

Architecture (ARB/RIBA Part 2)

Final award	M Arch
Intermediate awards available	Cert HE, Dip HE
Details of professional body accreditation	Royal Institute of British Architects Architects Registration Board
Relevant QAA Benchmark statements	Architecture
Date specification last up-dated	November 2013 (to take effect September 2014)

BANNER BOX:

The programme has excellent teaching and also has the unconditional recognition of the Royal Institute of British Architects and Architects Registration Board giving exemption from RIBA/ARB part 2.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

RIBA/ARB part 1 or RIBA part 1: following statement from ARB

‘Students who do not hold an architecture degree with ARB/RIBA part 1 exemption may enter the MArch Architecture programme which carries ARB/RIBA Part 2 exemption at UEL. As the MArch Architecture carries ARB/RIBA Part 2 exemption all students who successfully gain the award will have a Part 2 level qualification which is recognised by both ARB and the RIBA.

However students are made formally made aware by this notice that this qualification will not allow them to register in the UK on its own. To register in the UK a student must have passed ARB-recognised qualifications at Part 1, Part 2 and Part 3 levels. Provided they have an appropriate first degree which is principally in architecture, students without an ARB-recognised Part 1 qualification, who wish to ultimately register in the UK will therefore have to apply to ARB to undertake the Prescribed Examination to gain equivalence of their qualification at Part 1 level. The eligibility requirements for the examination, as well as the Examinations Procedures, can be found at the following link to ARB’s website:

<http://www.arb.org.uk/Non-recognised-UK-and-overseas-qualifications>

Students are strongly encouraged to regularly check the eligibility requirements for the Examinations and/or to contact ARB if they have any queries about the Examination, as from time to time ARB’s requirements do change. Students who wish to register in the UK but are entering the **MArch Architecture (ARB/RIBA Part 2)** at UEL without a Part 1 exemption do so at their own risk.’

English IELTS grade 6.5 with minimum 6.0 for any component.

Entry is conditional on a design portfolio interview. We also accept portfolios digitally or by post for initial assessment with possible follow-up interview.

Direct entry to the 2nd year of the programme is available to students with suitable qualifications from RIBA/ARB part 2 accredited programmes as Advanced Certificated Learning subject to interview. Due to the professional requirements of the course, Advanced Experiential Learning is not available.

The School of Architecture, Computing and Engineering welcomes applicants with either a science or arts background. A combination of the two is particularly desirable. In selecting students the School looks for evidence of creative potential enthusiasm for the subject and willingness to work hard.

ABOUT THE PROGRAMME

What is Architecture?

Architecture is the process of understanding people and places and planning and designing, usually, buildings. The design process leads to a capability of the building or design to be constructed in a particular context.

Architecture at UEL The MArch Architecture (ARB/RIBA Part 2) programme at UEL provides the educational framework that enables students who successfully complete the programme *to have exemption from Part 2 of the ARB/RIBA Examination*. This is one of the 3 Parts required to achieve qualification to register as an Architect in the UK. Students are taught in small groups, or units, under the direction of design tutors. Units work independently within the framework of the programme. Led by the design tutors and supported by Technical, Computing and History & Theory staff. The programme emphasises learning through the process of making and the critical reflection of what has been made. In this way creativity and critical judgement are developed within each student. Students receive personal tuition each week from tutors who are usually also active as practising architects. Most of the learning is done through design project work in the School's excellent studios and workshops. Since the aim is to develop to the full each student's creativity and judgement, the programme is highly demanding.

Programme structure

The programme is only available in full-time mode.

Learning environment

Some of the learning is through lectures and seminars, and involves reading and writing. The heart of the programme is the design studio where students learn the strategies of architectural design through design project work. The Architecture Subject Area within the School of Architecture, Computing and Engineering is based in the A.V.A building, on the UEL Docklands Campus. As well as excellent studios there are extensive wood and metal and digital fabrication workshops, photographic darkrooms and computer suites. Students also visit study sites and buildings, cities and landscapes in the UK and abroad. At the end of the Academic Year the students exhibit their work at the end of year Summer Showcase.

Assessment

Students receive feedback on their progress throughout the year during tutorials and crits. Final Assessment takes place at the end of the academic year via the Academic portfolio, which comprises the design portfolio and Supporting Studies component submissions. Although the Programme includes some choice in the routes of study, there are no optional components and each and every component in the year must be passed before progressing to the next year, or before graduating from the final year. There are no closed book examinations.

Work experience/placement opportunities

Work experience /placements are not required as a part of this programme.

Project work

Teaching is in a mixture of group and individual tutorials based on design project work or contextual and supporting studies

Added value

Successful completion of the programme gives exemption from Part 2 of the RIBA Examination. (Exemption from all three parts qualifies you to register as an Architect.) The skills of analysis and creative synthesis and of communicating through drawings, words and using IT are useful in many other areas of life and work.

IS THIS THE PROGRAMME FOR ME?

If you are interested in...

- How buildings and the space around buildings are designed.
- Buildings and cities and how people occupy and use them
- Improving the public realm

If you enjoy...

- Art and science
- Making and Crafting
- Drawing

If you want...

A wide-ranging programme that develops your creativity as well as your judgement.

Your future career

The Programme is one of three stages to becoming a qualified architect. It is also good preparation for any work in which you need to be able to analyse problems and propose solutions.

How we support you

Architecture students come from many different educational backgrounds so the first weeks of the programme is organised as a hands-on Construction Workshop. This develops organisational, professional, technical and practical skills of facilitating a 'Live Architecture Project'. This also acts as an induction to the facilities of the department and to the ethos of the school.

Each student has a personal tutor whom they meet at least once a week. The tutor is responsible for guiding your academic development and will give personal support if necessary. As most of the teaching and learning is in small groups working along common themes within the unit, you are also encouraged to learn from fellow students

Bonus factors

Many studio staff are practising Architects and have considerable up to date knowledge of architecture design and professional practice.

Each unit takes part in a study trip each year and the details of this are explained at a market day at the start of each year. Students get to choose from a variety of exciting countries to visit.

Outcomes

Programme aims and learning outcomes

What is this programme designed to achieve?

This programme is designed to give you the opportunity to:

- To develop your creativity and critical judgement
- To become an architect

What will you learn?

Knowledge

- History & Theory of Architecture Art & Design
- Technology of Building
- Building Industry
- Environment and Sustainability
- Regulatory framework in which architecture is produced

Thinking skills

- Use creativity, conceptual skills and judgement to identify human needs and requirements and to meet or express them spatially.

Subject-Based Practical skills

- Ability to use a range of media (drawing, models, computers, photography, film-making) in analysis and representation to create architectural proposals.
- Experience in physical making and the use of work shop facilities.

Skills for life and work (general skills)

- Creativity
- Team working
- Clarity of analysis in spoken and written words, as well as in drawing and other visual media
- Use of computers
- Ability to analyse problems and propose solutions.
- Understanding how things are made

Structure

The programme structure

Introduction

All programmes are credit-rated to help you to understand the amount and level of study that is needed.

One credit is equal to 10 hours of directed study time (this includes everything you do e.g. tutorials, study trips, lecture, seminar and private study).

Credits are assigned to one of 5 levels:

- 0 - equivalent in standard to GCE 'A' level and is intended to prepare students for year one of an undergraduate degree programme
- 1 - equivalent in standard to the first year of a full-time undergraduate degree programme
- 2 - equivalent in standard to the second year of a full-time undergraduate degree programme
- 3 - equivalent in standard to the third year of a full-time undergraduate degree programme
- M - equivalent in standard to a Masters degree

Credit rating

The overall credit-rating of this programme is 240 (120 credits per year).

Typical duration

The typical duration of this programme is 2 years full-time

How the teaching year is divided

The programme is organised in two year-long 60 credit modules in each year, which are co-requisite to be studied concurrently.

What you will study when

The modules of the programme are summarised in the table below

Level	Module	Credits	Status
M	ARM181 Architectural Design	60	Core
M	ARM182 Technical, Professional & Cultural Studies	60	Core
M	ARM281 Architectural Design	60	Core
M	ARM282 Supporting Studies Module	60	Core
-	TOTAL	240	CORE

Requirements for gaining an award

To achieve the MArch award it is necessary to take and pass all core modules as listed in the table. Some of the modules include components and each and every component must be individually passed to pass the module.

Classification

Where a student is eligible for a MArch Architecture (ARB/RIBA pt 2) , and has gained a minimum of 240 UEL credits at level M on the programme, the award classification is determined by calculating:

The arithmetic mean of ARM281 and ARM282.

70% - 100% Distinction

60% - 69% Merit

50% - 59% Pass

0% - 49% Not passed

Assessment

Teaching, learning and assessment

Teaching and learning

Teaching and learning is organised through:

- project work
- programme work
- essay writing
- seminars & tutorials
- lectures

Knowledge, thinking skills, practical skills and general skills are developed through lectures, seminars and tutorials associated with design projects, coursework, and essay and report writing.

Assessment

Knowledge is assessed through its manifestation in course work, design projects and essays.

Thinking skills are assessed through their manifestation in course work, design projects and essays.

Practical skills are assessed through course work and design projects.

Skills for life and work are assessed individually through the ability to produce design projects, coursework and essays, and the ability to explain one's work verbally at reviews and at level three to an external examiner.

Quality

How we assure the quality of this programme

Before this programme started

Before the programme started, the following was checked:

- there would be enough qualified staff to teach the programme;
- adequate resources would be in place;
- the overall aims and objectives were appropriate;
- the content of the programme met national benchmark requirements;
- the programme met any professional/statutory body requirements;
- the proposal met other internal quality criteria covering a range of issues such as admissions policy, teaching, learning and assessment strategy and student support mechanisms.

This is done through a process of programme approval which involves consulting academic experts including some subject specialists from other institutions.

How we monitor the quality of this programme

The quality of this programme is monitored each year through evaluating:

- external examiner reports (considering quality and standards);
- statistical information (considering issues such as the pass rate);
- student feedback.

Drawing on this and other information programme teams undertake the annual Review and Enhancement Process which is co-ordinated at School level and includes student participation. The process is monitored by the University's Quality Standing Committee.

Once every six years an in-depth review of the whole field is undertaken by a panel that includes at least two external subject specialists. The panel considers documents, looks at student work, speaks to current and former students and speaks to staff before drawing its conclusions. The result is a report highlighting good practice and identifying areas where action is needed.

The role of the programme committee

This programme has a programme committee comprising all relevant teaching staff, student representatives and others who make a contribution towards the effective operation of the programme (e.g. library/technician staff). The committee has responsibilities for the quality of the programme. It provides input into the operation of the Review and Enhancement Process and proposes changes to improve quality. The programme committee plays a critical role in the University's quality assurance procedures.

The role of external examiners

The standard of this programme is monitored by at least one external examiner. External examiners have two primary responsibilities:

- To ensure the standard of the programme;
- To ensure that justice is done to individual students.

External examiners fulfil these responsibilities in a variety of ways including:

- Approving exam papers/assignments;
- Attending assessment boards;
- Reviewing samples of student work and moderating marks;
- Ensuring that regulations are followed;
- Providing feedback through an annual report that enables us to make improvements for the future.

Listening to the views of students

The following methods for gaining student feedback are used on this programme:

- Module evaluations
- Student representation on programme committees (meeting each semester)
- Personal tutor, module leader, pathway leader, field co-ordinator

Students are notified of the action taken through:

- Circulating the minutes of the field committee and the annual quality improvement report
- Verbal feedback to specific groups
- Providing details on the appropriate noticeboard

Listening to the views of others

The following methods are used for gaining the views of other interested parties:

The relevance of the education is tested by inviting practising architects to criticise student work at regular intervals.

The programme is recognised by the Architects Registration Board and the Royal Institute of British Architects.

Further Information

Alternative locations for studying this programme

Location	Which elements?	Taught by UEL staff	Taught by local staff	Method of Delivery
-	-	-	-	-

Where you can find further information

Further information about this programme is available from:

- [The UEL web site](#)
- The student handbook
- Module study guides
- [UEL Manual of Regulations and Policies](#)
- [UEL Quality Manual](#)
- [Regulations for the Academic Framework](#)
- [School web pages](#)
- School of Architecture Year Book

- [Current External examiners](#)
- External examiner reports (available from UEL virtual learning environment (UELPlus or Moodle))