



School of Creative Arts

Title of Programme: Postgraduate Architecture

Programme Code: CTMARCH

## Programme Specification

This programme specification is relevant to students entering:  
01 September 2020

Associate Dean of School (Academic Quality Assurance):  
Barbara Brownie



Signature

23 March 2020

A programme specification is a collection of key information about a programme of study (or course). It identifies the aims and learning outcomes of the programme, lists the modules that make up each stage (or year) of the programme, and the teaching, learning and assessment methods used by teaching staff. It also describes the structure of the programme, its progression requirements and any programme-specific regulations. This information is therefore useful to potential students to help them choose the right programme of study, to current students on the programme, and to staff teaching and administering the programme.

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### Summary of amendments to the programme

Date	Section	Amendment
Feb 2020	Copyright Statement	Remove reference to UH Admin Office
	E	Remove reference to a dedicated UH programme administrator

If you have any queries regarding the changes please email [AQO@herts.ac.uk](mailto:AQO@herts.ac.uk)

# Programme Specification Postgraduate Architecture

This programme specification (PS) is designed for prospective students, enrolled students, academic staff and potential employers. It provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the intended learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the teaching, learning and assessment methods, learning outcomes and content for each module can be found in Definitive Module Documents (DMDs) and Module Guides.

## Section 1

<b>Awarding Institution/Body</b>	University of Hertfordshire
<b>Teaching Institution</b>	University of Hertfordshire
<b>University/partner campuses</b>	College Lane Campus
<b>Programme accredited by</b>	ARB Prescription to be sought in 2020
<b>Final Award (Qualification)</b>	MArch
<b>All Final Award titles</b>	Architecture and Urbanism
<b>(Qualification and Subject)</b>	
<b>FHEQ level of award</b>	7
<b>Language of Delivery</b>	English

### A. Programme Rationale

The Architecture award is intended to equip graduates with the knowledge, skills and professional accreditation from The Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) and the Architects Registration Board (ARB) for Part II. Our BA (Hons) Architecture provides our graduates with exemption from the ARB Part I, the first stage of the full accreditation process and provides graduates with the relevant and necessary skills to embark on a career within an architectural practice or to progress to further study at post graduate level. The MArch will provide the second stage of the architectural studies: Part II.

This programme focuses on architectural typologies and the built environment in the region, with an international and global view. The MArch Architecture and Urbanism pays particular attention to contemporary urban and architectural questions, including fringe conditions, peripheries, rapid and sustainable urban growth, gentrification, new towns and garden cities, future, smart and digital cities, suburbia and edge urban conditions, in connection with local communities and inclusive societies.

### B. Educational Aims of the Programme

The programme has been devised in accordance with the University's graduate attributes of programmes of study as set out in [UPR TL03](#).

#### Additionally this programme aims to:

- Provide students with the ability to generate complex design proposals showing understanding of current architectural issues, originality in the application of subject knowledge and, where appropriate, to test new hypotheses and speculations. (GA1)
- Equip students with the ability to evaluate and apply a comprehensive range of visual, oral and written media to test, analyse, critically appraise and explain design proposals. (GA2)
- Provide students with the knowledge and the ability to evaluate materials, processes and techniques that apply to complex architectural designs and building construction and to integrate these into practicable design proposals. (GA3)
- Develop students' critical understanding of how knowledge is advanced through research to produce clear, logically argued and original written work relating to architectural culture, theory and design. (GA4)
- Foster the understanding of the context of the architect and the construction industry, including the architect's role in the processes of procurement and building production and under legislation. (GA5)

- Prepare students to develop problem solving skills, professional judgment and ability to take the initiative and make appropriate decisions in complex and unpredictable circumstances. (GA6)
- Equip the students with the ability to identify individual learning needs and understand the personal responsibility required to prepare for qualification as an architect. (GA7)
- Prepare students for the second stage of their professional career (ARB Part II).

## C. Intended Learning Outcomes

The programme provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding, skills and other attributes in the following areas. The programme outcomes are referenced the Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies (2014), and relate to the typical student. Additionally, the SEEC Credit Level Descriptors for Further and Higher Education (2016) have been used as a guiding framework for curriculum design.

Knowledge and Understanding:	Teaching/learning methods & strategies	Assessment
<p><b>GC1.2</b> - Understand the constructional and structural systems, the environmental strategies and the regulatory requirements that apply to the design and construction of a comprehensive design project.</p> <p><b>GC2.1</b> - The cultural, social and intellectual histories, theories and technologies that influence the design of buildings.</p> <p><b>GC2.2</b> - The influence of history and theory on the spatial, social and technological aspects of architecture.</p> <p><b>GC3.1</b> - How the theories, practices and technologies of the arts influence architectural design.</p> <p><b>GC3.2</b> - The creative application of the fine arts and their relevance and impact on architecture.</p> <p><b>GC4.1</b> - Theories of urban design and the planning of communities.</p> <p><b>GC4.2</b> - The influence of the design and development of cities, past and present on the contemporary built environment.</p>	<p>Acquisition of knowledge and understanding is through a combination of lectures, studio-based work and workshops at all levels. Learning is instigated by set projects with tutorial support including small group tutorials.</p> <p>The Dissertation module makes a particular contribution to the acquisition of cultural, historical and professional understanding throughout all levels of study. (GC2.1, GC2.2, GC2.3)</p> <p>There is a requirement of written work for the Dissertation.</p> <p>Additional support is provided by a personal tutor, tutorial surgery hours, a special needs and dyslexia support tutor.</p> <p>Students' knowledge and understanding of their discipline is tested through in-course assessments of outcome submissions, presentations and essay assignments.</p> <p>Critical awareness and analytical skills (GC5.2, GC5.3) are developed through self-assessment and negotiated projects and self-determined projects.</p> <p>Throughout, the learner is encouraged to undertake independent study both to supplement and consolidate what</p>	<p>Students' knowledge and understanding of their discipline is tested through in-course assessments of outcome submissions, presentations and essay assignments.</p> <p>Knowledge and understanding of the professional aspects of the discipline are tested through coursework consisting of case studies and written coursework and projects.</p>

**GC5.1** - The needs and aspirations of building users.

**GC5.2** - The impact of buildings on the environment and the precepts of sustainable design.

**GC5.3** - The way in which buildings fit into their local context.

**GC6.1** - The nature of professionalism and the duties and responsibilities of architects to clients, building users, constructors, co-professionals and the wider society.

**GC6.2** - The role of the architect within the design team and construction industry, recognising the importance of current methods and trends in the construction of the built environment.

**GC8.3** - The physical properties and characteristics of building materials, components and systems and the environmental impact of specification choices.

**GC9.1** - Principles associated with designing optimum visual, thermal and acoustic environments.

**GC9.2** - Systems for environmental comfort realised within relevant precepts of sustainable design.

**GC11.2** - The professional inter-relationships of individuals and organisations involved in procuring and delivering architectural projects and how these are defined through contractual and organisational structures.

is being taught/learnt and to broaden their individual knowledge and understanding of the subject. (GC6.1, GC6.2).

In Year 2 students demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of a particular aspect of architecture through a programme of work much of which is determined by themselves.

Intellectual skills:	Teaching/learning methods & strategies	Assessment
<p><b>GC1.3</b> - Develop a conceptual and critical approach to architectural design that integrates and satisfies the aesthetic aspects of a building and the technical requirements of its construction and the needs of the user.</p> <p><b>GC4.3</b> - Current planning policy and development control legislation, including social, environmental and economic aspects and the relevance of these to design development.</p> <p><b>GC7.1</b> - The need to critically review precedents relevant to the function, organisation and technological strategy of design proposals.</p> <p><b>GC8.1</b> - The investigation, critical appraisal and selection of alternative structural, constructional and material systems relevant to architectural design.</p> <p><b>GC10.1</b> - Critically examine the financial factors implied in varying building types, constructional systems and specification choices and the impact of these on architectural design.</p> <p><b>GC11.3</b> - The basic management theories and business principles related to running both an architect's practice and architectural projects, recognising current and emerging trends in the construction industry.</p>	<p>Intellectual skills are developed throughout the programme by the methods and strategies outlined in section A and B above.</p> <p>Typically, the student's conceptual development will be evident in a design process which demonstrates creative thinking and problem solving, analysis and judgement (GC1.3, GC7.1, GC8.1) in the development of solutions and a willingness to explore a range of media.</p> <p>The skills of research and technology and their critical application (GC7.1) to the design process are integral to coursework at all levels.</p> <p>Conceptual development (GC1.3) is an integral part of studio work and is fostered by set-briefs, in-course exercises, workshops, self-determined briefs, seminars and tutorial work.</p> <p>Throughout, the learner is encouraged to develop intellectual skills further by independent study.</p>	<p>Intellectual skills are assessed by in-course assessments of outcome submissions and presentations.</p> <p>Typically, evidence will consist of work sheets, sketch books, research, design ideas, design reports, proposals and extended analytical essays.</p>
<b>Practical skills:</b>	<b>Teaching/learning methods &amp; strategies</b>	<b>Assessment</b>
<p><b>GC1.1</b> - Prepare and present building design projects of</p>	<p>Practical skills refer to the practical and professional skills</p>	<p>Practical skills are evidenced in the production values of</p>

<p>diverse scale, complexity and type in a variety of contexts, using a range of media and in response to a brief.</p> <p><b>GC7.2</b> - The need to appraise and prepare building briefs of diverse scales and types, to define client and user requirements and their appropriateness to site and context.</p> <p><b>GC10.2</b> - Understand the cost control mechanisms which operate during the development of a project.</p> <p><b>GC10.3</b> - Prepare designs that will meet building users' requirements and comply with UK legislation, appropriate performance standards and health and safety requirements.</p>	<p>(GC7.2, GC10.2, GC10.3) employed in the production of design ideas and solutions.</p> <p>Throughout, the learner is encouraged to develop practical skills further by independent study.</p>	<p>course work and are assessed through outcome submissions and presentations.</p>
<p><b>Transferable skills:</b></p>	<p><b>Teaching/learning methods &amp; strategies</b></p>	<p><b>Assessment</b></p>
<p><b>GC2.3</b> - The application of appropriate theoretical concepts to studio design projects, demonstrating a reflective and critical approach.</p> <p><b>GC3.3</b> - The creative application of such work to studio design projects, in terms of their conceptualisation and representation.</p> <p><b>GC6.3</b> - The potential impact of building projects on existing and proposed communities.</p> <p><b>GC7.3</b> - The contributions of architects and co-professionals to the formulation of the brief and the methods of investigation used in its preparation.</p> <p><b>GC8.2</b> - Strategies for building construction and ability to integrate knowledge</p>	<p>Transferrable skills refer to the practical and professional skills employed in the production of design ideas and solutions.</p> <p>At Year 1 these skills are developed through set briefs, exercises and workshops. At Year 2 students are expected to demonstrate professionalism (GC7.3) together with aesthetic and functional (GC8.2, GC9.3) judgements (GC2.3) in the presentation of their ideas.</p> <p>Personal responsibility and understanding of the profession of architecture (GC11.1) become an increasingly important skill as students progress to the final year of study.</p> <p>Communication skills (GC3.3) are developed through oral presentations and in written work.</p>	<p>Transferable skills are assessed through coursework assignment, group projects, project reports, mappings, building and urban analyses.</p>

of structural principles and construction techniques.

**GC9.3** - Strategies for building services and ability to integrate these in a design project.

**GC11.1** - The fundamental legal, professional and statutory responsibilities of the architect and the organisations, regulations and procedures involved in the negotiation and approval of architectural designs, including land law, development control, building regulations and health and safety legislation.

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## D. Programme Structures, Features, Levels, Modules, and Credits

The programme is offered in full-time (2 years) and part-time (4 years) modes and leads to the award of:

MArch in Architecture and Urbanism.

Entry is normally at Level 7 (with one module at Level 6 in Year 1) with a Degree in Architecture or equivalent qualifications as detailed in section G. Intake is normally Semester A (September).

### Professional and Statutory Regulatory Bodies

The Programme will be seeking prescription by the Architects Registration Board (ARB) at Part 2 level, for the purpose of registration in the UK.

### Work-Based Learning, including Sandwich Programmes

The programme supports the student in opportunities to undertake live projects which may arise through their own endeavour and works to build such opportunities into the student's learning and assessment through negotiation of briefs and presentable outcomes. The term 'live projects' refers here to a range of activities that extends well beyond those that are primarily commercial and includes social enterprise projects undertaken in connection with community groups, arts organisations and other agencies.

Where a student wishes to undertake a live project, it is a requirement that before it commences there is in place a learning contract that specifies clearly how it enables the student to fulfil the module Learning Outcomes, the materials to be submitted for assessment, the date of submission for that material, what the work means in terms of the student's attendance and workload and an appropriate strategy for supervision by a tutor. That contract has to be agreed by both the module tutor and the Programme Leader.

Please note, students are encouraged to engage in non-accredited work placements during winter, spring or summer vacation periods.

The programme structure and progression information below (Table 1a and 1b) is provided for the award. Any interim awards are identified in Table 1b. The Programme Learning Outcomes detailed above are developed and assessed through the constituent modules. Table 2 identifies where each learning outcome is assessed.

### Programme Structure

The programme structure and progression information below (Table 1a and 1b) is provided for the award. Any

interim awards are identified in Table 1b. The Programme Learning Outcomes detailed above are developed and assessed through the constituent modules. Table 2 identifies where each learning outcome is assessed.

Table 1a Outline Programme Structure

**Mode of study:** Full time; Part time

**Entry point:** Semester A

Compulsory Modules Module Title	Module Code	Credit Points	Language of Delivery	% Examination	% Coursework	% Practical	Semesters
Lab 1	6CTA1163	30	English	0	100	0	AB
Lab 2	7CTA1138	30	English	0	100	0	AB
Specialism Studio	7CTA1139	60	English	0	100	0	AB
Thesis Studio	7CTA1140	60	English	0	100	0	AB
Dissertation	7CTA1141	60	English	0	100	0	AB

The award of an MArch Degree requires 240 credit points of which 30 are passed at Level 6 and 210 at Level 7. For the purpose of determining the standard of the MArch award the classification algorithm will include the best 180 of 240 credits.

### MArch ARCHITECTURE AND URBANISM FULL TIME STUDY ROUTE (2 years)

Semester A	YEAR 1	Semester B
	<p><b>Lab 1</b> 6CTA1163 30 credits</p>	
	<p><b>Lab 2</b> 7CTA1138 30 credits</p>	
	<p><b>Specialism Studio</b> 7CTA1139 60 credits</p>	
Semester A	YEAR 2	Semester B
	<p><b>Thesis Studio</b> 7CTA1140 60 credits</p>	
	<p><b>Dissertation</b> 7CTA1141 60 credits</p>	

## MArch ARCHITECTURE AND URBANISM PART TIME STUDY ROUTE (4 years)

Semester A	<b>YEAR 1</b>	Semester B
<b>Lab 1</b> 6CTA1163 30 credits		
<b>Lab 2</b> 7CTA1138 30 credits		
Semester A	<b>YEAR 2</b>	Semester B
<b>Specialism Studio</b> 7CTA1139 60 credits		
Semester A	<b>YEAR 3</b>	Semester B
<b>Thesis Studio</b> 7CTA1140 60 credits		
Semester A	<b>YEAR 4</b>	Semester B
<b>Dissertation</b> 7CTA1141 60 credits		

Table 1b Final and interim awards available

The programme provides the following final and interim awards:

Final Award	Award Title	Minimum requirements	Available at end of (normally):	Programme Learning Outcomes developed (see above)
Masters	MArch Architecture and Urbanism	240 credit points	4 Semesters	All programme learning outcomes (see Table 2)

Interim Award	Award Title	Minimum requirements	Available at end of Level	Programme Learning Outcomes developed (see above)
Postgraduate Diploma	Postgraduate Diploma in Architecture and Urbanism	120 credit points	2, 3 Semesters	GC1.1, CG1.2, CG2.2, CC3.2, CG3.3, CG4.1, CG4.2, CG4.3, CG5.1, CG5.3, CG6.1, CG6.2, CG7.2, CG7.3, CG8.1, CG8.2, CG8.3, CG9.1, CG9.2, CG9.3, CG10.1, CG10.2, CG10.3, CG11.1, CG11.2, CG11.3.
Postgraduate Certificate	Untitled	60 credit points	1-2 Semesters	Any 60 credits including modules with these LOs: GC1.1, CG1.2, CG2.2, CC3.2, CG3.3, CG4.1, CG4.2, CG4.3, CG5.1, CG5.3, CG6.1, CG6.2, CG7.2, CG7.3, CG8.1, CG8.2, CG8.3, CG9.1, CG9.2, CG9.3, CG10.1, CG10.2, CG10.3, CG11.1, CG11.2, CG11.3.  <i>For untitled awards: See UPR AS11</i> <a href="http://sitem.herts.ac.uk/upr/AS11.htm">http://sitem.herts.ac.uk/upr/AS11.htm</a>

Masters and Diploma awards can be made "with Distinction" or "with Commendation" where criteria as described in [UPR AS14](#), Section D and the students' handbook are met.

## Programme-specific assessment regulations

The programme is compliant with the University's academic regulations (in particular, [UPR AS11](#), [UPR AS12/UPR AS13](#) (*delete as applicable*) and [UPR AS14](#)) with the exception of those listed below, which have been specifically approved by the University:

Further points of clarification and interpretation relevant to this specific programme are given below:

- For this Programme there is no compensation allowed at any level in recognition of ARB/RIBA criteria. Students must pass all modules to attain the MArch Award.
- Students are expected to commit to all elements of their programme of study, be punctual in their attendance and meet deadlines. Persistent, unexplained absence or late arrival/departure from lectures, seminars and practicals is not acceptable. Attendance requirements will normally be highlighted within the relevant DMD (Definitive Module Document) or other assessment documentation (module guide or assignment brief). Lack of attendance may inhibit the student's ability to meet the learning outcomes of such modules leading to reduced or fail grades through poor performance.
- The award of an MArch Degree requires 240 credit points of which 30 are passed at Level 6 and 210 at Level 7.
- For the purpose of determining the standard of the MArch award the classification algorithm will include the best 180 of 240 credits.

## Other information relevant to the programme

The title of Architect is a protected title regulated by the Architects Registration Board (ARB) and stipulated by an Act of Parliament, the Architects Act 1997. This piece of legislation provides the framework for all of our statutory duties and responsibilities concerning the professional activities of Architects and the activities needed to support them.

The Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) is a global professional membership body driving excellence in architecture. RIBA serves its members and society in order to deliver better buildings and places, stronger communities and a sustainable environment. The RIBA have developed systems for recognising courses that achieved the standard for exemption from the Institute's examinations, preparing students for professional practice. The ARB and RIBA validation process is an evidence-based, peer review system, monitoring courses to improve median achievement, encourage excellence, and to ensure a positive student experience.

### [Ways to Qualify as an Architect](#)

Qualifying to be an architect typically involves five years of HE study, and completing a minimum of two years of practical experience. The UK-based qualification process is divided into 3 parts.

#### **Part 1**

ARB/RIBA - Part I

ARB/RIBA part I involves studying a university undergraduate degree (e.g. BA or BSc) over three to four years full time. This provides students with the opportunity to develop their core architectural skills and understanding, preparing them for post part 1 practical experience, further study or commencing full time work.

#### **Part 2**

ARB/RIBA - Part II

Part II will provide students with enhanced architectural knowledge and project complexity. It is usually completed in the form of a two-year full time university degree. The name varies from school to school e.g. BArch, Diploma, MArch. Students may choose to return to the school where they completed Part I, or apply to study for Part II at another school/organisation. There will be opportunities for students to carry out specialist study and research, possibly abroad (in agreement with the guidelines set out by the ARB).

#### **Part 3**

Practical experience - Part III

Further practical experience: 24 months of experience in total is required to sit the part III examination, of which 12 months minimum should be undertaken in the EEA, Channel Islands or the Isle of Man under the direct supervision of an architect. At this stage of practical experience, graduates will be given more responsibility on projects. At this time students should begin studying a part III course that covers aspects of practice, management and law.

RIBA - Part III

Final qualifying examination: The examination in professional practice and management is taken at an ARB/RIBA Validated course provider. Candidates will typically be assessed on the following elements:

- 24 months of practical experience recorded on the Professional Experience and Development Record (PEDR) website
- Professional CV and career evaluation
- Case study
- Written examination
- Final oral examination

More on RIBA - Part III:

Having gained the Parts I, II and III qualifications you can register as an architect with the Architects Registration Board (ARB); the title 'architect' is protected by law, so that the public can always be sure that they are dealing with a properly qualified architect. At this point the graduates are eligible to become a Chartered Member of the ARB and RIBA.

The Architects Registration Board does not define any specific order for the accumulation of Parts 1, 2 and 3 to effect eligibility for registration.

### [UH Pathway to Professional Accreditation](#)

UH students seeking to practise as a qualified Architect will require all three parts of the prescription. Part I can already be gained via the validated undergraduate provision (BA Architecture) at UH. Students accepted to this Programme have no exemption for ARB Part I will need to seek it elsewhere. Part II will be

gained as part of the new MArch award at UH. After this point, students will need to seek Part III elsewhere.

More details:

<http://www.arb.org.uk/>

<https://www.pedr.co.uk/Guide/PSAJob>

[http://www.arb.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/ARB\\_Criteria\\_pt2.pdf](http://www.arb.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/ARB_Criteria_pt2.pdf)

<https://www.architecture.com/education-cpd-and-careers/how-to-become-an-architect>

<http://www.pedr.co.uk/>

<http://www.arb.org.uk/about-arb/legislation/architects-act/>

[http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1997/22/pdfs/ukpga\\_19970022\\_en.pdf](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1997/22/pdfs/ukpga_19970022_en.pdf)

### Copyright

Students retain the Intellectual Property Rights, including copyright, in their films, images and other artefacts. Unless specifically notified by the student, the student grants the University the right to use any of their material for non-commercial academic use including the promotion of the Programme, School of Creative Arts and the University. The student may withdraw this consent at any time by contacting their programme leader.

### Assessment, Offences and Academic Misconduct

Academic misconduct comes in different forms but the most common are plagiarism (i.e. presenting someone else's work as your own), falsification of data, collusion or cheating in exams. The penalties for academic misconduct are severe and the best advice is not to do this in the first place. If you are finding a module difficult you should discuss it with teaching staff. If academic misconduct is suspected then:

- Your work may be subject to an investigation.
- If there is a case to answer then the details will be submitted to the Board of Examiners who will take them into account in grading your work.
- In the most serious cases, you may be called before a Student Academic Misconduct Panel which has the power to impose disciplinary sanctions.
- If you are called before a Student Academic Misconduct Panel then the Board of Examiners will not grade your work until it knows the outcome of that Panel and it will take the outcome of that panel into account when grading your work.
- You will be entitled to be accompanied at any investigatory meetings or panels that you are required to attend.
- There will be an appeal process in the event of sanctions being imposed.

More information is available at: <https://catoolkit.herts.ac.uk/toolkit/9-8-assessment-offences-academic-misconduct/>

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## E. Management of Programme & Support for student learning

### Management

The programme is managed and administered through:

- Dean of School.
- Associate Dean of School (AQA) who has delegated responsibility for programmes in the School of Creative Arts.
- Academic Subject Group Leader with an overview of the programme.
- A Programme Leader who is responsible for the day to day management and who can advise students on the programme as a whole.
- Module Tutors who are responsible for individual modules.
- A Postgraduate Coordinator supporting the Programme Leader and responsible for coordinating marketing and recruitment across the taught masters courses in the School of Creative Arts.
- An Admissions Tutor with specific responsibility for open days and selection.
- A programme committee with responsibility for programme development, administration and student issues, the membership of which includes the programme administrator, academic subject group leader,

programme leader, all teaching staff, student representatives, a technical officer and the Information Hertfordshire Manager.

## Support

Students are supported by:

- The Creative Arts Toolkit <http://catoolkit.herts.ac.uk>
- Academic Subject Group Leader to oversee and advise on programme related issues.
- Programme Leader / Year Tutor to provide regular guidance and feedback in relation to the course.
- Tutors to provide academic and pastoral support.
- Staff surgery hours.
- Technical Officer support.
- Student Proctors.
- Accompanying Handbooks, Module Booklets.
- The School Study Skills Booklet.
- Student representatives on the programme committee.
- An induction at the beginning of each new academic session.
- Orientation for overseas students.
- Academic English support.
- International Students support.
- Designated studios within the postgraduate centre.
- Workshop facilities in the School of Creative Arts.
- On-site shop for materials, Loan Stores for camera and other equipment.
- Students have access to a full range of facilities across Art and Design.
- All Masters level students are encouraged to attend post graduate research seminars.
- StudyNet, a versatile on-line interactive intranet and learning environment.
- Guided student-centred learning on StudyNet module sites.
- Attractive modern study environments in two Learning Resources Centres and Learning Zones.
- Access to extensive digital and print collections of information resources.
- A substantial Student Centre that provides advice on issues such as finance, University regulations, legal matters, accommodation, international student support etc.
- Office of the Dean of Students, incorporating Chaplaincy, Counselling and Nursery.
- An Accommodation Office.
- Medical Centre and Pharmacy.
- University Disability Advisors.
- An Equal Opportunities Officer.
- The Careers, Employment and Enterprise service for all current students and graduates.
- The Students' Union.

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## F. Other sources of information

In addition to this Programme Specification, the University publishes guidance to registered students on the programme and its constituent modules:

- A Programme (or Student) Handbook;
- A Definitive Module Document (DMD) for each constituent module;
- A Module Guide for each constituent module.

The [Ask Herts](#) website provides information on a wide range of resources and services available at the University of Hertfordshire including academic support, accommodation, fees, funding, visas, wellbeing services and student societies.

As a condition of registration, all students of the University of Hertfordshire are required to comply with the University's rules, regulations and procedures. These are published in a series of documents called 'University Policies and Regulations' (UPRs). The University requires that all students consult these documents which are available on-line, on the UPR web site, at: <http://www.herts.ac.uk/secreg/upr/>. In particular, [UPR SA07](#)

'Regulations and Advice for Students' Particular Attention - Index' provides information on the UPRs that contain the academic regulations of particular relevance for undergraduate and taught postgraduate students.

In accordance with section 4(5) of the Higher Education and Research Act 2017 (HERA), the UK Office for Students (OfS) has registered the University of Hertfordshire in the register of English higher education providers. The Register can be viewed at: <https://www.officeforstudents.org.uk/advice-and-guidance/the-register/the-ofs-register/>. Furthermore, the OfS has judged that the University of Hertfordshire delivers consistently outstanding teaching, learning and outcomes for its students. It is of the highest quality found in the UK. Consequently, the University received a Gold award in the 2018 Teaching Excellence and Student Outcomes (TEF) exercise. This award was made in June 2018 and is valid for up to 3 years. The TEF panel's report and conclusions can be accessed at: <https://www.officeforstudents.org.uk/advice-and-guidance/teaching/tef-outcomes/#/provider/10007147>

## G. Entry requirements

The normal entry requirements for the programme are:

To access this Programme, applicants are normally expected to hold a minimum of a second-class Bachelor's degree in Architecture or related discipline from a UK university or an overseas qualification in Architecture or related discipline of an equivalent standard.

Related disciplines include degrees in spatial design practices, history and theory, social and cultural studies, geography, human centre-design and building, construction and engineering.

It is advised that applicants hold a BA(Hons) in Architecture or equivalent, ARB prescribed Part I, but this is not compulsory.

Selection is based on a portfolio interview, after which students may be required to provide more information about previous studies or design experience.

Applications will be considered on an individual basis and are particularly welcomed from students with previous work experience in design and from a variety of backgrounds.

Entrance is not usually permitted directly at the Year 2. Exceptions will be considered on case-by-case scenario, evaluating previous qualification and relevant work experience.

Applicants will be evaluated against the following criteria:

- a) Academic attainment;
- b) Satisfactory academic reference;
- c) Personal statement or letter of application;
- d) Alternative or additional experience within architecture and design or appropriate subject areas.

In addition to fulfilling the general entry requirements of the University, applicants will normally be expected to attend an interview and provide evidence of previous architecture related design study through a portfolio, which demonstrates a range of art and design experience such as:

- 2D work such as drawing, painting, technical drawing, design, media experimentation, photography;
- 3D work evidenced by photography, models and prototypes;
- an awareness of the cultural, historical and professional contexts of architecture and the role of the architect in society and the design process.

All international students are required to demonstrate suitable levels of English language competence. This can be through previous study in English, but we often require specific performance in English tests. All applicants must be able to prove a minimum of IELTS 6.0, TOEFL 213 or equivalent.

APCL / APEL is not possible in general, yet some exception on a case-by-case basis can be considered. In particular, provable work experience, built or commissioned significant projects and students coming from other ARB Part II courses in the UK will be considered and assessed by the Programme Leader and teaching team.  
**The coursework and portfolio of work submitted prior as a part of the application by students entering**

**with an advanced standing via APEL/APCL will be fully mapped against the full range of ARB criteria for Part II by the time they graduate. The mapping exercise will be documented and stored as record.**

The programme is subject to the University's Principles, Policies and Regulations for the Admission of Students to Undergraduate and Taught Postgraduate Programmes (in [UPR SA03](#)), along with associated procedures. These will take account of University policy and guidelines for assessing accredited prior certificated learning (APCL) and accredited prior experiential learning (APEL).

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If you would like this information in an alternative format please contact:

School of Creative Arts, University of Hertfordshire

Telephone: 01707 285300

Email: [ctaadmin@herts.ac.uk](mailto:ctaadmin@herts.ac.uk)

If you wish to receive a copy of the latest Programme Annual Monitoring and Evaluation Report (AMER) and/or the External Examiner's Report for the programme, please email a request to [aqo@herts.ac.uk](mailto:aqo@herts.ac.uk)

## MArch Architecture and Urbanism

**Table 2: Development of Intended Programme Learning Outcomes in the Constituent Modules**

This map identifies where the programme learning outcomes are assessed in the constituent modules. It provides (i) an aid to academic staff in understanding how individual modules contribute to the programme aims (ii) a checklist for quality control purposes and (iii) a means to help students monitor their own learning, personal and professional development as the programme progresses.

		Programme Learning Outcomes (as identified in Section1 and the following page)																																		
		GC1			GC2			GC3			GC4			GC5			GC6			GC7			GC8			GC9			GC10			GC11				
Module Title	Module Code	GC1.1	GC1.2	GC1.3	GC2.1	GC2.2	GC2.3	GC3.1	GC3.2	GC3.3	GC4.1	GC4.2	GC4.3	GC5.1	GC5.2	GC5.3	GC6.1	GC6.2	GC6.3	GC7.1	GC7.2	GC7.3	GC8.1	GC8.2	GC8.3	GC9.1	GC9.2	GC9.3	GC10.1	GC10.2	GC10.3	GC11.1	GC11.2	GC11.3		
<b>Year 1</b>																																				
Lab 1	6CTA1163	X	X														X	X				X			X	X		X								
Lab 2	7CTA1138												X								X		X							X		X	X	X	X	
Specialism Studio	7CTA1139	X	X		X				X	X	X	X	X	X		X								X			X			X	X					
<b>Year 2</b>																																				
Dissertation	7CTA1141			X	X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X				X	X																
Thesis Studio	7CTA1140			X		X	X			X					X	X			X	X	X		X	X				X								

**Key:** Learning Outcome which is assessed as part of the module ☒

## KEY TO GENERAL CRITERIA

<b>GC1</b>	<b>Ability to create architectural designs that satisfy both aesthetic and technical requirements.</b>	<b>GC2</b>	<b>Adequate knowledge of the histories and theories of architecture and the related arts, technologies and human sciences.</b>
	The graduate will have the ability to:		The graduate will have knowledge of:
GC1.1	Prepare and present building design projects of diverse scale, complexity and type in a variety of contexts, using a range of media and in response to a brief.	GC2.1	The cultural, social and intellectual histories, theories and technologies that influence the design of buildings.
GC1.2	Understand the constructional and structural systems, the environmental strategies and the regulatory requirements that apply to the design and construction of a comprehensive design project.	GC2.2	The influence of history and theory on the spatial, social and technological aspects of architecture.
GC1.3	Develop a conceptual and critical approach to architectural design that integrates and satisfies the aesthetic aspects of a building and the technical requirements of its construction and the needs of the user.	GC2.3	The application of appropriate theoretical concepts to studio design projects, demonstrating a reflective and critical approach.
<b>GC3</b>	<b>Knowledge of the fine arts as an influence on the quality of architectural design.</b>	<b>GC4</b>	<b>Adequate knowledge of urban design, planning and the skills involved in the planning process.</b>
	The graduate will have knowledge of:		The graduate will have knowledge of:
GC3.1	How the theories, practices and technologies of the arts influence architectural design.	GC4.1	Theories of urban design and the planning of communities.
GC3.2	The creative application of the fine arts and their relevance and impact on architecture.	GC4.2	The influence of the design and development of cities, past and present on the contemporary built environment.
GC3.3	The creative application of such work to studio design projects, in terms of their conceptualisation and representation.	GC4.3	Current planning policy and development control legislation, including social, environmental and economic aspects and the relevance of these to design development.

<b>GC5</b>	<b>Understanding of the relationship between people and buildings and between buildings and their environment and the need to relate buildings and the spaces between them to human needs and scale.</b>	<b>GC6</b>	<b>Understanding of the profession of architecture and the role of the architect in society, in particular in preparing briefs that take account of social factors.</b>
	The graduate will have an understanding of:		The graduate will have an understanding of:
GC5.1	The needs and aspirations of building users.	GC6.1	The nature of professionalism and the duties and responsibilities of architects to clients, building users, constructors, co-professionals and the wider society.

GC5.2	The impact of buildings on the environment and the precepts of sustainable design.	GC6.2	The role of the architect within the design team and construction industry, recognising the importance of current methods and trends in the construction of the built environment.
GC5.3	The way in which buildings fit into their local context.	GC6.3	The potential impact of building projects on existing and proposed communities.
<b>GC7</b>	<b>Understanding of the methods of investigation and preparation of the brief for a design project.</b>	<b>GC8</b>	<b>Understanding of the structural design, constructional and engineering problems associated with building design.</b>
	The graduate will have an understanding of:		The graduate will have an understanding of:
GC7.1	The need to critically review precedents relevant to the function, organisation and technological strategy of design proposals.	GC8.1	The investigation, critical appraisal and selection of alternative structural, constructional and material systems relevant to architectural design.
GC7.2	The need to appraise and prepare building briefs of diverse scales and types, to define client and user requirements and their appropriateness to site and context.	GC8.2	Strategies for building construction and ability to integrate knowledge of structural principles and construction techniques.
GC7.3	The contributions of architects and co-professionals to the formulation of the brief and the methods of investigation used in its preparation.	GC8.3	The physical properties and characteristics of building materials, components and systems and the environmental impact of specification choices.
<b>GC9</b>	<b>Adequate knowledge of physical problems and technologies and the function of buildings so as to provide them with internal conditions of comfort and protection against the climate.</b>	<b>GC10</b>	<b>The necessary design skills to meet building users' requirements within the constraints imposed by cost factors and building regulations.</b>
	The graduate will have knowledge of:		The graduate will have the skills to:
GC9.1	Principles associated with designing optimum visual, thermal and acoustic environments.	GC10.1	Critically examine the financial factors implied in varying building types, constructional systems and specification choices and the impact of these on architectural design.
GC9.2	Systems for environmental comfort realised within relevant precepts of sustainable design.	GC10.2	Understand the cost control mechanisms which operate during the development of a project.

GC9.3	Strategies for building services and ability to integrate these in a design project.	GC10.3	Prepare designs that will meet building users' requirements and comply with UK legislation, appropriate performance standards and health and safety requirements.
<b>GC11</b>	<b>Adequate knowledge of the industries, organisations, regulations and procedures involved in translating design concepts into buildings and integrating plans into overall planning.</b>		
	The graduate will have knowledge of:		
GC11.1	The fundamental legal, professional and statutory responsibilities of the architect and the organisations, regulations and procedures involved in the negotiation and approval of architectural designs, including land law, development control, building regulations and health and safety legislation.		
GC11.2	The professional inter-relationships of individuals and organisations involved in procuring and delivering architectural projects and how these are defined through contractual and organisational structures.		
GC11.3	The basic management theories and business principles related to running both an architect's practice and architectural projects, recognising current and emerging trends in the construction industry.		

## KEY TO PROGRAMME LEARNING OUTCOMES

### Knowledge and Understanding

- GC1.2 understand the constructional and structural systems, the environmental strategies and the regulatory requirements that apply to the design and construction of a comprehensive design project.
- GC2.1 the cultural, social and intellectual histories, theories and technologies that influence the design of buildings.
- GC2.2 the influence of history and theory on the spatial, social and technological aspects of architecture.
- GC3.1 how the theories, practices and technologies of the arts influence architectural design.
- GC3.2 the creative application of the fine arts and their relevance and impact on architecture.
- GC4.1 theories of urban design and the planning of communities.
- GC4.2 the influence of the design and development of cities, past and present on the contemporary built environment.
- GC5.1 the needs and aspirations of building users.
- GC5.2 the impact of buildings on the environment and the precepts of sustainable design.
- GC5.3 the way in which buildings fit in to their local context.
- GC6.1 the nature of professionalism and the duties and responsibilities of architects to clients, building users, constructors, co-professionals and the wider society.
- GC6.2 the role of the architect within the design team and construction industry, recognising the importance of current methods and trends in the construction of the built environment.
- GC8.3 the physical properties and characteristics of building materials, components and systems and the environmental impact of specification choices.
- GC9.1 principles associated with designing optimum visual, thermal and acoustic environments.
- GC9.2 systems for environmental comfort realised within relevant precepts of sustainable design.
- GC11.2 the professional inter-relationships of individuals and organisations involved in procuring and delivering architectural projects and how these are defined through contractual and organisational structures.

### Intellectual Skills

### Practical Skills

- GC1.1 prepare and present building design projects of diverse scale, complexity and type in a variety of contexts, using a range of media and in response to a brief.
- GC7.2 the need to appraise and prepare building briefs of diverse scales and types, to define client and user requirements and their appropriateness to site and context.
- GC10.2 understand the cost control mechanisms which operate during the development of a project.
- GC10.3 prepare designs that will meet building users' requirements and comply with UK legislation, appropriate performance standards and health and safety requirements.

### Transferable Skills

- GC1.3 develop a conceptual and critical approach to architectural design that integrates and satisfies the aesthetic aspects of a building and the technical requirements of its construction and the needs of the user.
- GC4.3 current planning policy and development control legislation, including social, environmental and economic aspects and the relevance of these to design development.
- GC7.1 the need to critically review precedents relevant to the function, organisation and technological strategy of design proposals.
- GC8.1 the investigation, critical appraisal and selection of alternative structural, constructional and material systems relevant to architectural design.
- GC10.1 critically examine the financial factors implied in varying building types, constructional systems and specification choices and the impact of these on architectural design.
- GC11.3 the basic management theories and business principles related to running both an architect's practice and architectural projects, recognising current and emerging trends in the construction industry.
- GC2.3 the application of appropriate theoretical concepts to studio design projects, demonstrating a reflective and critical approach.
- GC3.3 the creative application of such work to studio design projects, in terms of their conceptualisation and representation.
- GC6.3 the potential impact of building projects on existing and proposed communities.
- GC7.3 the contributions of architects and co-professionals to the formulation of the brief and the methods of investigation used in its preparation.
- GC8.2 strategies for building construction and ability to integrate knowledge of structural principles and construction techniques.
- GC9.3 strategies for building services and ability to integrate these in a design project.
- GC11.1 the fundamental legal, professional and statutory responsibilities of the architect and the organisations, regulations and procedures involved in the negotiation and approval of architectural designs, including land law, development control, building regulations and health and safety legislation.

## Section 2

### Programme management

<b>Relevant QAA subject benchmarking statements</b>	Architecture (2010)
<b>Type of programme</b>	Taught Postgraduate
<b>Date of validation/last periodic review</b>	July 18
<b>Date of production/ last revision of PS</b>	March 2020 / June 2018
<b>Relevant to level/cohort</b>	Level 7 entering September 2020
<b>Administrative School</b>	School of Creative Arts

Table 3 Course structure

Course details		
Course code	Course description	HECOS
<b>CTMARCH</b>	<b>MArch Architecture and Urbanism</b>	100122