



Department of Architecture & Civil Engineering

BSc (Hons) Architecture



UNIVERSITY OF
BATH

The Department of Architecture & Civil Engineering at the University of Bath is recognised as one of the top schools in the country for educating both architects and engineers to produce buildings of the highest quality. Our BSc in Architecture provides the broad range of skills required by today's architects to meet the challenges faced by society. It is this breadth, and the positive links between theory and practice, that have made this one of the most sought after programmes in the UK.

What is Architecture?

Architecture is almost everything we see, touch and feel. We all know what a bad building feels like, but what are the ingredients that make a good one? Historically they have been commodity, firmness and delight. Translated into today's terms, these might become sustainability, achieved through the considered use of technology, science and art. It is this broad mix of Humanities, Arts and Science that makes Architecture so exciting and interesting, but it's also what makes it so complex. An architect needs to be able to juggle all of these competing concerns while retaining sight of their vision and producing work that still delights!

Why study Architecture at the University of Bath?

A joint Department of Architecture & Civil Engineering

As a joint department, we believe that there are real benefits in educating architects and engineers together wherever appropriate. The increasing sophistication of building technologies means that all major projects are designed by teams, and teamwork is a skill that our graduates develop throughout the programme. The main focus for collaboration is the design studio where projects are developed through drawings, models, and structural and environmental knowledge. Thus, we produce creative architects with a profound social, technical and theoretical understanding of their profession, who are able to lead projects informed by a holistic approach to design.

Integrated professional practice

The four-year, thin-sandwich programme is a distinctive feature of the BSc at Bath. Whereas students on a standard architectural programme spend three continuous years at university followed by a year on placement, our students spend the latter half of the second and third year of study on placement. We believe this provides a more robust and integrated education since students are able to apply their university learning in a practical context at an early stage. It also allows them to produce more mature designs in the studio, as they bring their professional experience to bear on their design projects in later years. Students are paid by their employer whilst on placement, giving them an opportunity to alleviate the financial constraints of being an undergraduate.

Study opportunities in Europe

The BSc is one of the few programmes offering the opportunity to study at various leading European universities. This is accomplished through the ERASMUS exchange programme during the third year when a similar number of students from European schools arrive to take part in our programme, giving the third year a distinctively international flavour.

**No 1 in the 2016 Complete
University Guide**

**No 1 in The Times and Sunday
Times Good University Guide
2015**

**95% student satisfaction in the
National Student Survey 2014**



Excellent reputation for teaching and employability

Architecture teaching at Bath is recognised as 'excellent' by the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE) and is consistently ranked as one of the top departments in UK league tables. Our graduates are recognised throughout the architectural profession for their high level design abilities and their maturity, with many currently working in leading practices. Our BSc programme in Architecture provides students with exemption from the ARB/RIBA Part 1 professional examinations and gives a thorough introduction to the issues involved in the design and realisation of buildings, as individual forms and within an urban context.

Design Studio

The design studio is central to all architectural work and the Department is proud of the standards it maintains in the teaching of design. Teaching in the studios is carried out by academic staff and visiting architects to ensure that the theory and practice of architecture are part of everyday conversations. Students are expected to work in studio to promote discussion and learning and have access to studios 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Alongside studio time, a broad range of subjects is taught by lectures. These include sustainability and low-carbon design, history and theory, construction, structural and environmental theory, landscape and ecology, urban design, management and computer-aided design. Wherever possible, the teaching of these subjects is integrated with studio projects.

Close student community

The programme has an annual intake of about 105 students forming a friendly, close-knit department with a strong sense of working together towards a common purpose. Staff and students get to know each other well with design studio tutor groups of less than ten students, ensuring optimum contact with their design tutors. Tutors take a keen interest in the welfare and academic progression of their tutees through to graduation day, and often keep in contact over their subsequent careers. Many of our students choose to pursue their postgraduate studies in the Department.

Research excellence

Teaching and research quality is recognised as nationally and internationally leading, and all lecturers are actively involved in research. Much of this feeds directly into our undergraduate teaching, conveying the excitement of the most recent developments in architectural history, theory, environmental design, building technologies and computer-aided design. The fundamental drivers for our research are climate change, the history and theory of architecture, and innovative and holistic design. Our research is ranked joint 1st in the Architecture, Built Environment & Planning unit of assessment in REF 2014.

The city of Bath and campus

Bath is a World Heritage City, creating an appealing environment in which to live and work. Many graduates stay in the Bath area, keeping social and professional links with the Department, and some even contribute to design tutoring.

Only a ten minute bus ride from the city centre is our safe and friendly campus, with outstanding arts facilities, first-class sports amenities and excellent places to eat, drink and socialise.



BSc (hons) Architectural degree programme structure

| | Semester 1 | Semester 2 |
|--------|---|---|
| Year 1 | Design studio (inc group project with Civil Engineering students) History & theory – towards sustainable architecture Building environment Structures | Design studio Practice management & law Computer-aided design History & theory – 20th century architecture & design Detailed design |
| Year 2 | Design studio History & theory – representing architecture Environmental design Structures Detailed design Digital illustration | Professional placement |
| Year 3 | Bath units: Design studio (inc group project with Civil Engineering students, and European Study Trip) History & theory – urban design History & theory – classicism and the foundation of modern design theory Advanced CAD (unassessed) | Professional placement |
| | OR Erasmus (exchange programme abroad) | |
| Year 4 | Design studio – The Basil Spence Project (group project with Civil Engineering students) History & theory – issues in contemporary architecture Practice, management & law | Design studio – individual 'Thesis' project |

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 BSc (Hons) Architecture, RIBA Part 1

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 Further study and architectural practice leading to MArch RIBA Part 2

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 RIBA Part 3

What our students say



“One of the greatest benefits of studying Architecture at Bath is the broad range of skills you acquire, which opens up

careers in other creative disciplines, including digital illustration and interior design. The joint Department creates a unique environment to study Architecture within integrated design teams, working alongside engineering students in many studio projects. This allows us to develop technical strategies that have a direct influence on our creative designs. A great feature of the Department is the large amount of support on offer, particularly from the dedicated and approachable Head of Year. Additionally, the mentoring scheme helped me transition into my programme as smoothly as possible. I chose to study at the University of Bath because of the unique programme structure, which incorporates placements into the degree. My placement at Hawkins Brown has presented an unrivalled opportunity to apply my skills and theory learnt at University to practical situations, including drawing on CAD and attending design team meetings.”

Praneet Bhullar



“During my placement at Rick Mather Architects I gained experience across a diverse spectrum of projects. I was involved in

various stages of the design projects, including work on existing historically significant buildings. At Rick Mather Architects they focus on the importance and integrity of good, designed architecture. The practice is known for understated modernism, and this has helped me develop a more considered and comprehensive approach to architecture. I was able to interact with consultants with different levels of experience, and gained a lot from understanding their approaches and ideas. I benefitted from a wide range of activities during my placement including project presentations, visits to existing buildings, attending a Design Review Panel and a planning hearing. My placement has developed my understanding and progressed my own ideas about architecture, and it will be very influential in my final year work.”

George Pickering

Entry requirements

A typical offer is A*AA at UK A2 level, 36 points in the International Baccalaureate with Maths with a 6 in higher level or 7 in standard level. We prefer A level (or equivalent) combinations that demonstrate numerical and art and design skills. The majority of recent successful candidates have offered Mathematics, Art & Design and a third A level in a science, typically Physics, or a traditional arts/humanities subject. Only Maths, or Further Maths (not both) will be allowed to count towards the three grade offer. General Studies and Critical Thinking will not be accepted. In addition, we will take into account evidence of a strong interest in architecture demonstrated by extra-curricular activity, research, work experience or a relevant Extended Project. A Portfolio is not required and applicants will not be interviewed. For further details and advice about subject choices and alternative qualifications, visit our online prospectus.

www.bath.ac.uk/study/ug/prospectus/subject/architecture

For more information contact:

Department of Architecture & Civil Engineering

Email: ace@bath.ac.uk
www.bath.ac.uk/ace

Admissions:

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Telephone 01225 383019

Useful Links

www.bath.ac.uk/study/international
www.bath.ac.uk/engineering/women
www.batharchitecture.com



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