UNIVERSITY OF
LIVERPOOL

MArch

Master of Architecture

Study mode | **Duration**
Full-time | 2 years full-time

Apply by: **12 July 2025**
Starts on: **22 September 2025**

About this course

Our MArch Programme provides an environment for intellectual discussion about current architectural and cultural discourses. We promote creativity, innovation, imagination and experimentation in our studios, where we integrate research by design methods, hands-on seminars and the inclusion of various new technologies, media and formats in the design process.

Introduction

Our tutors have strong research and professional backgrounds, which grants our students competence and confidence in all areas of the profession and scales of intervention, from urban design to the technical development of the building.

Our design schemes explore both local and international issues. Working with real projects in the UK context allows input from national stakeholders to the briefing and review process; by tackling international issues, we reinforce global citizenship, acknowledge the international nature of our cohorts, and develop the skills to work in different contexts on site and remotely. You will have the opportunity to take semester one of year two abroad at one of our approved exchange Schools of Architecture in China, Australia or Europe.

Our successful international field trips, design competitions, collaborations with different universities and the diverse range of our exchange programme further support this vision, and we've a very generous offering of prizes for students performing strongly in areas of our MArch degree. Our graduates have an excellent

record of employment in both internationally renowned offices and small-scale specialist practices.

Find out more about the design work produced by our most recent **MArch4 students** and **MArch5 students**.

What you'll learn

- The ability to conceive and develop an investigative and critical approach to architecture
- The ability to create architectural designs that integrate social, aesthetic and technical requirements
- The ability to analyse problems and to develop a brief for a building or an urban design
- The ability to produce designs demonstrating an understanding of climate, passive and active servicing systems
- Informed judgement in the development of sustainable design
- The ability to present work orally and visually, using drawings, models, and digital presentation techniques.

Accreditation

The Master of Architecture (MArch) programme is accredited as a RIBA Part 2 and a LAM Part 2 award, and is a professional/undergraduate Masters qualification available to students with a BA/BSc in Architecture and RIBA Part 1 or LAM Part 1. This degree is validated by the RIBA and LAM, and prescribed by ARB as a Part 2 qualification towards access to the Architectural Profession in the UK.

Candidates should be aware that those who do not have RIBA Part 1 on joining the MArch here at Liverpool, may apply to the Architects Registration Board (ARB) upon MArch course completion to be considered for RIBA Part 1 (for a fee payable to ARB). The University of Liverpool has no say in this process, which is undertaken independently by the candidate.

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Course content

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

Year one

Year one focuses on the relationship between architecture and the contemporary city. Architectural design is supported by lectures, seminars and carefully planned individual and group work. Taught modules on urban design, professional practice, research methods and contemporary approaches to technology also complement the work in the studio.

You will take entirely mandatory modules in your first year. These modules are classed as Level 6 (pass mark 40%), and will make up 30% of your final degree classification. Modules ARCH401, ARCH402, ARCH403 and ARCH404 are a consecutive related set of design projects.

Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
DESIGN A (ARCH401)	15
DESIGN B (ARCH402)	15
DESIGN C (ARCH403)	15
DESIGN D (ARCH404)	15
PRACTICE MANAGEMENT & CONTRACT LAW (ARCH405)	15
SUSTAINABILITY IN PRACTICE (ARCH410)	15
HUMANITIES AND RESEARCH METHODS (ARCH480)	15

Compulsory modules	Credits
URBAN DESIGN: THEORY AND PRACTICE (ARCH406)	15

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

Year two

You will begin the second year with a design project led by your own interests, with brief-making and a personal exploration of a wide range of media and resources as part of the design process, strongly supported by seminars and guest lectures delivered by world-class tutors, academics, practitioners and Honorary Professors. These included Ian Ritchie and Hans Van De Heijden in 2020/21.

You will be required to choose between either ARCH520 or ARCH523 for as your optional module in your second year. Your second year modules are classed as Level 7 (pass mark 50%), and will make up 70% of your final degree classification.

Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
DISSERTATION (ARCH521)	30
THESIS DESIGN (ARCH522)	45
THESIS SUSTAINABILITY AND EQUITY REPORT (ARCH524)	15

Optional modules	Credits
RESEARCH BY DESIGN STUDIES (ARCH520)	30
EXCHANGE STUDIES (OVERSEAS) 3 (ARCH523)	30

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

Teaching and assessment

How you're assessed

You'll be examined and assessed by studio presentations and coursework submissions.

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 Master of Architecture degree will provide you with the skills necessary to design and construct buildings that are energy efficient and sustainable not only visually appealing.

Our graduates have an excellent record of employment in both internationally renowned offices and small-scale specialist practices.

Recent employers include:

- Arup
- BDP
- Foster + Partners
- Hampshire County Council
- Hodder + Partners
- Rosenbergs Arkitekter, Stockholm
- Shedkm
- Skidmore, Owings and Merrill
- Union North
- Wilkinson Eyre.

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 - £9,535
Year in industry fee - £1,905
Year abroad fee - £1,430 (applies to year in China)

International fees

Full-time place, per year - £29,900
Year in industry fee - £1,905
Year abroad fee - £14,950 (applies to year in China)

The tuition fees shown are correct for 2025/26 entry. Please note that the year abroad fee also applies to the year in China.

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. From year two in our BA programme to year five in our MArch programme, there are also optional international fieldtrips that incur additional costs ranging between £100-400.

Students should expect to cover the following costs during their 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.
- Year four: £100 model making, £50 printing, £50 materials. There is also an optional overseas fieldtrip at a cost of £400.
- Year five: £150 model making, £50 printing, £50 materials. There is also an optional overseas fieldtrip at a cost of £400.

Find out more about additional study costs.

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- Year three: £50 model making, £50 printing, £50 materials. There is also an optional overseas fieldtrip at a cost of £250.
- Year four: £100 model making, £50 printing, £50 materials. There is also an optional overseas fieldtrip at a cost of £400.
- Year five: £150 model making, £50 printing, £50 materials. There is also an optional overseas fieldtrip at a cost of £400.

Entry requirements

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

GCSE

4/C in English and 4/C in Mathematics

Subject requirements

We are keen to encourage applicants with a strong design ability and the talent to succeed at Liverpool. Although successful applicants will typically have a 2:1 honours degree in Architecture with RIBA Part 1, we judge every application on its merits.

In considering your application, we will review your academic record, including your final year studio design project where applicable, and you will be asked to submit a 10-page design portfolio which demonstrates a high level of design ability and extensive knowledge of the histories, theories and practices of architecture. If you are able to provide evidence of professional development in practice we will consider this. You may also be invited to an interview.

Alongside Architecture graduates, we welcome applicants from associated disciplines, including Interior Design, Landscape Architecture and Architectural Engineering courses. We will also consider applicants on an individual basis with lower or non-accredited qualifications, if supported by a strong portfolio.

Candidates who have an interest in the course should discuss their circumstances with the Programme Director and the Admission Officer.

International qualifications

Select your country or region to view specific entry requirements.

If you hold a bachelor's degree or equivalent, but don't meet our entry requirements, a Pre-Master's can help you gain a place. This specialist preparation course for postgraduate study is offered on campus at the **University of Liverpool International College**, in partnership with Kaplan International Pathways. Although there's no direct Pre-Master's route to this Master of Architecture, completing a Pre-Master's pathway can guarantee you a place on many other postgraduate courses at The University of Liverpool.

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

88 overall, with minimum scores of listening 19, writing 19, reading 19 and speaking 20. TOEFL Home Edition not accepted.

TOEFL Paper

Grade 7 at Standard Level or grade 6 at Higher Level

Duolingo English Test

125 overall, with writing not less than 125, speaking and reading not less than 115, and listening not below 110

Pearson PTE Academic

61 overall, with no component below 59

LanguageCert Academic

70 overall, with no skill below 65

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.

Cambridge IGCSE First Language English 0990

Grade 4 overall, with Merit in speaking and listening

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.

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.

Cambridge ESOL Level 2/3 Advanced

176 overall, with no paper below 169

LanguageCert

Grade 5 at Standard Level or grade 5 at Higher Level

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 no component below 6.0	6 weeks	On campus
6.0 overall, with no component below 5.5	10 weeks	On campus and online options available
6.0 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 more than one component below 5.5, and no component below 5.0	20 weeks	On campus
5.0 overall, with no more than one component below 5.0, and 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 6.0, 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
- [Applications from mature students](#) are welcome.

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