This programme information sheet includes details of the structure and content of the course.
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BSc Architecture

Programme Leaders: Matthew Butcher and Mollie Claypool

OVERVIEW

The three-year full-time BSc programme in Architecture aims to develop a creative, diverse and rigorous approach to design from the outset. It provides a broad educational setting within which the study of architecture can be developed at an undergraduate level. It aims to equip students with skills to practice architecture but, as importantly, an understanding of the technological, professional, cultural and architectural contexts within which those skills may be deployed in a knowing and imaginative way.

The programme is based in the studio and the workshop, with 70% of the course taught and assessed through the design portfolio. Most of the design teaching is on a one-to-one tutorial basis with frequent review sessions; nearly all design tutors are practising architects or design specialists who bring innovative design ideas to the School.

The BSc programme recognises that whilst this education has directly vocational aims, it also intends to introduce students to the wider societal forces which affect them and architectural production by stressing the indivisibility of the architectural, cultural, professional and technological realms. It does this through a programme of core courses (Technology, History & Theory, Computing and Professional Studies) which support the design work in each year and are assessed through a combination of coursework, essays and examination.

Successful completion of the BSc Architecture leads to exemption from Part 1 of the Architects Registration Board (ARB) and Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) examinations.

STRUCTURE

Year 1

Year 1 design teaching is centred on the studio, where a sequence of projects that develop the central skills of observation, design and representation, with emphasis on the inventive and intelligent expression of ideas are undertaken.

Find out more about Year 1 design in the Year 1 Showcase on the BSc Architecture website.

Throughout Year 1, students also participate in a range of other core courses that address concerns surrounding the nature of the built environment, including Technology, History & Theory and Professional Studies. Students also attend a field trip to a major European city.

Compulsory courses in Year 1 include:

- Design Projects (4 x .5 course units)
- History of Cities and their Architecture (.5 course units)
- Structures, Materials and Forming Techniques (.5 course units)
- Environmental Design (.5 course units)
- Making Cities (.5 course units)

Please see the Content section for more information regarding these modules.

Years 2 and Year 3

Students in Year 2 and Year 3 select to join one of up to eleven design ‘units’, in which they remain for the year. Each of the units is taught by two design professionals who are part-time practitioners and academics. Many of the
unit tutors are based in London, while some may travel from around Europe to London to teach.

Find out more about Year 2 and Year 3 design units, take a look at the BSc Architecture Units.

Throughout Year 2 and Year 3, students participate in a range of other core courses that address concerns surrounding the nature of the built environment, including Technology, History & Theory, Computing and Professional Studies. Students also take a field trip. Field trip destinations in recent years have included major European cities, the United States, South America, eastern Asia and India.

**Compulsory courses in Year 2 include:**

- Design Projects (1 x .5, 1 x 2 course units)
- History and Theory of Architecture (.5 course units)
- Design Technology (.5 course units)
- Professional Practise and Enterprise for Architects (.5 course units)

**Compulsory courses in Year 3 include:**

- Design Projects (1 x .5, 1 x 2 course units)
- History and Theory of Architecture (.5 course units)
- Design Technology (.5 course units)
- Preparing for Practice (.5 course units)
- Please see the Content section for more information regarding these modules.

**RIBA Part 1 and the Year Out**

Successful completion of the three year BSc Architecture leads to exemption from Part 1 of the ARB/RIBA examinations. Students generally then take a Year Out in an architect’s office before proceeding to a two-year MArch programme (leading to RIBA/ARB Part 2 exemption). The Bartlett’s full-time Professional Training Advisor (PTA) offers advice on careers and runs the Year Out course.

This section aims to give an overview of the content of the core courses in the BSc Architecture programme.

**Design**

Throughout the three years of BSc Architecture, design is the main focus. In Year 1, students are taught in a year-wide group, while in Years 2 and 3 students are given a choice of design units, each spanning both year groups. Between Year 2 and Year 3, students switch design units, offering students the opportunity to experience a wide range of design briefs throughout the three years of the programme.

In Year 1 students explore ‘ways of seeing’: understanding and interpreting objects/places/events and learning to look beyond the obvious and visible into the unseen and often ‘absurd’ qualities of things.

In this way, a place can also be seen as something with its own identity, which each student can interpret in a different way. The importance of ‘character’ and personality is emphasised throughout the design process, whether it concerns analysis, site interpretation or architectural vision. Inventiveness and imagination are cultivated through a series of design projects which tackle a range of scales and experiences and are constructed or represented through models and drawings.

In Year 2 and Year 3, the vertically-structured unit system provides common project briefs, but also allows for a sequence of increasing scale and complexity between the start of Year 2 and the end of Year 3. Each unit declares a clear architectural position which allows students to begin to develop personal architectural interests within a strong academic framework.
Design projects are not seen as isolated exercises but are continually related to other concerns/issues surrounding or within the built environment. Design is not treated as a remote skill, but as something which is integrated into other intellectual and professional activities in a holistic manner. The level of integration increases through the three years, so that the submissions for other courses, such as Computing and Technology and, in many cases, also the Professional Studies and the History & Theory submissions, specifically relate to design projects with each activity informing the other.

**Technology**

The technology core has three broad objectives: to give an overview of the technical issues affecting design, to provide students with the technical skills that are needed to undertake design and to ensure that students can identify key technical issues which affect their design, that students can research these issues and that they incorporate the resulting research into a resolved design proposal.

These objectives are currently addressed through lectures, seminars/workshops and coursework.

Modules such as Environmental and Technical Skills and Concepts, Structures, Materials and Forming Techniques, Year 2 Design Technology and Year 3 Design Technology introduce students to the concept that many of these issues are incorporated into government legislation.

The technical skills addressed through Technology modules include workshop skills and computing skills, as well as skills in designing with appropriate materials, structures and environmental issues. Students are also given grounding in skills related to sustainability. Students are asked to exercise these skills in relation to their design projects in all three years and to formally present their work as coursework in all modules except in Year 1 where there is a written examination.

Students are also asked to demonstrate that they understand the iterative nature of design in the face of technical research, by incorporating elements of their final design proposal into the technical submission.

**History & Theory**

The cultural context of architecture is addressed through History & Theory modules which run through the three years of the BSc Architecture course.

In Year 1, the module provides an overall view of the cultural context within which buildings and cities have been produced in the past. In Years 2 and 3, two series of lectures focus in greater attention on the architecture of the past 150 years.

In addition, Year 2 students follow a seminar series explaining different kinds of architectural text, while Year 3 students join a specialist seminar group exploring a specific historical or theoretical theme in relation to architecture.

The units themselves provide a strong cultural identity against which projects are set. Furthermore, students are exposed to a whole range of outside influences through the public lecture series, exhibitions, conferences and other non-degree related activities of the School.

**Professional Studies**

A feature of the BSc Architecture course is the teaching of certain subjects with students from other disciplines with the intent of placing architecture in relation to other built environment professions.

The Year 1 module Production of the Built Environment addresses the roles of three professions (Architecture, Planning and Construction & Project Management), further increasing this integration. The Year 3 module, Preparing for Practice, provides an introduction to the working environment of the architect.
These modules provide an introductory understanding of the professional and commercial factors which shape the environment. Further professional input is provided through the design tutors, the majority of whom are practising architects, and who bring their immediate knowledge to the design studios.

**STAFF**  
**BSc Architecture Programme Directors**  
Matthew Butcher, Mollie Claypool

**Year 1 Design Director**  
Frosso Pimenides

**Year 1 Associates**  
Gavin Robotham, Carlos Jimenez, Manolis Stavrakakis

**Year 1 Design Tutors**  
Joel Cady, Fenella Coleridge (Term 2, Term 3), Carlos Jimenez Cenamor, Stefan Lengen, Ifigenia Liangi, Rebecca Loewen, Thandi Loewenson (Term 1, Term 3), Emma-Kate Matthews, Brian O’Reilly, Eva Ravnborg, Farlie Reynolds, Manolis Stavrakakis, Umut Yamak.

**Year 2 and 3 UG Tutors**

**UG 0**  
Murray Fraser, Tamsin Hanke, Sara Shafiei

**UG 1**  
Jon Lopez, Hikaru Nissanke

**UG 2**  
Aleksandra Rizova, Soomeen Hahm

**UG 3**  
Luke Olsen, Graeme Williamson

**UG 4**  
Ana Monrabal Cook, Luke Pearson

**UG 5**  
Julia Backhaus, Martin Tang, Pedro Font Alba

**UG 6**  
Paolo Zaide, Tim Norman

**UG 7**  
Pascal Bronner, Thomas Hillier

**UG 8**  
Colin Herperger, Thomas Pearce

**UG 9**  
Jessica In, Chee-Kit Lai

**UG10**  
Guan Lee, Arthur Manou-Mani

**UG11**  
Sofia Krimizi, Kostas Grigoriadis

**UG12**  
Matthew Springett, Johan Hybschmann
FAQS

What is the deadline for applications?
All applications made before January 15, 2016 will be considered.

What are the Entry Requirements?
Please see the UCL Prospectus for more information regarding entry requirements for applicants resident in the United Kingdom, Europe, and international applicants. Please also see the UCL Prospectus for information regarding Undergraduate Preparatory Certificates as well as English Language requirements.

What A-level subjects do I need to apply for the BSc Architecture course?
We do not require any A-levels in particular, however we encourage applicants to consider taking Art, Maths and English. We welcome applicants with a wide range of A-level subjects.

Will The Bartlett accept the new Advanced Diplomas?
UCL will consider the new Advanced Diploma qualifications. The minimum requirement will be the Advanced Diploma awarded with an overall minimum grade of B, plus two further GCE A-Levels awarded at grades A-B. Please check the UCL Prospectus for future Entry Requirements.

I am an overseas applicant, can I still apply to BSc Architecture?
Applicants from abroad not following an A-level course structure are invited to apply to our course.

Do I need to attend an Art or Architecture Foundation course?
Some applicants may prefer to attend a Foundation course in order to gain a wider range of presentation and communication skills before applying for and/or entering the BSc Architecture course. Applicants may also find a Foundation course helpful if they are unsure if they would like to study architecture, or if they are mature students switching careers.

Please state clearly in your personal statement that you are applying for a deferred entry. If you get an offer after your interview, this offer will be a conditional offer based on the successful completion of your Foundation course.

Does The Bartlett School of Architecture accept mature students?
Mature students are defined as any student aged 21 or over at the start of their studies who haven’t already completed a higher education course. We welcome applications from mature students from a wide range of backgrounds.

What is the application process?
The application process has several stages: application, task, personal statement, interview with portfolio. Please see our Application Guide on the BSc Architecture website for more information on the application process.

Once you submit your application via UCAS and you meet our Entry Requirements, you will be invited to respond to ‘the task’. The brief for the task changes every year. We are looking for a quick and spontaneous response to the task, and not work recycled from A-level of GCSE artwork. It can (and should) be completed in a few hours.
You will have two to three weeks to finish the task, and post it back to us. You will then be assessed on your response to the task and, if successful at this stage, invited to interview. You will also then be asked to provide a short personal statement to submit prior to interview. Please do not recycle the personal statement used in your original application via UCAS.

The interview is an informal talk mainly based around the work in your portfolio, but you may also be asked about the work submitted for your task. The interviewer will be looking to assess your potential and will do this through getting to know you and your work, why you are interested in studying architecture at The Bartlett and any other interests you may have. Please keep in mind that the interview lasts only 15-20 minutes and you may not be able to present all of your work.

**What should I include in my portfolio?**

We are looking for creative and self-motivated applicants. We therefore expect that you will include a wide range of creative and original work that may include sketches, drawings, photography, paintings, sculpture, models, etc. We are not looking for ‘buildings’, ‘architecture’ or CAD drawings, but more so to see what you find interesting and exciting. We also look for work completed outside of A-level, IB or GCSE courses and are interested in seeing personal sketchbooks or unfinished work. We do like to see originals where possible, but understand if you cannot bring original pieces due to their weight or size. Please ensure you bring as much of your work with you on your interview as you only have one chance to present your work. Please see our Portfolio Guide on the BSc Architecture website for more information on the portfolio.

**I am an international/EU applicant. Do I have to come to London for an interview?**

If you wish to come for an interview please let the Faculty Office know when you receive the task email. If you cannot attend an interview, you may be able to schedule one with our Director for International Affairs, who visits several countries for interview days. Please check the programme of UCL overseas visits for further details. If you cannot attend an interview either in London or abroad, you may be asked to send in a portfolio. Please do not send us your portfolio unless you are asked to do so as you might not be able to get your work back.

**Does The Bartlett accept transfer students?**

No, unfortunately we do not. Due to the nature of our BSc Architecture course, all applicants must join the course in Year 1.

**Can I study part-time?**

No, the BSc Architecture course requires full-time attendance only.

**Does The Bartlett School of Architecture have an exchange programme with other universities abroad?**

No. However, we encourage students to spend time abroad during their Year Out as part of their work experience and every year you will have the opportunity to participate on a field trip that may take you travelling abroad.

**Can I visit before applying?**

We do not have the resources to give individual or group tours of The Bartlett School of Architecture. However, we host a series of lectures and exhibitions which are open to the public and may provide an opportunity to informally...
speak to current students or staff, including our International Lecture Series and Summer Show. Please check our website for further details. We also participate in a number of Open Days.

**Can I attend an Open Day?**

Yes, and we encourage applicants to do so. The Bartlett participates in a series of UCL Open Days during our Summer Show every July. This is an opportunity to see the full range of work and research undertaken at The Bartlett School of Architecture. More information about UCL Open Days can be found on the UCL website. There is a ULU Open Day every September and Open Days held at The Bartlett School of Architecture; check the website for details.