

Architecture BA (Hons)

COURSE DETAILS

- A level requirements: [AAA](#)
- UCAS code: K100
- Study mode: Full-time
- Length: 3 years leading to a 2 year Masters degree (MArch)

KEY DATES

- Apply by: [31 January 2024](#)
- Starts: 23 September 2024

Course overview

As the first UK university to award a RIBA-accredited degree in Architecture, the University of Liverpool has a long and proud tradition of excellence in architectural education and research. Our approach to teaching embraces contemporary debates around sustainability, climate change, equality and diversity, reflecting the industry today.

INTRODUCTION

The programme aims to provide a comprehensive foundation in architecture, which demands knowledge of many different but interrelated disciplines, and the development of personal as well as technical skills. RIBA Part I is awarded on completion of your studies.

Each year contains core modules in the history and theory of architecture; building structures and construction; and approaches to design. Environmental issues are considered at every level of study and you will also have an opportunity to learn about practice management. These knowledge modules will be combined with studio design, which accounts for 50% of your credits in each year.

We encourage a creative and individual approach to the future, allowing us to respond to your individual strengths and to the increasingly specialist, complex nature of future professional life. From day one, we will support and nurture your creative voice, both in the Design Studio and in the decisions you make regarding your study options.

Design Studies BA (Hons)

Students studying K100 have the option to transfer to the Design Studies BA (Hons) programme in Year Two (please note: this programme is not RIBA-accredited). Students will specialise in the analysis and evaluation of 'design' understood as a complex historical and contemporary concept related to practices in architecture, planning, product manufacture, and the visual arts.

WHAT YOU'LL LEARN

- Architectural design skills
 - The history and evolution of architecture
 - The technology and principles of construction and structural design
 - Graphical and modelling techniques
 - Design principles and philosophies
 - Current sustainability and environmental debates and measures
 - Management theory and business organisation
 - Knowledge and awareness of current and emerging technologies and their application in construction
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ACCREDITATION

This programme is validated by RIBA, prescribed by the Architects Registration Board for the purposes of admission to the UK Register of Architects, and validated by the Board of Architects Malaysia (LAM).

Course content

Discover what you'll learn, what you'll study, and how you'll be taught and assessed.

YEAR ONE

Year one consists of compulsory modules, in which you will be introduced to the history and evolution of Architecture, developing foundational knowledge of the concepts and theories that will form the basis of the rest of your studies. We will look at the technology and principles of construction and structural design. Half of your module credits will be taken in studio design, enabling you to develop graphical and modelling techniques, and to nurture your creative voice.

COMPULSORY MODULES

CONTEXT 1.1: HISTORY OF ARCHITECTURE (ARCH171)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

History of architecture survey course.

CONTEXT 1.2 ARCHITECTURE AND THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT (ARCH121)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

The module introduces students to ways of looking at and understanding the architectural credentials of buildings. It is based on the German concept of 'Gebäudelehre', which translates into English as 'building studies'. The module sits between, and is aiming to support the other module strands in year one, namely studio design; history and theory; and technology. Students are shown a series of buildings of varying sizes (XS, S, M, L, XL) and in the lectures these buildings will be presented by looking at and analysing their plans, sections, elevations, context, internal and external space, type, circulation and materiality. Furthermore, issues of private and public space and public and private buildings, ensembles, composition, symmetry / asymmetry, the repetition of elements and spaces, and fronts and backs, will be discussed. The module is aiming to equip students with tools to independently analyse and understand buildings, also with a view to enhance their design abilities. The module is delivered as a series of lectures, seminars, and (Covid-19 permitting) building visits on Campus. Assessment will be via submission of coursework.

ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN 1 (ARCH111)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2

The module is an introduction to the principles of net zero carbon design. It aims to give students an understanding of the role of a building as a modifier of climate with reference to traditional climatically responsive architecture, and the role of buildings in the context of global energy usage, environmental impact, climate change and net zero carbon design.

STUDIO 1.1: DESIGN COMMUNICATION (ARCH101)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

Studio Design Module

STUDIO 1.2: DESIGN (ARCH103)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

Architecture Studio Design

STUDIO 1.3: DESIGN (ARCH152)

Credits: 30 / Semester: semester 2

Architectural design studio

TECHNOLOGY 1.2: STRUCTURE AND CONSTRUCTION (ARCH161)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2

Technology 1.2: Structure and Construction

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.

YEAR TWO

You will deepen your understanding through compulsory modules in architectural theory and design.

COMPULSORY MODULES

CONTEXT 2.1: HISTORY AND THEORY OF ARCHITECTURE (ARCH271)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

Architectural History and Theory module on the Twentieth Century

CONTEXT 2.1: URBAN STUDIES (ARCH221)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2

The objective of the module is to promote an understanding of the forces that shape the human-made environment and the role played by design professionals. It aims to help students as future designers to understand that the city is a complex and dynamic system. It also aims to stimulate their active thinking and positive responses to various urban phenomena in order to generate appropriate strategies that can effectively solve design problems and facilitate the city's sustainability. Through a series of lectures on urban history, case studies, urban design theories and methodologies, as well as debates on urban sustainability, this module is to enhance students' awareness of the nature of cities, the formation and transformation of their urban forms and to obtain basic urban design skills.

DESIGN 2.1 (ARCH202)

Credits: 30 / Semester: semester 1

Architectural Design Studio

ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN 2 (ARCH211)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

This module introduces students to energy and environmental issues, particularly those that must be faced by the discipline of architecture. The aim of this module is to provide an introduction to design of passive environmental systems for buildings, their integration into building fabric and structural systems, and selection of appropriate equipment and materials. Both the fundamentals and presentations of case studies (including lessons from the vernacular) will be used to enhance the understanding environmental simulation. The module will be delivered by weekly 2-hour lectures, and assessed by There are two mandatory components to the assessment: 1) Group Report on Vernacular Architecture (30% of total mark) 2) One-hour examination on all topics covered in the lecture series (70% of total mark).

TECHNOLOGY 2.2: STRUCTURAL DESIGN (ARCH261)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2

Lecture based technology module.

This module explores the design collaboration between architects and engineers and its impact on architectural design.

STUDIO 2.3 DESIGN (ARCH252)

Credits: 30 / Semester: semester 2

Studio Design Module

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.

YEAR THREE

You will study six compulsory modules, covering design, management, and history. Half of your credits will be taken in studio design.

COMPULSORY MODULES

CONTEXT 3.1: HISTORY AND THEORY OF ARCHITECTURE (ARCH321)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

The module uses lectures from staff to introduce specialised research themes and topics in architectural history and theory, and is supported by group and individual research. Students are able to choose topics for which they would like to attend further group tutorials / seminars. The module is assessed by an MCQ exam (50%) and a 2,000-word essay (50%).

ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN 3 (ARCH311)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2

The aim of the course is to develop from user requirements an introduction to design of environmental systems for large buildings, selection of appropriate equipment and materials, and their integration into building fabric and structural systems. The three topics are Artificial Lighting, Acoustics, and Thermal Environment and are delivered by a mixture of lectures and case studies.

PRACTICE MANAGEMENT (ARCH371)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2

The objective of the module is to provide a basic understanding of practice management and the role architects play in the procurement of buildings. It aims to provide a context for the professional life of an architect and explain the functions of the other key players.

STUDIO 3.1 DESIGN (ARCH302)

Credits: 30 / Semester: whole session

Architectural design studio.

To develop the necessary skills to design small or medium scale buildings taking into consideration a wide range of architectural, urban, socio-cultural, economic and political issues that are inherently connected with architectural practices.

STUDIO 3.2 DESIGN (ARCH352)

Credits: 30 / Semester: whole session

Architectural Design Studio

To develop the necessary skills to design small or medium scale buildings taking into consideration a wide range of architectural, urban, socio-cultural, economic and political issues that are inherently connected with architectural practices.

TECHNOLOGY 3.1: INTEGRATED TECHNICAL PROJECT DESIGN (ARCH361)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

The module covers the broad spectrum of construction technologies, materials and methods – from intermediate to current to emerging – by presenting the work of internationally respected architects operating in different geographical, cultural and economic contexts. Key aspects of architectural technology are discussed through precedents, with the aim to understand how material and technical choices are impacted by – and in turn able to impact – design, from concept to detailing.

The module reflects upon the multiplicity of ways in which technology can respond to site, programme, budget and users, act as a vehicle to articulate typological, spatial and haptic qualities in design, and address sustainability in the broadest sense.

The module consists of lectures, drop-ins and tutorials. The assessment is based on an individual exam, an individual peer assessment and a group coursework assignment.

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.

HOW YOU'LL LEARN

Year one of the programme comprises a series of interconnected modules, which are designed to lay the foundation for future years. The initial aim is to teach basic graphic communication and to give you the tools to develop your own design agenda.

Year two modules put increased emphasis on the context of architecture such as urban design, responsibility to society, and relationships with the construction industry.

The final year of the programme provides an opportunity for you to demonstrate you have acquired the necessary knowledge and skill to embark on a professional career in architecture. Building on the expertise and understanding of the previous two years, the design modules allow you to develop the necessary skills to design medium and large-scale buildings with a high degree of complexity.

HOW YOU'RE ASSESSED

Written exams count for roughly 25% of your overall marks, with the balance coming from the creativity, reasoning and imagination you've shown in your work during the programme. In the studio modules, assessment is always carried out by a team of staff, who review all of the designs to arrive at a consensus on marks.

At the end of each academic year, portfolios of designs are reviewed by all architectural staff to reach a further consensus understanding of each student's progress. We believe that excellent design is encouraged as much by what we teach, as by how far the student is prepared to pursue their architectural ideas.

We avoid a box-ticking approach to marking, looking instead for exploration and consistency in the design that demonstrates independence and invention. Our approach to marking by consensus gives, we believe, the best guarantee of fairness while encouraging personal experiment. The best coursework shows an awareness of the greater world of architecture and the building industry, and contributes to knowledge. We try hard to avoid templates of

performance while keeping within best practice. To this end, guidance issued is as clear and precise as we can make it, whilst expecting that creativity will dominate.

LIVERPOOL HALLMARKS

We have a distinctive approach to education, the Liverpool Curriculum Framework, which focuses on research-connected teaching, active learning, and authentic assessment to ensure our students graduate as digitally fluent and confident global citizens.

Careers and employability

The BA in Architecture is the first step into the profession, into which many of our graduates go. The programme is accredited by the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) and the Architects Registration Board (ARB), and the degree constitutes Part I of the education, which eventually leads to professional registration.

Architecture graduates can follow a few options. Graduates who want to pursue a career in architecture are able to apply for the MArch programme, which provides the RIBA-accredited Part II.

Other careers – this programme is also an ideal preparation for further study and hugely valuable in a whole range of other careers.

Recent graduates have gone on to work in the following:

- the Arts Council;
- the construction industry;
- and multidisciplinary think tanks;
- games design and the fashion industry;
- property development.

We also hold an End of Year Degree Show to conclude your BA studies and showcase the range of work produced during your time on the programme. We invite a number of architect firms to attend the event, many of whom have gone on to make job or work experience offers to our graduating students.

95% OF STUDENTS AGREE THEIR MAIN ACTIVITY AFTER GRADUATION IS MEANINGFUL.

Graduate Outcomes, 2018-19.

Fees and funding

Your tuition fees, funding your studies, and other costs to consider.

TUITION FEES

UK fees (applies to Channel Islands, Isle of Man and Republic of Ireland)	
Full-time place, per year	£9,250

International fees	
Full-time place, per year	£28,000

Fees are correct for the academic year 2024/25

Tuition fees cover the cost of your teaching and assessment, operating facilities such as libraries, IT equipment, and access to academic and personal support. [Learn more about tuition fees, funding and student finance.](#)

ADDITIONAL COSTS

We understand that budgeting for your time at university is important, and we want to make sure you understand any course-related costs that are not covered by your tuition fee. This includes costs for model making, printing, and materials. In years two and three there are optional international field trips that will incur additional costs of approximately £100-250.

Find out more about the [additional study costs](#) that may apply to this course.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND BURSARIES

We offer a range of scholarships and bursaries to provide tuition fee discounts and help with living expenses while at university.

Check out our [Undergraduate Global Advancement Scholarship](#). This offers a tuition fee discount of up to £5,000 for eligible students starting an undergraduate degree from September 2024. There's also [the Liverpool Bursary](#) which is worth £2,000 per year for eligible students.

[Discover our full range of undergraduate scholarships and bursaries](#)

Entry requirements

The qualifications and exam results you'll need to apply for this course.

Your qualification	Requirements About our typical entry requirements
A levels	AAA Applicants with the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) are eligible for a reduction in grade requirements. For this course, the offer is AAB with A in the EPQ. You may automatically qualify for reduced entry requirements through our contextual offers scheme .
GCSE	GCSE Maths and English grade C/4
Subject requirements	There are no specific subject requirements but you will be required to submit an art-based portfolio or attend a Selection Day. We will consider applicants with lower grades, subject to a strong portfolio submission or Selection Day attendance.
BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma	D and Grade AA at A-Level
BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma	DDD
International Baccalaureate	36 points with no score less than 4.
Irish Leaving Certificate	H1, H1, H2, H2, H2, H2

Your qualification	Requirements About our typical entry requirements
Scottish Higher/Advanced Higher	AAA in Advanced Highers, combinations of Advanced Highers and Scottish Highers are welcome
Welsh Baccalaureate Advanced	A level grades AA are also required. We will consider applicants with lower grades, subject to a strong portfolio submission. There are no specific subject requirements but you will be required to submit an art-based portfolio or attend a Selection Day. GCSE Maths and English at Grade C/4 is required.
Access	Considered if taking Art and Design Pathway. 45 Level 3 credits graded at Distinction required.
International qualifications	Many countries have a different education system to that of the UK, meaning your qualifications may not meet our entry requirements. Completing your Foundation Certificate, such as that offered by the University of Liverpool International College , means you're guaranteed a place on your chosen course.

ALTERNATIVE ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- If your qualification isn't listed here, or you're taking a combination of qualifications, [contact us](#) for advice
- Aged 20+ and without formal qualifications? The one-year [Go Higher](#)

[diploma](#) qualifies you to apply for University of Liverpool arts, humanities and social sciences programmes

- [Applications from mature students](#) are welcome.

THE ORIGINAL

REDBRICK

