

Academic Year 2026/27

Master of Architecture

Code: 5843F

Master of Architecture with International Study Year

Code: 5872F

Notes

- (i) *These programme regulations should be read in conjunction with the University's Taught Programme Regulations.*
- (ii) *All optional modules are offered subject to the constraints of the timetable and to any restrictions on the number of students who may be taught on a particular module. Not all modules may be offered in all years and they are listed subject to availability.*
- (iii) *Unless otherwise stated under 'Type', modules are not core.*
- (iv) *A compulsory module is a module which a student is required to study.*
- (v) *A core module is a module which a student must pass, and in which a fail mark may neither be carried nor compensated; such modules are designated by the board of studies as essential for progression to a further stage of the programme or for study in a further module.*
- (vi) *All modules are delivered in Linear mode unless stated otherwise as Block, eLearning or distance learning.*

- (vii) *A core module for PSRB accreditation is a module a student is required to obtain accreditation*
- (viii) *This programme is an Undergraduate Masters*

The Degree of Bachelor of Art with Honours in Architecture, and Degree of Master of Architecture are structured as a sandwich course which extends over not less than six academic years and is divided into three parts:

- (i) the degree of Bachelor of Arts with Honours in Architecture extending over three academic years, giving exemption from the Part I examination of the Architects Registration Board and Royal Institute of British Architects;
- (ii) the degree of Master of Architecture extending over two academic years giving exemption from the Part II examination of the Architects Registration Board and Royal Institute of British Architects. (Note that all modules must be passed for this exemption to be valid).

Students normally take a 'Year out' between the Part 1 and Part 2 programmes.

Admission to the Master of Architecture Programme

Internal candidates with a first class degree or with a 2.1 degree *including* a 2.1 in design (ARC3001) will be admitted onto the course. Internal candidates with a 2.1 degree *including* a 2.2 in design or with a 2.2 degree may be considered for entry.

All external candidates to the degree will be considered on an individual basis, but standards are high and places are limited.

Programme structure

- (a) The programme is available for study in full-time mode only.
- (b) The period of study for full-time mode shall be 2 years starting in September.
- (c) The programme comprises modules to a credit value of 240.

1. Year 5 (Stage 5)

- (a) All candidates shall take the following compulsory modules:

<i>Code</i>	<i>Descriptive title</i>	<i>Total Credits</i>	<i>Credits Sem 1</i>	<i>Credits Sem 2</i>	<i>Level</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Core for PSRB Accreditation</i>	<i>Core for learning outcomes</i>	<i>Mode</i>
ARC8050	Architectural Design Research 1	40	40		7		Core	Core	
ARC8051	Tools for Thinking About Architecture	20	20		7		Core	Core	

- (b) All candidates shall also take the following module, except for those participating in a single semester exchange programme in Stage 5 semester 2:

<i>Code</i>	<i>Descriptive title</i>	<i>Total Credits</i>	<i>Credits Sem 1</i>	<i>Credits Sem 2</i>	<i>Level</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Core for PSRB Accreditation</i>	<i>Core for learning outcomes</i>	<i>Mode</i>
ARC8052	Architectural Design Practice 1 (Semester 2)	40		40	7		Core	Core	

- (c) Candidates on a Stage 5 semester 2 exchange route shall take instead the following module to cover all credits for the semester spent abroad:

<i>Code</i>	<i>Descriptive title</i>	<i>Total Credits</i>	<i>Credits Sem 1</i>	<i>Credits Sem 2</i>	<i>Level</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Core for PSRB Accreditation</i>	<i>Core for learning outcomes</i>	<i>Mode</i>
ARC5020	Exchange Study Project (Semester 2)	60		60	7		Core	Core	

- (d) All candidates shall take additional module(s) to a value of 20 credits from the modules labelled 'Stage 5' in the "List of Approved Optional Modules" below, except for those participating in a single semester exchange programme, who do not take any additional modules in Stage 5, apart from the cited in point 1 (c) above.

2. Year 6 (Stage 6)

- (a) All candidates shall take the following compulsory modules:

Code	Descriptive title	Total Credits	Credits Sem 1	Credits Sem 2	Level	Type	Core for PSRB Accreditation	Core for learning outcomes	Mode
ARC8060	Architectural Design	80	40	40	7		Core	Core	
ARC8084	Architectural Practice	20		20	7		Core	Core	

- (b) All candidates shall take additional module(s) which have not been previously taken, to a value of 20 credits from the modules labelled 'Stage 6' in the List of Approved Modules below. These must be in the same pathway as the modules taken as Stage 5, or ARC8064 for those students who went on exchange studies in Stage 5 semester 2.

List of Approved Optional Modules

- (a) These modules are taken at either Stage 5 or 6 (as indicated) and in-line with the correct Stage of study.
- (b) All candidates shall, select modules to a total credit value of not more than 40 from the following (20 at Stage 5 and 20 at Stage 6), with the exception of those undertaking study abroad as noted in points 1 and 2 above.
- (c) The optional modules are organised into themed groups which allow candidates to develop a specialism, to pursue accelerated routes towards related Masters Degrees* or to go on exchange:
- Group A optional modules form the primary route to MArch (Architectural Ways of Knowing, or Learning Lab)
 - Group B modules are for students who wish to pursue a specialism in Urban Design (accumulating 40 credits towards MA - programme code 4004F).
 - Group C modules are for students wishing to pursue a specialism in Urban Planning (accumulating 40 credits towards MSc – programme code 5141).
 - Group D modules are for students who wish to go on exchange in semester 2 of Stage 5.

**Whilst the School will endeavour to provide options to Masters programmes upon completion of the MArch, there is no guarantee that a named Masters programme will be available for registration as it is subject to delivery.*

Group A Optional Modules									
Code	Descriptive title	Total Credits	Credits Sem 1	Credits Sem 2	Level	Type	Core for PSRB Accreditation	Core for learning outcomes	Mode
ARC8056	Architectural Ways of Knowing 1 (Stage 5)	20		20	7		Core	Core	

ARC8057	Architectural Ways of Knowing 2 (Stage 6)	20	20		7		Core	Core	
ARC8094	The Learning Lab: Research by Design A (Stage 5)	20		20	7		Core	Core	
ARC8095	The Learning Lab: Research by Design B (Stage 6)	20	20		7		Core	Core	
<i>Group B Optional Modules (for students who wish to pursue a specialism in Urban Design)</i>									
APL8014	Urban Design and the Use of Design Codes (Stage 5)	20		20	7		Core	Core	
TCP8052	Urban Design Seminars (Stage 6)	10	10		7		Core	Core	
TCP8090	Principles and Practice of Urban Design (MAUD) (Stage 6)	10	10		7		Core	Core	
<i>Group C Optional Modules (for students who wish to pursue a specialism in Urban Planning)</i>									
TCP7023	Economics of Development	10		10	7		Core	Core	
TCP8001	Planning Frameworks (Stage 6)	10	10		7		Core	Core	
TCP8902	The Reflective Practitioner (Stage 6)	10	10		7		Core	Core	
TCP8939	Planning, Power and People (Stage 5)	10		10	7		Core	Core	
<i>Group D Optional Modules (for students on Stage 5 Semester 2 exchange)</i>									
ARC8064	Thesis Research Document (Stage 6)	20	20		7		Core	Core	

Architecture Research route: Students who select ARC8056 in Stage 5 semester 2 should select ARC8057 Architectural Ways of Knowing 2 in Stage 6 semester 1.¹ ARC8056 Architectural Ways of Knowing 1 is studied in the second semester of Stage 5 and the mark awarded for it counts towards progression at the end of that stage. ARC8057 Architectural Ways of Knowing 2 is the continuation of this in semester 1 of Stage 6 and the mark for this will be treated as the mark for both ARC8056 and ARC8057 (40 credits) in the assessment of the degree class.

Learning Lab route: Students studying ARC8094 in Stage 5 semester 2 should select ARC8095 in Stage 6 semester 1. ARC8094 Learning Lab A is studied in the second semester of Stage 5 and the mark awarded for it counts towards progression at the end of that stage. ARC8095 Learning Lab B is the continuation of this in semester 1 of Stage 6 and the mark for this will be treated as the mark for both ARC8094 and ARC8095 (40 credits) in the assessment of the degree class.

¹ ARC8057 Architectural Ways of Knowing 2 will begin in academic year 2025/26.

ARC8064 Thesis Research Document is available to those students who go on Semester 2 exchanges in Stage 5.

For students who, due to a range of circumstances, cannot continue in Stage 6 to Architectural Ways of Knowing 2 (ARC8057), Learning Lab B (ARC8095), Urban Design or Urban Planning modules, we require that they take ARC8064 Thesis Research Document in Stage 6 semester 1 instead. If such case arises, this will be discussed and DPD discretion applied. In this situation, the marks for the optional modules carried out in Stage 5 will stand and be counted as at 3% per 10 credit modules and 6% per 20 credit modules in the degree classification.

3. Placement Year in Industry

Candidates are able to take a gap year of up to 12 months duration between Stage 5 and Stage 6, for a placement in industry.

- (a) Students will have to take a formal interruption of studies and complete a DPD request form.
- (b) All placements should take place upon full completion of Stage 5 and before starting Stage 6.
- (c) Students cannot return early from the interruption of studies and join Stage 6 once the academic year has already started.
- (d) Students who go on a placement year in industry who cannot continue to Architectural Ways of Knowing 2, Learning Lab B, Urban Design or Urban Planning modules upon their return to Stage 6, are required to take ARC8064 in Stage 6 semester 1. If such case arises, this will be discussed and DPD discretion applied. In this situation, the mark for their optional modules in Stage 5 will stand and be counted as 6% (for 20cr modules) or 3% (for 10cr modules) in the degree classification.

4. International Study Year

On completion of Stage 5 and before entering Stage 6, candidates may as part of their studies for the degree spend a year abroad (2 semesters) at an appropriate exchange partner institution. Permission to undertake a year abroad is subject to the approval of the Degree Programme Director. Students who are required to re-sit any Stage 5 assessment must delay the start of their placement until they have done so. Students who fail Stage 5 may not complete a year abroad.

- (a) All candidates taking part in the International Study Year shall take the following compulsory module:

<i>Code</i>	<i>Descriptive title</i>	<i>Total Credits</i>	<i>Credits Sem 1</i>	<i>Credits Sem 2</i>	<i>Credits Sem 3</i>	<i>Level</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Core for PSRB Accreditation</i>	<i>Core for learning outcomes</i>	<i>Mode</i>
ISY8000	International Study Year	120	60	60		7				

- (b) Candidates who fail the module will be required to transfer to Stage 6 of 5843.
- (c) Placement opportunities will be guided by governmental and institutional policy at the time.

- (d) Students who go on a placement year for exchange studies and cannot continue to Architectural Ways of Knowing 2, Learning Lab B, Urban Design or Urban Planning modules upon their return to Stage 6, we require that they take ARC8064 in Stage 6 semester 1 instead. If such case arises, this will be discussed and DPD discretion applied. In this situation, the mark for their optional modules in Stage 5 will stand and be counted as 6% (for 20cr modules) or 3% (for 10cr modules) in the degree classification.

5. Study at Other Institutions

The modules to be completed or deemed to have been completed by students undertaking study at other institutions, including Erasmus and other exchanges, shall be agreed with the Degree Programme Director (and Exchange coordinator where applicable) before the commencement of the period of study.

6. Progression

Students who pass all modules in Stage 5 shall be eligible to proceed to Stage 6. The assessment for ARC8052 contains a set of pass/fail criteria that respond to the requirements of the Architects Registration Board and Royal Institute of British Architects. If a pass/fail component is failed the student can resubmit this component without affecting their overall module marks for ARC8052. However, should a linear marked component be failed at first attempt resulting in an overall failing mark on the module, the student will resubmit as a second and final attempt for a capped mark as per normal university regulations.

All Stage 6 modules must be passed for the award of the degree and exemption from Part II of the ARB / RIBA examination in Architecture. The Academic Portfolio compiled as part of ARC8060 is required to demonstrate how the student has met the requirements of the Architects Registration Board and Royal Institute of British Architects and is assessed as a pass/fail component separate to the linear marked components of the module. If the pass/fail component is failed the student can resubmit this component without affecting their overall module marks for ARC8060. However, should a linear marked component be failed at first attempt resulting in an overall failing mark on the module, the student will resubmit as a second and final attempt for a capped mark as per normal university regulations. In line with the University's Postgraduate Taught Examination Conventions, a Postgraduate Certificate or Diploma may be awarded on completion of 60 or 120 credits respectively. These qualifications are not accredited by, nor hold exemption from, the Architects Registration Board and Royal Institute of British Architects.

7. Award and Classification

The mark for each module will be returned to the board of examiners and disclosed to students using the scale below:

Marking scale	
0-49	<i>Fail</i>
50-59	<i>Pass</i>
60-69	<i>Pass with Merit</i>
70 or above	<i>Pass with Distinction</i>

Stage 5 counts for 34% and Stage 6 counts for 66% of the final degree average. Candidates will therefore be assessed on the basis of the assessment of performance at Stage 5 and Stage 6 as follows:

Code	Title	Credits	Weighting %
ARC8050	Architectural Design Research 1 (semester 1)	40	11%
ARC8051	Tools for Thinking	20	6%
ARC8052	Architectural Design Practice 1 (semester 2)*	40	11%
ARC8084	Architectural Practice	20	6%
ARC8060	Architectural Design	80	54%

All other modules will be weighted at 3% per 10 credits. For students undertaking an exchange in Stage 5 semester 2 as part of their studies, module ARC5020 will be weighted at 17% towards their classification.

- For all students except those studying abroad in stage 5 semester 2.

8. Exceptions to the Postgraduate (Taught) Examination Conventions

The following exceptions to university Examination Conventions have been granted for this programme:

- Students who fail up to 20 credits of core modules in the final stage of the programme will be entitled to (1602U) Master of Architecture – Unaccredited
- Students undertaking the International Study Year who fail up to 20 credits of core modules in the final stage of the programme will be entitled to (5873F) Master of Architecture with International Study – Unaccredited
- Students are entitled to a reassessment for any modules failed without any limit on the number of credits which may be reassessed.
- Students who fail the pass/fail component can resubmit this component without affecting their overall module marks for ARC8052 or ARC8060. However, should a linear marked component be failed at first attempt resulting in an overall failing mark on the module(s), the student will resubmit as a second and final attempt for a capped mark as per normal university regulations.

9. Degree title

Candidates who choose to take part in the International Study Year shall be transferred onto the three year version of the programme. They will be on degree programme code 5872F and will graduate with a Master of Architecture with International Study Year.