Programme Specification

Architectural Technology and Design [Frenchay]

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Section 1: Key Programme Details

Part A: Programme Information

Programme title: Architectural Technology and Design [Frenchay]

Highest award: BSc (Hons) Architectural Technology and Design

Interim award: BSc Architectural Techhnology and Design

Interim award: DipHE Architectural Technology and Design

Interim award: CertHE Architectural Technology and Design

Awarding institution: UWE

Teaching institutions: UWE

Study abroad: No

Year abroad: Yes

Sandwich year: Yes

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:

Chartered Institute of Architectural Technologists (CIAT)

Chartered Institute of Building

Modes of delivery: Full-time, Part-time, Sandwich

Entry requirements:

For implementation from: 01 September 2023

Programme code: K13000

Section 2: Programme Overview, Aims and Learning Outcomes

Part A: Programme Overview, Aims and Learning Outcomes

Overview: The programme is designed to produce graduates who will be able to analyse, synthesise and evaluate design factors thus enabling them to produce design solutions that will satisfy performance, production and procurement criteria for the construction industry. Each student will have a strategic awareness of the parameters that underline the processes necessary to achieve good quality functional buildings.

Students can apply to spend a year abroad on an International Academic Placement after year 2 before they return to UWE to complete their final (graduation) year. This is a competitive application process and only successful applicants can follow this option. Those spending the year abroad will take a course of academic study at a host university abroad designed to further their understanding of architectural technology and design in a different cultural and academic context. This is assessed by UWE as an International Academic Placement module. After the year abroad students return to UWE to take their final (graduation) year. Such students will therefore spend four years on the programme.

At the end of the period of study the architectural technologist can expect to find employment within design consultancy organisations, contractors, or product manufacturers.

Features of the programme: The Faculty of Environment and Technology has a strong commitment to interdisciplinary professional education, as is evident in the design of all its undergraduate programmes.

The programme aims to educate practitioners and researchers who are equipped for careers in architecture and other associated specialisms within the built environment who possess a unique appreciation of buildings and their performance from initial design through to construction.

The programme has a strong emphasis on design. This is taught in a design studio

environment where students are required to fulfill a complex brief taking their schemes through from concept to detail design. With a focus on the science of building, material specification and construction detail, the programme allows the students to understand their role in the professional world of construction and building, equipping them with the necessary skills to converse with all practitioners who shape the modern built environment. The course is supported and accredited by CIAT and the CIOB.

Educational Aims: The programme aims:

To instil in each student an understanding and enthusiasm for Architectural Technology and Design;

To provide an intellectually stimulating environment for learning and understanding;

To integrate the conceptual understanding of technology and design realisation;

To reflect upon, evaluate and discuss aspects of technological design;

To identify and encourage the essential features of good integrated design and practice (including the use of computers in the design, production and management processes), through observed current good practice and historical precedents and practice.

To use knowledge of scientific principles and materials properties to develop and design productive solutions to technological problems within defined constraints;

To consider the 'buildability', sustainability and performance of building design solutions within legal, ecological, economic and technological constraints;

To provide an environment for personal and skills development, the development of teamworking skills for the construction industry and multidisciplinary ethos;

To motivate and equip graduates to meet the challenges of change in the industry,

for example, resulting from globalisation, the emphasis on sustainability, rising client expectations and changing organisational strategies;

To develop each student's analytical and creative skills and encourage the development of mature and independent judgement, leading to effective decision making and synthesising skills;

To identify and evaluate research and innovation needs in buildings.

Programme Learning Outcomes:

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

Knowledge and Understanding

A1. To demonstrate an understanding of the essential facts, concepts and theories relating to architectural design and its relationship to technology

A2. To understand the principles of building structure and construction including the properties of materials

A3. To be aware of the nature of building fabric and systems as modifiers of the physical environment in providing a sustainable environment.

A4. To analyse the performance of a building from a technical and functional perspective and recognise their inter-relationship

A5. To understand the relevant statutory frameworks and other constraints and gain an appreciation of the legal principles of practice pertaining to construction contracts.

A6. To understand the role of the parties to the building development process and to gain an appreciation of other professional perspectives.

Intellectual Skills

B1. To analyse a problem and evaluate critically, evidence and alternative points of view.

B2. To interpret, analyse and communicate qualitative and quantitative data.

B3. To synthesise ideas and information from a variety of sources in reaching judgements about issues, problems and solutions.

B4. To demonstrate the ability to question and evaluate current theories and practice.

B5. To initiate and execute research and subsequently analyse and exploit the findings.

Subject/Professional Practice Skills

C1. To apply knowledge of structure, construction, materials and environmental performance in building design

C2. To apply the principles of good practice to design and the design process, including use of CAD and design systems.

C3. To create appropriate design solutions in a variety of contexts which are also technically competent and viable building design solutions of quality which meet client's requirements.

C4. To appreciate the health and safety responsibilities associated with specific aspects of the built environment.

C5. To be able to apply experimental method, including laboratory investigations, to the analysis of technical problems.

C6. To be able to observe, describe and record information about building design and condition accurately.

C7. To interpret plans and three dimensional diagrams accurately.

Transferable Skills and other attributes

D1. To be able to communicate design solutions through a variety of media and with a variety of stakeholders in the development process and construction industry.

D2. To demonstrate an understanding of the conventions of architectural drawing.

D3. To appreciate the limitations and use of computers and apply IT to the context of learning and building technology and design.

D4. To have acquired skills in the use and processing of physical quantities and numerical data

D5. To demonstrate an appreciation of the importance of inter-professional and collaborative working, and develop respect for other people's perspective.

D6. To develop the skill of independent learning.

Assessment strategy: The programme will be assessed using the current version of the University's Academic Regulations and Procedures.

Knowledge and Understanding:

Testing of the knowledge base is through assessed design studios (1), coursework (1-6), through oral presentations (1-6), through experimental work undertaken in a laboratory or real-life situation (1, 2 and 4) and through tasks undertaken under examination conditions (1-6).

Intellectual Skills:

A variety of assessment methods are employed to test intellectual skills. Assessment of the ability to apply and evaluate research findings and to bring make judgements based on a wide range of inputs will be though assessment of the student's design portfolio and their response under 'viva' conditions. Intellectual skills will be also be assessed through summative assessment in other subjects, for example, coursework, 'traditional' examination procedures, and also through computer-based assessments.

Subject, Professional and Practical Skills:

The assessment of the structure, construction, environmental and materials performance in building design (skill 1) is undertaken through laboratory experimental reports, essays and 'unseen' written examinations.

Other practical skills are assessed through coursework, studio reviews and viva presentations (skill 2 and 3). The other skills are assessed through essays, examinations under controlled conditions, field exercises and oral presentations.

Transferable Skills and other attributes:

A variety of methods are employed to assess transferable skills. Assessment of communication skills is undertaken through essay writing, architectural reviews (skills 1, 2, 5 and 6), presentations (skills 5 and 6) through oral presentations, experimental procedures (skills 4, 5 and 6) and computer based learning (skills 3 and 5) through laboratory exercises and design work and analysis using a range of software. Team working is also assessed through the inter-professional modules and the ability to work independently is assessed through the design projects.

Those students undertaking a year abroad (International Academic Placement module) are assessed by portfolio submission, assessed at UWE, at the end of their year abroad.

Student support:

Part B: Programme Structure

Year 1

Full-time and Sandwich students must take 120 credits from the modules in Year 1.

Part-time students must take 60 credits from the modules in Year 1.

Year 1 Compulsory Modules (Full-time and Sandwich)

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

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UBLL4S-30-1	Studio 1.1 - Form and Context 2025-26	30
UBLL4Y-30-1	Studio 1.2 - People and Environment 2025-26	30

UBLMYS-30-1	Construction Technology and Services 2025-26	30
UBLMSS-30-1	Environmental Physics and Materials 2025-26	30

Year 1 Compulsory Modules (Part-time)
Part-time students must take 60 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules (Part-time).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UBLMYS-30-1	Construction Technology and Services 2025-26	30
UBLMSS-30-1	Environmental Physics and Materials 2025-26	30

Year 2
Full-time and Sandwich students must take 120 credits from the modules in Year 2.

Part-time students must take 60 credits from the modules in Year 2.

Year 2 Compulsory Modules (Full-time and Sandwich)
Full-time and Sandwich students must take 120 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules (Full-time and Sandwich).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UBLMUS-30-2	Commercial Development 2026-27	30
UBLMTV-15-2	Design Representation 2026-27	15
UBLMD1-15-2	Histories and Theories of Architecture 2026-27	15
UBLMRT-30-2	Procurement and Contract Practice 2026-27	30
UBLMGG-30-2	Technology and Design Studio 2 2026-27	30

Year 2 Compulsory Modules (Part-time)
Part-time students must take 60 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules (Part-time).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UBLMPC-30-1	Law, Economics and Management 2026-27	30
UBLLWV-30-1	Principles of Sustainable Design 2026-27	30

Year 3
Full-time students must take 120 credits from the modules in Year 3.

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

Sandwich Year:
Students on this programme follow either Compulsory Modules Group 1 (Sandwich module) or Compulsory Modules Group 2 (International Academic Placement Year).

Students on the Sandwich route complete a minimum of 200 credits at Levels 1/2. Students must fulfill a minimum of 24 weeks on placement and complete the assessment requirements in communication with the University Programme Team.

The Placement module UBLMG4-15-3 Workbased Research Project will be awarded on successful completion of the placement. The placement can be taken in the UK and Europe. Thus the Collaborative Practice Module will not be undertaken in the final year for students on the sandwich degree.

Year 3 Compulsory Modules (Full-time)
Full-time students must take 75 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules (Full-time).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UBLMN5-30-3	Collaborative Practices in Building Information Management and Modelling 2027-28	30
UBLMJM-45-3	Technology and Design Studio 3 2027-28	45

Year 3 Compulsory Modules (Part-time)
Part-time students must take 75 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules (Part-time).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UBLMQS-15-2	Analysis of Building Defects 2027-28	15
UBLMTV-15-2	Design Representation 2027-28	15
UBLMQT-15-2	Procedures and Practice (WBL) 2027-28	15
UBLMGG-30-2	Technology and Design Studio 2 2027-28	30

Year 3 Compulsory Modules (Sandwich) Group 1
Students on the Sandwich delivery must take 15 credits from the Compulsory Modules (Sandwich) Group 1.

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UBLMG4-15-3	Work-Based Research Project 2027-28	15

Year 3 Compulsory Modules (Sandwich) Group 2 (International Academic Placement Year)
Students on the International Academic Placement Year must take 15 credits from the Compulsory Modules (Sandwich) Group 2 (International Academic Placement Year).

BSc(Hons) Architectural Technology and Design students have the opportunity (subject to the option being available in any given year) to apply to spend a year abroad after Year 2. Students would take a compulsory 15 credit module (International Academic Placement Year module instead of Work-Based Research Project module) during Year 3 when abroad before undertaking their final year (Year 4) of study.

Students would therefore still require 360 credits for the award of the degree. This option (should it be available in any given year) is subject to the making of a successful application which is assessed through a competitive process as the number of places available is limited. Only students who have passed all Level 4 and 5 modules and are successful in their application are eligible to study abroad. There is therefore no guarantee that any student who so desires can automatically undertake a year of study abroad.

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UBLLQ1-15-3	International Academic Year (Architecture) 2027-28	15

Year 3 Optional Modules (Full-time) Group 1
Full-time students must take 30 credits from the modules in Optional Modules (Full-time) Group 1.

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UBLMXB-15-3	Conserving Buildings and Places 2027-28	15
UBLMGP-15-3	Energy Management and Performance Evaluation 2027-28	15
UBLMFQ-30-3	Technological Innovation and Life Cycles 2027-28	30

Year 3 Optional Modules (Full-time) Group 2
Full-time students must take 15 credits from modules in Optional Modules (Full-time) Group 2.

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UBLMNE-15-3	Collaborative Practice 2027-28	15
UBLMQL-15-3	Procurement and Contract Law 2027-28	15

Year 4
Part-time students must take 75 credits from the modules in Year 4.

Sandwich students must take 105 credits from the modules in Year 4.

Year 4 Compulsory Modules (Part-time)
Part-time students must take 60 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules (Part-time).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UBLMUS-30-2	Commercial Development 2028-29	30

UBLMXB-15-3	Conserving Buildings and Places 2028-29	15
UBLMRC-15-2	Procurement and Contract Law 2028-29	15

Year 4 Compulsory Modules (Sandwich)
Sandwich students must take 75 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules (Sandwich).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UBLMN5-30-3	Collaborative Practices in Building Information Management and Modelling 2028-29	30
UBLMJM-45-3	Technology and Design Studio 3 2028-29	45

Year 4 Optional Modules (Part-time)
Part-time students must take 15 credits from the modules in Optional Modules (Part-time).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UBLMNE-15-3	Collaborative Practice 2028-29	15
UBLMG4-15-3	Work-Based Research Project 2028-29	15

Year 4 Optional Modules (Sandwich)
Sandwich students must take 30 credits in modules from Optional Modules (Sandwich).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UBLMXB-15-3	Conserving Buildings and Places 2028-29	15
UBLMGP-15-3	Energy Management and Performance Evaluation 2028-29	15
UBLMFQ-30-3	Technological Innovation and Life Cycles 2028-29	30

Year 5
Part-time students must take 90 credits from the modules in Year 5.

Year 5 Compulsory Modules (Part-time)
Part-time students must take 90 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules (Part-time).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UBLMN5-30-3	Collaborative Practices in Building Information Management and Modelling 2029-30	30
UBLMHQ-15-3	Professionalism (work Based Learning) 2029-30	15
UBLMJM-45-3	Technology and Design Studio 3 2029-30	45

Part C: Higher Education Achievement Record (HEAR) Synopsis

Part D: External Reference Points and Benchmarks
Description of how the following reference points and benchmarks have been used in the design of the programme:

The curriculum, learning methods, aims and learning outcomes of this award respond to the guidelines and requirements of the EU, the Chartered Institute of Architectural Technologists (CIAT) and the QAA benchmark statement for Architectural Technology.

QAA publications subject benchmark statements:

QAA Architecture Technology benchmark statement; ISBN 978 1 84482 655 1

We also have looked at:
UWE Employability Strategy
QAA code of practice: section 8 Career Education, information, advice and guidance
UWE Widening Participation Strategy

UWE Sustainability Strategy

UWE Teaching and Learning Strategy

Part E: Regulations

Approved to University Regulations and Procedures.