Programme Specification

Architecture [Frenchay]

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Contents

Section 1: Key Programme Details

Part A: Programme Information

Programme title: Architecture [Frenchay]

Highest award: MArch Architecture

Awarding institution: UWE Bristol

Affiliated institutions: Not applicable

Teaching institutions: UWE Bristol

Study abroad: No

Year abroad: No

Sandwich year: No

Credit recognition: No

Department responsible for the programme: FET Dept of Architecture & Built Environ, Faculty of Environment & Technology

Contributing departments: Not applicable

Professional, statutory or regulatory bodies:

Architects Registration Board (ARB)

Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA)

Apprenticeship: Not applicable

Mode of delivery: Full-time, Part-time

Entry requirements: For the current entry requirements see the UWE public website.

For implementation from: 01 September 2002

Programme code: K10C12

Section 2: Programme Overview, Aims and Learning Outcomes

Part A: Programme Overview, Aims and Learning Outcomes

Overview: The Master of Architecture (MArch) is a two year undergraduate master's programme designed to meet the requirements for prescription by the Architects Registration Board (ARB) and validation by the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) as a Part 2 qualification in architecture, an essential step towards becoming a Registered Architect in the UK. It offers holders of a prescribed/validated Part I qualification (usually a BA or BSc in architecture) the opportunity to develop their knowledge, understanding and skills to Master's Level. The programme is open to graduates of UWE's undergraduate architecture programmes (BA Hons) Architecture and Planning and BEng(Hons) Architecture and Environmental Engineering), holders of Part 1 qualifications offered by other UK higher education institutions and equivalent qualifications from universities in other countries.

Educational Aims: The programme aims to educate critically engaged architectural professionals with an ethically responsible attitude towards society, clients, users and the environment. The inter-professional ethos of the Department of Planning and Architecture and the particular academic character of UWE's undergraduate architectural degree courses set the context for the MArch programme. The three themes that underlie the first degrees: people, context and sustainability are continued in this design-led programme that draws on the department's research in architecture, urban design, contextual studies, health and sustainability. The programme fosters understanding of the wider professional, cultural and social setting within which the architect operates, the organisation of the construction industry and its inter-professional nature and the management of architectural practice.

The knowledge and skills developed in the programme are conceived in the context of the general criteria and graduate attributes contained in the RIBA/ARB criteria for validation/prescription that are derived from the requirements of article 46 of the EU

Qualifications Directive and echoed in the QAA benchmark statement for architecture.

Programme Learning Outcomes:
On successful completion of this programme graduates will achieve the following learning outcomes.

Knowledge and Understanding

A1.   Good and emerging practice in architectural design and architectural design in a specialised area of the student's choice within a range of options offered

A2.   The controlling influence of environmental, structural and technological considerations on building and the influence of building design and specification decisions on the environmen

A3.   The relation of contextual studies, planning and urban design to architectural design

A4.   In the context of the UK, current legislative frameworks, methods of building procurement and building contracts, of the economics of building and the management of building projects and a professional office

A5.   The role of the architect and other built environment professionals in society, and ethical issues as they relate to the architect's role in relation to clients, building users, the construction industry and the wider community, including the preparation of design briefs

A6.   The relation of architectural production to architectural history and contemporary culture, including the range of theories and creative practices that inform architectural and urban design and influence its quality

A7.   The relationship between people, building, the spaces between buildings and the environment

Intellectual Skills

B1.   The ability to appraise the site and the context of a potential building

B2.   The ability to conceive and develop in selective detail a design for a complex building or group of buildings and outline the structural, constructional and environmental control strategies

B3.   The ability, in the context of critical debate, to appraise the design of an individual building or group of buildings in relation to the physical, intellectual and socio-economic context

B4.   The ability to critically appraise complex architectural representation, built space, processes and techniques of design and architectural research and theory

B5.   The ability to evaluate alternative design strategies

Subject/Professional Practice Skills

C1.   Ability to prepare a design brief in consultation with a client and real or potential users

C2.   Ability to produce coherent well-resolved architectural designs that meet needs of clients and users and demonstrate knowledge of construction technologies and the environmental and cultural context of architecture

C3.   Ability to produce building designs that are considered responses to the physical, economic, social, cultural and environmental context of the project

Transferable Skills and other attributes

D1.   Ability to communicate to both technical and lay audiences the organisational, structural, construction and environmental control strategies and the experiential quality of a complex building or group of buildings through the use of a variety of media

D2.   Ability to work collaboratively with other students of architecture, architects, members of other professions and disciplines in a spirit of understanding and respect

Programme Learning Outcomes

PO1.   Ability to generate complex design proposals showing understanding of current architectural issues, originality in the application of subject knowledge and, where appropriate, to test new hypotheses and speculations

PO2.   Ability to evaluate and apply a comprehensive range of visual, oral and written media to test, analyse, critically appraise and explain design proposals

PO3.   Ability to evaluate materials, processes and techniques that apply to complex architectural designs and building construction, and to integrate these into practicable design proposals

PO4.   Critical understanding of how knowledge is advanced through research to produce clear, logically argued and original written work relating to architectural culture, theory and design

PO5.   Understanding of the context of the architect and the construction industry, including the architect's role in the processes of procurement and building production, and under legislation

PO6.   Problem solving skills, professional judgment, and ability to take the initiative and make appropriate decisions in complex and unpredictable circumstances

PO7.   Ability to identify individual learning needs and understand the personal responsibility required to prepare for qualification as an architect

Part B: Programme Structure

Year 1
Full-time students must take 120 credits from the modules in Year 1.
Part-time students must take 75 credits from the modules in Year 1.

Year 1 Compulsory Modules (Full-time and Part-time)
Full-time and Part-time students must take 75 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules (Full-time and Part-time).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UBLMJA-15-3	Advanced Cultural Studies: Narratives of Built Form 2022-23	15
UBLMKB-30-3	Architectural Representation and Modelling 2022-23	30
UBLMXA-30-3	Design Studio A 2022-23	30

Year 1 Optional Modules (Full-time)
Full-time students must take 45 credits from the modules in Optional Modules (Full-time).

Year 1 Optional Modules (Full-time) Group A

UBLMWR-30-3 Live Project Studio should be the recommended route for all full-time students.

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UBLMYA-30-3	Design in Practice 2022-23	30
UBLMWR-30-3	Live Project Studio 2022-23	30

Year 1 Optional Modules (Full-time) Group B

Full-time students must take 15 credits from the modules in Group B.

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UBLLW1-15-M	Logic to Artefact 2022-23	15
UBLMQ4-15-M	Low/zero Impact Buildings 2022-23	15
UBLLA1-15-M	Urban Greening: Planning, Design and Delivery 2022-23	15

Year 2

Full-time students must take 120 credits from the modules in Year 2.
Part-time students must take 90 credits from the modules in Year 2.

Year 2 Compulsory Modules (Full-time)

Full-time students must take 120 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules (Full-time).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UBLMJR-15-M	Advanced Cultural Studies: Narratives of Architectural Theory 2023-24	15
UBLMKS-30-M	Design Research 2023-24	30
UBLM6X-60-M	Design Studio B 2023-24	60
UBLMMB-15-M	Future Practice 2023-24	15

Year 2 Compulsory Modules (Part-time)

Part-time students must take 90 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules (Part-time).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UBLMKS-30-M	Design Research 2023-24	30
UBLM6X-60-M	Design Studio B 2023-24	60

Year 3

Part-time students must take 75 credits from the modules in Year 3.

Year 3 Compulsory Modules (Part-time)

Part-time students must take 60 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules (Part-time).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UBLMJR-15-M	Advanced Cultural Studies: Narratives of Architectural Theory 2024-25	15
UBLMYA-30-3	Design in Practice 2024-25	30
UBLMMB-15-M	Future Practice 2024-25	15

Year 3 Optional Modules (Part-time)

Part-time students must take 15 credits from the modules in Optional Modules (Part-time).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UBLLW1-15-M	Logic to Artefact 2024-25	15
UBLMQ4-15-M	Low/zero Impact Buildings 2024-25	15
UBLLA1-15-M	Urban Greening: Planning, Design and Delivery 2024-25	15

Part C: Higher Education Achievement Record (HEAR) Synopsis

Part D: External Reference Points and Benchmarks

Professional Context:

When the BArch programme was first validated by the University the RIBA was consulted at both national and regional level. The guidance issued by the RIBA on their own Final Examination in Architecture and proposals for its revision influenced the initial structure of the proposed BArch/MA awards. Discussions with the representatives of the local architectural profession held prior to the initial validation of the programme and the deliberations of the Architecture and Planning Advisory Panel set up to advise on the development of architectural education in the University helped shape the design of the programmes. Following the successful delivery of the BArch for several years the course has been refined and converted into the MArch in line with guidance on the form and content of architectural education published by the relevant professional bodies and other agencies.

The Requirements of Professional Bodies:

The curriculum, learning methods, aims and learning outcomes respond to the guidelines and requirements of the EU: the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) and the Architects Registration Board (ARB) .

EU Directive 2005/36/EC on the Recognition of Professional Qualifications: Article 46 Training of Architects

Procedures for Validation and Validation Criteria for UK and International Courses and Examinations in Architecture RIBA 2011

Prescription of Qualifications: ARB Criteria at Parts 1,2 and 3 ARB 011

QAA publications subject benchmark statements:

QAA Architecture benchmark statement QAA361 09/10

QAA Masters Degree Characteristics benchmark statement QAA341 04/10

SEEC HE level descriptors for Level 3 and Level M

These statements and descriptors were employed to support the development of the course from a Bachelor of Architecture to an undergraduate Master of Architecture, guiding the overall educational aims and specific learning outcomes of the programme. Changes were made particularly to the depth of knowledge, understanding and criticality required within the learning on the programme.

The research interests of the Faculty:

The subject focus of the design studios, advanced cultural studies modules and design research modules is closely related to the established and emerging research interests of the faculty. These areas include architectural research, urban design, contextual studies, health and sustainability. In particular Architecture Studio B and Design Research modules are structured as frameworks to enable the intersection of current faculty research and teaching within projects with live research agendas that are offered as options to students. This develops the potential of architectural design within the studio environment that is essentially speculative, innovative and contributes to the wider academy of architecture.

Part E: Regulations
Approved to University Regulations and Procedures.