Programme Specification

Professional Practice, Knowledge, Skills and Management in Architecture {Apprenticeship-UWE} [Frenchay]

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Section 1: Key Programme Details

Part A: Programme Information

Programme title: Professional Practice, Knowledge, Skills and Management in Architecture {Apprenticeship-UWE} [Frenchay]

Highest award: PGCert Professional Practice, Knowledge, Skills and Management in Architecture

Awarding institution: UWE Bristol

Teaching institutions: UWE Bristol

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:

Architects Registration Board (ARB)

Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA)

Apprenticeship: ST0533 (Version 1.1)

Modes of delivery: Full-time

Entry requirements:

For implementation from: 01 September 2025

Programme code: K10P12

Section 2: Programme Overview, Aims and Learning Outcomes

Part A: Programme Overview, Aims and Learning Outcomes

Overview: This programme provides a routeway to enable students to complete the final stage (ARB/RIBA Part 3) of an architectural student's formal education and includes the EPA for the Architects Level 7 Apprenticeship. This is the point at which they cease to be students and are eligible to become architects. It is the culmination of the formal, academic training and the practical, work-based learning, and it provides the basis for 'life-long learning' in the architectural profession. Its primary purpose is to enable the student to demonstrate competence for the practice of architecture.

Features of the programme: The programme provides the opportunity to acquire the knowledge and develop necessary skills relating to architectural practice, professionalism, and managing the relationship between the architect and the wider construction industry and society. These correspond to the requirements set out in the requirements published by the ARB and RIBA. The programme offers varied and flexible patterns of study, through a blended learning approach, well-suited to part-time students working in practice. In addition to meeting the skills requirements for Part 3, the development of transferable skills such as business, marketing, project management, and communication is an important aim of the programme. Importance is placed on appropriate visual, written and oral communication skills as well as listening skills.

The Professional Context in Architecture module is structured around a combination of lectures, seminars, and digital content delivered via a virtual learning environment, focusing on essential themes in professional practice, procurement, and contract management. The module includes contributions from members across the College as well as visiting industry speakers, offering a broad perspective on contemporary issues. Students engage with a scenario project that enables them to apply theoretical knowledge to practical situations, linking it to their own professional experiences. This preparatory work builds toward their final career evaluation and case study report in the concluding module.

The teaching and learning strategy for the final Professional Experience module is primarily self-directed, with individual guidance provided through tutorials. This module emphasizes the development of professional experience and competence for practice. The foundational knowledge and skills gained in the Context of Practice module, combined with practical experience, support students in achieving the learning outcomes of this final module.

On completion it allows the candidate to apply to the ARB (Architects' Registration Board) to be entered on to the Register of Architects. The candidate once officially registered may also, if they so wish, apply to become an RIBA Chartered member. For both organisations candidates will need to have provide evidence that they have completed each stage of their architectural education.
The 'Part 3 Course' is prescribed by the ARB and validated by the RIBA.

Educational Aims: The Educational Aims of this programme are:

To provide a coherent programme of advanced postgraduate study in the professional practice and management of architectural practice that is informed by research (including that carried out by academic staff at UWE);

To educate critically engaged architectural professionals with an ethically responsible attitude towards society, clients, users and the environment;

To encourage students to develop the capacity for reflexive practice and critical judgement necessary to work as architectural professionals in a range of contemporary contexts within the construction industry and wider society;

To achieve the knowledge and skills needed 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 3 qualification in architecture.

Programme Learning Outcomes:

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

Programme Learning Outcomes

PO1. Demonstrate professional competence and integrity by adhering to the ethical standards and conduct expected of architects, with a focus on responsibilities related to fire safety, life safety, and climate change within architectural practice.

PO2. Apply essential professional skills and behaviours, including effective communication, collaboration, and leadership, that are fundamental to the role of an architect.

PO3. Exhibit ethical decision-making used to advise clients on their responsibilities, promoting actions that align with statutory requirements including safety considerations, sustainability, and social responsibility in architectural projects.

PO4. Critically evaluate the range of services provided by architects, ensuring actions and services are delivered in accordance with the Code of Conduct and prioritise the interests of the public, clients, and other stakeholders.

PO5. Demonstrate understanding of the legal framework governing architectural practice to ensure compliance with statutory and regulatory requirements.

PO6. Apply knowledge of UK construction and contract law, as well as construction procurement processes, and understand the roles and responsibilities of various built environment professionals.

PO7. Critically assess business priorities, management processes, and risks associated with running an architectural practice, and analyse the relationship between the practice architecture and the broader UK construction industry.

Assessment strategy: Testing of knowledge and understanding is through a set of portfolios (which includes essays, reports, scenario-based exercises, and presentations) and the oral exam/professional interview.

Intellectual skills are assessed in relevant coursework including the Case Study, the Career Evaluation, scenario-based exercises, and the Oral Exam/Professional Interview.

Subject, professional and practical skills are assessed through a set of portfolios (which includes essays, reports, scenario-based exercises, and presentations), the Case Study, the Career Evaluation, the record of professional experience (e.g. logbook, PEDR or equivalent, and the Oral Exam/Professional Interview.)

Transferable skills and other attributes are assessed by evidence of career progression, including the Career Evaluation, the record of professional experience (e.g. logbook, PEDR or equivalent, the Case Study, and the Oral Exam/Professional Interview.

A Record of Professional Experience (eg pedr or equivalent) forms a compulsory part of the documentary submission required for the final module prior to the professional interview.

The completion of a RIBA pedr or Certificate of Experience, if eligible, fulfils the requirement for the Record of Professional Experience. The RIBA PEDR website gives information about the PEDR process. To use their PEDR recording system you will have to register and pay for a subscription.

UWE offers professional experience supervision for architecture students undertaking work in practice and who are completing a Record of Professional Experience (eg logbook, pedr) delivered through a non-accredited UWE module. Registering for this module provides supervision, advice and guidance from a Professional Studies Advisor (PSA). An additional fee is charged for this module, please see the website for further details.

Student support: The Context for Professional Practice module is taught on campus which allows student support to be configured towards face to face sessions.
The Professional Experience module, is a supervision type module delivered online or in person depending on the individuals preference.

With the exception of Professional Experience Record costs (engaging with a Professional Studies Advisor at a UK School of Architecture and associated subscription costs to RIBAE PEDR website) there are no fieldtrips, extra- or co-curricular activities associated with this course. Typically apprentices should have completed their Stage One PEDR documents prior to starting this course. The Stage Two PEDR documents are then included within this course.

Part B: Programme Structure

Year 1
The programme is taken as two 4-day block-taught deliveries and three opportunities for Case Study supervision meetings in support of the End Point Assessment module.

The programme is completed by the End Point Assessment of Professional Experience in Architecture module which includes the professional interview.

Year 1 Compulsory Modules
All 60-credits are compulsory and are taken as a part-time course in one calendar year.

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UBLL4N-30-M	Professional Context in Architecture 2025-26	30
UBLMYR-30-M	End Point Assessment of Professional Experience in Architecture 2025-26	30

Part C: Higher Education Achievement Record (HEAR) Synopsis
This programme provides a routeway to enable students to complete the final stage (ARB/RIBA Part 3) of an architectural student's formal education alongside completion of the Level 7 Architect Apprenticeship. On successful completion these students are eligible to become architects and are judged to have fulfilled the requirements of their apprenticeship. The programme provides the basis for 'life-long reflexive learning' in the architectural profession. Its primary purpose is to enable the

student to demonstrate competence for the practice of architecture corresponding to the requirements set out in the criteria published by the ARB and RIBA.

Part D: External Reference Points and Benchmarks

The programme is designed to align with both the Architects Registration Board (ARB) document Tomorrow's Architects: Competency Outcomes for Architects and the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) Themes and Values for Architectural Education (T+V4AE), as a Part 3 qualification in architecture, the final step towards becoming a Registered Architect in the UK.

The ARB document defines the threshold competencies required for registration as an architect, while the RIBA framework outlines the themes and values that underpin their validation process for architectural education. Together, these documents provide a comprehensive foundation for the programme's structure and objectives.

It also meets the Architecture Apprenticeship Standard at Level 7, as defined by the Institute for Apprenticeships and Technical Education (IFATE). The program aligns with the latest version of the standard, Reference: ST0533, Version: 1.1, updated on 09/11/2023. This standard ensures that the curriculum addresses critical Knowledge, Skills, and Behaviours (KSBs) required in contemporary architectural practice.

Part E: Regulations

Approved variant to University Academic Regulations and Procedures

Current UWE regulations apply except for the following variances listed below. The variances are required to ensure that the programme meets the requirement of the ARB/RIBA in relation to its accreditation of Part 3 programmes and the End Point Assessment Plan for Architect Apprenticeship (Level 7)

Variations to individual module requirements will be set out in the module specifications.

1. There will be a Professional Examiner for the Professional Experience module, as is required by ARB/RIBA to conduct the final assessment Oral Examination/Professional Interview and to be involved in the assessment of all the

elements within the module. S/he will work with a second examiner on the assessment of this module. As part of this role, the Professional Examiner will recommend to the Award Board whether a failing candidate can be referred to Resit at the next assessment opportunity or is recommended to defer that Resit assessment in order to further develop their profession experience. This Professional Examiner role is defined by the relevant PSRBs (and should be read in conjunction with the Apprenticeship Standard) and is a separate and different role from that of the external examiner as understood by the University's Academic Regulations and Procedures. (Variant to UWE Regulation 6 Failure of a Module).

2. The outcome of UBLMYR-30-M : End Point Assessment of Professional Experience in Architecture must comply with the assessment and award requirements of the Level 7 Architect Apprenticeship Standard; and to this end assessment of both assessment methods for that module are to be awarded Pass/Fail/Merit categories with those assessment levels awarded in accordance with the End Point Assessment Plan for Architect Apprenticeship (Level 7) and guidance developed by the End Point Assessment Organisation. The maximum grade awarded to a re-sit/re-take for an individual assessment method will be a Pass, unless the End Point Assessment Organisation identifies exceptional extenuating circumstances accounting for the original fail.

Regulation D12 (Requirements for the Award of an Undergraduate Degree)
- The End-Point Assessment module grade will count towards the overall degree classification.