UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL

PGCert

Advanced Architecture

Entry requirements	Study mode	Duration	
2:2 honours degree	Full-time	4 months	Apply by: **15 January 2027** Starts on: **25 January 2027**

About this course

This four-month programme consolidates the expertise offered by our longstanding MA in Advanced Architecture into a short course that is ideal for both graduates and professionals. Develop enhanced architectural design skills and benefit from specialist options that reflect contemporary practice and technologies.

Introduction

Please note, your course welcome starts on 25 January 2027. Teaching starts on the 1 February 2027.

The PGCert in Advanced Architecture is designed for graduates and practitioners across a broad range of built environment disciplines who wish to deepen their expertise in advanced architectural design. It will enable you to strengthen your design and technical capabilities, develop specialist knowledge in emerging technologies, and even establish a foundation for design-led or research-based progression towards a PhD.

Highly flexible in structure and content, this four-month programme offers an adaptable suite of academic, practice-based, and research-focused topics. You can tailor your studies to suit your own interests and level of experience, selecting from areas such as computational design, artificial intelligence, digital fabrication, robotics, extended reality

technologies, sustainable design, building information modelling, environmental assessment, and digital heritage. You can also combine several of these disciplines to create a personalised learning trajectory.

You can also study Advanced Architecture as a 12-month, full-time MA (September intake).

Who is this course for?

This qualification is ideal for graduates and practitioners who want to deepen their expertise in advanced architectural design. It is particularly suited to those with backgrounds in architecture, engineering, interior architecture, interior design, environmental design, urban planning, computational design, BIM coordination or landscape architecture.

What you'll learn

- Enhanced design and technical skills
- Knowledge of architectural concepts and theories
- Knowledge in a range of architectural specialisms
- Insights and innovations from leading professionals in architecture
- Research techniques
- Written, verbal and graphical communication skills.

Back to top

Course content

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

Semester two

Your PGCert will comprise of 60 credits of modules, all of which are optional, allowing you to tailor the qualification to your specific areas of interest.

Modules

Optional modules	Credits
ARCHITECTURAL THEORY AND CRITIQUE (ARCH704)	15
ARCHITECTURAL RESEARCH GROUP PLACEMENT (ARCH710)	15
ADVANCED & AI-ASSISTED DESIGN 2 (ARCH713)	30
DESIGNING FOR A CHANGING CLIMATE (ARCH719)	15
BIM IMPLEMENTATION IN COLLABORATIVE ENVIRONMENTS (ARCH725)	15
PARAMETRIC DESIGN AND DIGITAL FABRICATION (ARCH730)	15
IMMERSIVE ARCHITECTURAL VISUALISATION (ARCH732)	15
DIGITAL CLIMATE RESPONSIVE AND NET ZERO DESIGN STUDIO (ARCH734)	30
HERITAGE DOCUMENTATION, DIGITISATION AND PRESENTATION (ARCH739)	15
DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION AND CONSTRUCTION 4.0 (ARCH743)	15

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

Teaching and assessment

How you'll learn

Teaching is delivered through a range of formats. Lectures, small group seminars, studio tutorials, skills-based workshops, guided independent study, group work, and reflective or experiential learning form the core teaching methods.

Lectures introduce key themes and debates at the appropriate level of study, while small group seminars allow students to examine specific design issues or topical debates in greater depth, and encourage active participation. Guided independent study is essential throughout the programme, and group work is integral to studio teaching. Studio teaching follows established architectural pedagogy, with weekly small group sessions led by a tutor.

How you're assessed

A range of assessment methods is utilised, such as coursework portfolios, reviews and presentations. Studio work is formally assessed by a digital portfolio with students being allowed time to reflect and act upon formative feedback received. The assessment of studio work is by the studio team and moderated by an experienced design tutor not teaching in the course. The External Examiner has full access to both the final design presentations and the development wikis. Assessment of non-studio modules follows standard University practice.

Liverpool Learning Framework

At Liverpool, we take a distinctive approach to education through the Liverpool Learning Framework. This means teaching that is engaging, inclusive and designed to help you succeed during your studies and beyond.

You'll develop specialist subject knowledge alongside the skills employers value most, including:

- Digital fluency
- Confidence
- Global citizenship

Our curriculum is characterised by the three Liverpool Hallmarks:

- Research-connected teaching - learning informed by the latest ideas and discoveries
- Active learning - taking part, applying knowledge and learning by doing
- Authentic assessment - assessments designed around real-world tasks and challenges

We also embed key priorities across our curriculum, including AI literacy, employability, and sustainability, helping you prepare for the future and make a positive impact in the world.

We're committed to creating a supportive and inclusive learning environment where every student can thrive.

Back to top

Careers and employability

This programme is ideal for graduates and practitioners who want to accelerate their career progression in the AEC and built environment sectors.

You will gain an advanced and highly relevant skill set spanning:

- Artificial intelligence
- 3D modelling
- BIM and parametric design software
- Computational design
- Digital fabrication
- Robotics
- Environmental simulation
- Digital heritage
- Advanced design methodologies
- Urban planning
- Professional presentation
- Research techniques.

These capabilities are increasingly sought after across architectural practice, the wider built environment sector and emerging technology-driven design fields. As such, this qualification aims to significantly enhance your employability and career progression.

Some students will use the PGCert as an opportunity to refine their academic interests and identify the most suitable area of specialism for doctoral study, using the programme as a stepping stone towards a PhD.

Career support from day one to graduation and beyond

Career planning

From education to employment

Networking events

Back to top

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 - £4,150

International fees

Full-time place, per year - £10,000

Tuition fees are for the academic year 2026/27.

Tuition fees cover the cost of your teaching and assessment, operating facilities such as libraries, IT equipment, and access to academic and personal support.

- You can pay your tuition fees in instalments.
- All or part of your tuition fees can be funded by external sponsorship.
- International applicants who accept an offer of a place will need to pay a deposit.

If you're a UK national, or have settled status in the UK, you may be eligible to apply for a Postgraduate Loan worth up to £12,858 to help with course fees and living costs. **Learn more about paying for your studies**.

Additional costs

The additional cost of modelmaking materials won't exceed £60. You may need to pay an extra £50 to £200 for optional field trips.

You can find information on the general and subject-specific costs you could expect to incur on our study costs webpage.

Back to top

Entry requirements

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

Postgraduate entry requirements

We accept a 2:2 honours degree from a UK university, or an equivalent academic qualification from a similar non-UK institution. This degree should be in Architecture (or a closely related subject e.g. Landscape Architecture, Interior/Art Design, Civil/Structural Engineering or Urban Design). Please contact us if you wish to check whether your degree subject is suitable, however a wide spectrum of subjects are acceptable.

Candidates who do not meet these requirements will be considered on their individual merits and should discuss their particular circumstances with the Programme Director.

International qualifications

Select your country or region to view specific entry requirements.

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.

English language requirements

You'll need to demonstrate competence in the use of English language, unless you're from a majority English speaking country.

We accept a variety of international language tests and country-specific qualifications.

International applicants who do not meet the minimum required standard of English language can complete one of our Pre-Sessional English courses to achieve the required level.

IELTS

6.5 overall, with no component below 6.0

TOEFL iBT

If you took a TOEFL test on or before 20 January 2026, you'll need 88 overall, with minimum scores of listening 19, writing 19, reading 19 and speaking 20. If you took a TOEFL test from 21 January 2026 onwards, when a new scoring system was introduced, you'll need 4.5 overall, with 4 or above in all components. TOEFL Home Edition not accepted.

Pre-sessional English

Do you need to complete a Pre-sessional English course to meet the English language requirements for this course?

The length of Pre-sessional English course you'll need to take depends on your current level of English language ability.

Pre-sessional English in detail

If you don't meet our English language requirements, we can use your most recent IELTS score, or the equivalent score in selected other English language tests, to determine the length of Pre-sessional English course you require.

Use the table below to check the course length you're likely to require for your current English language ability and see whether the course is available on campus or online.

Your most recent IELTS score	Pre-sessional English course length	On campus or online
6.0 overall, with writing at 6.0 and no component below 5.5	6 weeks	On campus or online
5.5 overall, with writing at 5.5 and no component below 5.0	10 weeks	On campus or online

Your most recent IELTS score	Pre-sessional English course length	On campus or online
5.5 overall, with no more than one component at 5.0	12 weeks	Online
5.5 overall, with no component below 5.0	20 weeks	On campus
5.0 overall, with no more than one component at 4.5	30 weeks	On campus
4.5 overall, with no more than one component at 4.0	40 weeks	On campus

If you've completed an alternative English language test to IELTS, we may be able to use this to assess your English language ability and determine the Pre-sessional English course length you require.

Please see our guide to Pre-sessional English entry requirements for IELTS 6.5 overall, with no component below 6.0, for further details.

Back to top

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