehensive Design Project (CDP) aimed at demonstrating competence in problem solving and acquiring the technical skills necessary to create acceptable built environments at micro level. The Pre CDP Project is aimed at addressing the use of alternate technologies to create sustainable built environments. The CDP Project is a Mixed Development in Performing Arts/Leisure & Entertainment/Recreation within a wider community. Architectural Studies which includes Architectural Communication, Experiencing Architecture and Computer Studies are done under the umbrella of Design. The production of architectural drawings and writing are encouraged under Architectural Communication (working drawings of a building and book reviews in relation to the design projects and an Essay). Experiencing Architecture is done through a series of organized visits to places of architectural and historical interest.

Theory subjects taught during this year are classified as History/Theory/Society & Culture; Technology; Environment and Profession. Subjects taught are – Society & Culture (core subjects - History of Architecture, Theory of Architecture, Ancillary Subject: Principles of Context Generated Architecture and Design); Technology (core subjects - Structures, Materials, Construction and Building Services, Ancillary Subject: Interdisciplinary Design); Environment (ancillary subjects – Green Architecture & Alternate Technology, Climate Studies, Lighting & Acoustics) and Profession (Ancillary Subjects – Office Practice, Development Controls and Building, Fire, Health & Safety Regulations, Quantity Surveying) and are conducted with emphasis on the application of theoretical knowledge to the CDP and also cover a spectrum of inter – related disciplines. Students are also guided in Essay and Report Writing.

**Educational Aims:** The programme aims to produce graduates who have the potential to become architects able to occupy and to practice skilfully within the profession, in particular:

To give students a broad based awareness of architecture and enable them to appreciate good architecture, good design and acknowledge the related arts.

To equip students with an awareness and knowledge of architecture, design and peripheral technical subjects within the streams of History/Theory/Society & Culture; Technology; Environment and Profession.

To enable students to acquire the skills necessary to evaluate and implement buildable architectural designs at a micro level through core design projects.

To provide a professional education for the architect to a level which is equivalent to Part I of the RIBA examination as determined by the RIBA.

To enable students to form working relationships and establish direct links with the construction industry through the “Learn while you work” concept of the programme.

To encourage critical debate, innovative design thinking and a quest for creative design through a combination of theory, practice, peer interaction and review.

**Programme Learning Outcomes:**

On successful completion of this programme graduates will achieve the following learning outcomes.

**Knowledge and Understanding**

- A1. The regulatory frameworks, and health and safety considerations that guide design and building construction
- A2. Architectural histories and theories, of physical, artistic and cultural contexts, and their use in informing the design process
- A3. The influence on the contemporary built environment of individual buildings, the design of cities, past and present societies and wider global issues
- A4. The histories and theories of architecture and urban design, the history of ideas, and the related disciplines of art, cultural studies and landscape studies
- A5. The principles of business management and how a small business operates
- A6. How buildings are designed and built in the context of architectural and professional practice and the framework of the construction industry within which it operates

**Intellectual Skills**

- B1. Apply reflective, critical, analytical and imaginative reasoning to the design process.
- B2. Research, analyse and integrate knowledge of context, budget, preparation and development of a brief in the synthesis of a design proposal.
- B3. Evaluate the impact of design on legislation, codes of practice, and health and safety during the construction and operation of a project.
- B4. Form considered judgments about the spatial, aesthetic, technical and social qualities of a design within the scope and scale of a wider environment.
- B5. To make links between course content and wider social, economical and environmental factors associated with the profession.

**Subject/Professional Practice Skills**

- C1. 1Apply the principles of building technologies, environmental design and construction methods, in relation to: human well-being, the welfare of future generations, the natural world, consideration of a sustainable environment, use of materials, process of assembly, and structural principles.
- C2. To bring broadly-based inventive and analytical skills to the design process.
- C3. To identify and deploy the knowledge and skills most appropriate to the design task at hand.
- C4. To demonstrate mastery of the conventions of architectural drawing and to select and use analytical tools and CAD applications in the solution of problems and the production of designs.
- C5. To demonstrate a clear and analytical written style suited to the professional role of the architect.
- C6. To make informed judgements in respect to ethical values both at the level of responsibility of the professional to the client and the wider social and environmental context.

**Transferable Skills and other attributes**

- D1. To communicate - orally, in writing, graphically - to a high standard.
- D2. To draw conceptually and observationally.
- D3. To use computers - including a competence in word processing, and data gathering and analysis.
- D4. To engage in inter-professional and collaborative working and work effectively with others in a range of contexts and with a broad awareness of equal opportunities issues.
- D6. To work independently and as part of a team.

**Assessment strategy:** A Knowledge and Understanding:

The assessment and examination for each year of study in the design studio will be done through continuous studio based assessment, term based reviews and a design portfolio examination of the design studio work and course end examination of a comprehensive design project. Theoretical subjects are assessed through

coursework and sessional and course end written examinations.

#### B Intellectual Skills:

Students knowledge and understanding is assessed through:

Continuous assessment: reviews and critiques of design studio work: compiled reports, slide presentations, multimedia presentations and sketches/drawings and working models as groups and individually.

Coursework and examination

Design Projects

#### C Subject, Professional and Practical Skills

Continuous assessment: reviews and critiques of design studio work: compiled reports, slide presentations, multimedia presentations and sketches/drawings and working models as groups and individually.

Coursework and examination

Design Projects

#### D Transferable Skills and Other Attributes

Transferable/key skills are incorporated within modules throughout the programme and relate to relevant assessments as appropriate.

#### **Student support:** Support for Students and their Learning

The programme is managed by the Head of School who oversees the operation of the programme and the delivery of the modules, assisted by the Deputy Heads for the Programme and faculty in charge of each year of study). The University of the

West of England (UWE) Faculty of Environment and Technology has a Link Tutor who manages the collaboration between City School of Architecture (CSA) and the University.

### Induction

New entrants to the programme attend an induction programme to familiarise them with the structure and operation of their programme and facilities to support their studies. All students are briefed on the academic calendar, as well as academic programmes and events for the year at the beginning of the year. The students are also briefed in relation to the physical and educational resources available to them.

### Academic Support and Guidance

The Faculty who are in charge of a year of study are the immediate support mechanism available to students. Students could also discuss their learning needs and obtain advice and guidance on personal issues and job placements from the Deputy Heads of the Parts I & II Courses. External Tutors, Supervising Architects at the Trainer Practices and the Practical Training and Welfare Counselors act as additional mentors whom the student can turn to for advice and guidance.

### Practical Training Support and Guidance

Support and guidance on practical training is given to the students by the Practical Training Counsellors and the Supervising Architect at the Trainer Practice. CSA has access to well established consortium of architectural practices who have the experience to guide and equip students with the knowledge and understanding of the Architect's Plan of Work.

### Financial Support and Guidance

Financial support and guidance is given to students through Welfare Counsellors and the Awards and Bursaries Committee that administers financial support to the students together with the Head of School through student scholarships and bursaries. Supervising Architects at the Trainer Practices also act as mentors to the students on these matters and some Trainer Practices bear the course fee payments of students or provide them loans for such purposes.

More detailed information can be found in the CSA Student's Handbook.

Method for Evaluating and Enhancing the Quality and Standards of Teaching and Learning:

#### Standards and QA

The standard of the UWE award is ultimately the responsibility of UWE's Academic Board. On a day to day basis, the programme and modules are the responsibility of the Board of Academic Studies at CSA. The Award and Module Boards are responsible for awarding credit, considering the progress of all students and making awards in accordance with the assessment regulations.

CSA will be required to report to UWE on an annual basis in accordance with UWE's process for the annual monitoring and review of taught provision.

UWE External Examiner(s) will report annually on the programme and their views will be considered as part of the annual monitoring and review process for taught provision.

Internal monitoring and review at CSA includes:

#### Reviews with the Head of School and Deputy Heads

Monthly reviews are conducted with the staff and student representatives of each studio. Staff and student concerns are addressed and feedback is given at the next meeting after the Head of School has deliberated such issues and concerns with the Board of Academic Studies.

#### Quality Audits

Quality Audits are conducted at the end of each academic session and the Head of QA forwards his/her report to the Head of School. The report contents are discussed at the Board of Academic Studies and the recommendations of the Board are then taken up for discussion by the Head of School with the Board of Directors.

For more detailed information please see the CSA Quality Assurance Handbook.

**Part B: Programme Structure****Year 1**

Direct entry to level 3 only, level 1 modules AL

**Year 1 Compulsory Modules**

The student must take 120 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules.

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UBFL5T-120-1	Accredited Learning L1 120 credits 2025-26	120

**Year 2**

Direct entry to level 3 only, level 2 modules AL

**Year 2 Compulsory Modules**

The student must take 120 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules.

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UBFL5U-120-2	Accredited Learning Level 2 120 credits 2026-27	120

**Year 3**

The student must take 120 credits from the modules in Year 3.

**Year 3 Compulsory Modules**

The student must take 120 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules.

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UBPMJF-16-3	Architectural Studies 3 2027-28	16
UBPMRG-5-3	Building Services 3 2027-28	5
UBPMNX-64-3	Design 3 2027-28	64
UBPMRX-10-3	Environment 3 2027-28	10
UBPMPG-5-3	History of Architecture 3 2027-28	5

UBPMQX-5-3	Materials and Construction 3 2027-28	5
UBPMSG-5-3	Profession 3 2027-28	5
UBPMQG-5-3	Structure 3 2027-28	5
UBPMPX-5-3	Theory of Architecture 3 2027-28	5

### **Part C: Higher Education Achievement Record (HEAR) Synopsis**

### **Part D: External Reference Points and Benchmarks**

QAA benchmark statements:

The aims and learning outcomes of the programme reflect the subject-specific guidance of the QAA benchmark statements for architecture. The prescriptions set out in the benchmarks describing knowledge, intellectual skills, subject-specific and transferable skills informed the learning outcomes of the programme. The teaching and learning and assessment strategies adopted on this programme are consistent with those contained within the benchmark statements. Transferable skills are developed, practiced and assessed within modules throughout the programme.

Professional Validation/Accreditation.

The UWE award of BArch (Hons) Architecture is not validated by the RIBA (although the CSA Diploma in Architectural Studies holds this status) or prescribed by ARB. However, the curriculum, learning methods, aims and learning outcomes correspond to the guidelines and requirements set out by the Sri Lanka Institute of Architects (SLIA) and the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA).

### **Part E: Regulations**

This award is governed by assessment regulations that have been approved by UWE's Academic Board as a variation to UWE's standard assessment regulations.

