



UNIVERSITY OF  
LIVERPOOL

BA (Hons)

## Architecture

UCAS code K100

### Entry requirements

A level: AAA

### Study mode

Full-time

### Duration

3 years leading to a 2 year Masters degree (MArch)

Apply by: **14 January 2026**

Starts on: **28 September 2026**

## About this course

As the first UK university to award a RIBA-validated 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.

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## 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 validation 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-validated).

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.

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## **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 at Part 1 level by the RIBA, as well as by the Board of Architects Malaysia (LAM). From September 2025 onwards, the Architects Registration Board (ARB) are no longer offering accreditation for Part 1 level courses and instead will only offer accreditation at master's-level.

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### **Accreditation in detail**

## **ARB**

The Architects Registration Board (ARB) is the independent statutory regulator of architects in the UK, and is also the UK's Competent Authority for Architects. In order to call yourself an architect in the UK you must be registered with the ARB.

ARB ensures that all registered architects meet the required standards and have the necessary qualifications to practise, as well as upholding relevant legislation and investigating any complaints made against a member.

In order to register in the UK, students who begin the BA Architecture course from September 2025 onwards will typically need to hold an ARB accredited UK qualification at masters-level, and a Part 3 or a practice qualification.

Completing the BA Architecture course is therefore an important step towards gaining entry to a masters-level qualification. The Liverpool School of Architecture is currently initiating approval for an ARB accredited masters-level qualification, to replace our outgoing ARB accredited Part 2 qualification.

## **RIBA**

Dating all the way back to 1837, the Royal Institute of British Architects is the UK's chartered body for architecture. It was founded to promote the advancement of architecture and maintain high-quality design and customer service. RIBA chartered membership is voluntary and is not a legal requirement to practise as an architect. However, membership allows an architect to use the term "chartered" and the RIBA suffix.

The typical route to becoming a Chartered Architect in the United Kingdom is a combination of academic studies at a university and practical experience. It involves training for five years at university and completing a minimum of two years practical experience before final qualification.

We were the first University in the UK to award an RIBA validated degree and have had continuous validation since. Our first degree, the BA Hons in Architecture is a three year degree giving RIBA Part 1 validation on completion. Our second degree is the Master of Architecture (MArch Hons) giving RIBA Part

2 validation. We recommend that our MArch graduates take the Part 3 Advanced Diploma in Professional Practice in Architecture qualification through the route offered by the RIBA (Chester), with which we have close links.

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# Course content

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

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## 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.

## Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
<a href="#"><u>CONTEXT 1.1: HISTORY OF ARCHITECTURE (ARCH171)</u></a>	15
<a href="#"><u>CONTEXT 1.2 ARCHITECTURE AND THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT (ARCH121)</u></a>	15
<a href="#"><u>ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN 1 (ARCH111)</u></a>	15
<a href="#"><u>STUDIO 1.1: DESIGN COMMUNICATION (ARCH101)</u></a>	15
<a href="#"><u>STUDIO 1.2: DESIGN (ARCH103)</u></a>	15
<a href="#"><u>STUDIO 1.3: DESIGN (ARCH152)</u></a>	30
<a href="#"><u>TECHNOLOGY 1.2: STRUCTURE AND CONSTRUCTION (ARCH161)</u></a>	15

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

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## Year two

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

### Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
<a href="#"><u>CONTEXT 2.1: HISTORY AND THEORY OF ARCHITECTURE (ARCH271)</u></a>	15
<a href="#"><u>CONTEXT 2.1: URBAN STUDIES (ARCH221)</u></a>	15
<a href="#"><u>DESIGN 2.1 (ARCH202)</u></a>	30
<a href="#"><u>ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN 2 (ARCH211)</u></a>	15
<a href="#"><u>TECHNOLOGY 2.2: STRUCTURAL DESIGN (ARCH261)</u></a>	15
<a href="#"><u>STUDIO 2.3 DESIGN (ARCH252)</u></a>	30

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.

### Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
<a href="#"><u>CONTEXT 3.1: HISTORY AND THEORY OF ARCHITECTURE (ARCH321)</u></a>	15

Compulsory modules	Credits
<a href="#"><u>ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN 3 (ARCH311)</u></a>	15
<a href="#"><u>PRACTICE MANAGEMENT (ARCH371)</u></a>	15
<a href="#"><u>STUDIO 3.1 DESIGN (ARCH302)</u></a>	30
<a href="#"><u>STUDIO 3.2 DESIGN (ARCH352)</u></a>	30
<a href="#"><u>TECHNOLOGY 3.1: INTEGRATED TECHNICAL PROJECT DESIGN (ARCH361)</u></a>	15

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

## Teaching and assessment

### 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.

The Liverpool Curriculum framework sets out our distinctive approach to education. Our teaching staff support our students to develop academic knowledge, skills, and understanding alongside our **graduate attributes**:

- Digital fluency
- Confidence
- Global citizenship

Our curriculum is characterised by the three **Liverpool Hallmarks**:

- Research-connected teaching
- Active learning
- Authentic assessment

All this is underpinned by our core value of **inclusivity** and commitment to providing a curriculum that is accessible to all students.



# Careers and employability

The BA in Architecture is a first step into the profession, into which many of our graduates go. The programme is validated by the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) at Part 1 level and is an important step towards gaining entry to a masters-level qualification (MArch), which is accredited by the Architects Registration Board (ARB).

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;
- 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.

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# 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 – £9,790

Year abroad fee – £1,385 (applies to year in China)

### International fees

Full-time place, per year – £32,000

Year abroad fee – £16,000 (applies to year in China)

The UK and international full-time fees shown are for the academic year 2026/27 (UK fees are subject to Parliamentary approval). UK year abroad and year in industry fees and international year in industry fees shown are for entry 2025, as 2026/27 fees have yet to be confirmed. Please be advised that tuition fees may increase each year for both UK and international students. For UK students, this will be subject to the government's regulated fee limits.

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 paying for your studies.](#)

## 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.

Students should expect to cover the following costs during their architecture studies:

- Year one: £25 model making, £50 printing, £75 materials

- Year two: £50 model making, £50 printing, £50 materials. There is also an optional overseas fieldtrip at a cost of £100.
- Year three: £50 model making, £50 printing, £50 materials. There is also an optional overseas fieldtrip at a cost of £250.

[Find out more about additional study costs.](#)

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# Entry requirements

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

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## 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. Based on your personal circumstances, you may automatically qualify for up to a two-grade reduction in the entry requirements needed for this course. When you apply, we consider a range of factors – such as where you live – to assess if you're eligible for a grade reduction. You don't have to make an application for a grade reduction – we'll do all the work.

Find out more about [how we make reduced grade offers](#).

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## T levels

Design, Surveying and Planning for Construction is accepted with an overall grade of Distinction to include A in the core.

Applicants should contact us by [completing the enquiry form on our website](#) to discuss specific requirements in the core components and the occupational specialism.

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## GCSE

GCSE Maths and English grade C/4

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## 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.

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## BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate

D and Grade AA at A-Level

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### **BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma**

DDD

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### **International Baccalaureate**

36 points overall with no score less than 4 or pass the IB Diploma plus 6,6,6 in 3 HL subjects.

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### **Irish Leaving Certificate**

H1, H1, H2, H2, H2, H2

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### **Scottish Higher/Advanced Higher**

AAA in Advanced Highers, combinations of Advanced Highers and Scottish Highers are welcome

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### **Welsh Baccalaureate Advanced**

A in the Welsh Baccalaureate, plus AA at A level.

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### **Access**

Considered if taking Art and Design Access to HE Diploma with 45 Level 3 credits with 39 at Distinction and 6 at Merit.

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### **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 direct entry requirements. Although there is no direct Foundation Certificate route to this course, completing a Foundation Certificate, such as that offered by the [University of Liverpool International College](#), can guarantee you a place on a number of similar courses which may interest you.

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# 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.

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## IELTS

6.5 overall, with no component below 5.5

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## TOEFL iBT

88 overall, with minimum scores of listening 17, writing 17, reading 17 and speaking 19. TOEFL Home Edition not accepted.

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## Duolingo English Test

125 overall, with speaking, reading and writing not less than 105, and listening not below 100

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## Pearson PTE Academic

61 overall, with no component below 59

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## LanguageCert Academic

70 overall, with no skill below 60

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## Cambridge IGCSE First Language English 0500

Grade C overall, with a minimum of grade 2 in speaking and listening. Speaking and listening must be separately endorsed on the certificate.

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## **Cambridge IGCSE First Language English 0990**

Grade 4 overall, with Merit in speaking and listening

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## **Cambridge IGCSE Second Language English 0510/0511**

0510: Grade B overall, with a minimum of grade 2 in speaking. Speaking must be separately endorsed on the certificate. 0511: Grade B overall.

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## **Cambridge IGCSE Second Language English 0993/0991**

0993: Grade 6 overall, with a minimum of grade 2 in speaking. Speaking must be separately endorsed on the certificate. 0991: Grade 6 overall.

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## **Cambridge ESOL Level 2/3 Advanced**

176 overall, with no paper below 162

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## **International Baccalaureate English A: Literature or Language & Literature**

Grade 5 at Standard Level or grade 5 at Higher Level

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## **International Baccalaureate English B**

Grade 7 at Standard Level or grade 6 at Higher Level

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## **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.

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### **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.

<b>Your most recent IELTS score</b>	<b>Pre-sessional English course length</b>	<b>On campus or online</b>
6.0 overall, with no component below 5.5	6 weeks	On campus
5.5 overall, with no component below 5.5	10 weeks	On campus and online options available
5.5 overall, with no more than one component below 5.5, and no component below 5.0	12 weeks	On campus and online options available
5.5 overall, with no component below 4.5	20 weeks	On campus
5.0 overall, with no component below 4.5	30 weeks	On campus
4.5 overall, with no more than one component below 4.5, and no component below 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 5.5, for further details.



## Alternative entry requirements

- If your qualification isn't listed here, or you're taking a combination of qualifications, [contact us](#) for advice
- If you are returning to learning, have had a disrupted education or are switching career pathways, 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.

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