

ARCHITECTURE – Architectural Design

Bachelor of Science (B.S.) – Catalog Year 2021-2022

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Department of Architecture at the University of Colorado Denver offers a Bachelor of Science in Architecture degree program on the downtown Denver campus. The program’s design studio-based curriculum combines critical thinking with active making in pursuit of creative solutions to contemporary design problems. In their first three years of study, students learn the fundamentals of design, how to apply them to the design of buildings, neighborhoods, and cities, and how to graphically communicate a design solution. In their senior year, students have the option to choose one of two curricular tracks: The **Architectural Design Track** and the **Architectural Studies Track**.

The **Architectural Design Track** is for students who intend to pursue a professional Master of Architecture degree (MArch) and a professional career in architecture. This track optimally prepares students for admission to a two-year accredited graduate architecture degree program in the United States, Canada, or compatible degree programs internationally.

The **Architectural Studies Track** offers students a less prescribed path, with greater freedom to shape the direction of their studies in the senior year. Based on individual interests and projected career paths, students who choose this track will have the opportunity to focus on one or more areas of study in architecture and/or allied disciplines. These include architectural history/theory, technology, and/or visualization, among other options.

In addition to offering a strong foundation in architecture, both the Architectural Design and the Architectural Studies tracks prepare students to pursue graduate studies and future careers in allied design disciplines, including Digital Design (games and animation), Industrial Design, Graphic Design, Landscape Architecture, Urban Design, and Real Estate Development, among others.

Whereas students who choose the **Architectural Design Track** are optimally prepared for admission to a two-year accredited graduate architecture degree, students who choose the **Architectural Studies Track** and later in their careers decide to pursue a professional graduate degree in architecture, they may be required to take additional courses at the graduate level, including additional design studios, to meet the stringent requirements of a professional Master of Architecture degree.

ACADEMIC ADVISING

Fully admitted students in the BS ARCH program are supported by undergraduate advising housed within CAP Student Services. *Pre-Architecture* (CLAS) students are supported by advisors in the Academic Success and Advising Center.

CAP Undergraduate Advising

CAP.UGAdvising@ucdenver.edu

Visit the department website [here](#)

CU Building, 2nd Floor

303-315-1000

Center for Undergraduate Exploration & Advising

CUEA@ucdenver.edu

Visit CUEA’s website [here](#)

Student Commons Building 1113

303-315-1940

SAMPLE ACADEMIC PLAN OF STUDY

The following academic plan is a *sample* pathway to completing degree requirements for this major. Students should tailor this plan based on previously completed college coursework (e.g., AP, IB, CLEP, dual/concurrent enrollment, and transfer credit), course availability, and individual preferences related to course load, schedules, or add-on programs such as minors or double-majors. **Students deviating from this plan must fulfill course prerequisites and should meet with a CAP academic advisor to confirm degree requirements.**

Year One	Semester 1	16
	ARCH 1110 Intro. to Architecture	3
	ENGL 1020 Composition I	3
	MATH 1110 College Algebra or MATH 1130 Precalculus	4
	First-Year Experience / CU Denver Core	3
	CU Denver Core	3

Semester 2	15-16
ARCH 1711 Visualization I	3
ARCH 2230 Architectural History I	3
ENGL 2030 Composition II	3
MATH 1120 College Trig. or CU Denver Core Bio/Phys. Sci.	3 - 4
CU Denver Core	3

Year Two	Semester 3	14
	ARCH 2111 Design Studio I	6
	ARCH 3230 Architectural History II	3
	PHYS 2010/2321 College Physics I with Lab	5

Semester 4	15
ARCH 1721 Visualization II	3
ARCH 2121 Design Studio II*	6
CAP Elective	3
CU Denver Core	3
*Required check-in with CAP advisor prior to registration.	

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Year Three	Semester 5	15
	ARCH 3111 Design Studio III	6
	ARCH 3130 Construction Practices: Material & Structural Systems	3
	CAP Elective	3
	CU Denver Core	3

Semester 6	15
ARCH 3121 Design Studio IV	6
ARCH 3430 Construction Practices: Building Envelope	3
ARCH 36XX History/Cultural Elective	3
CU Denver Core	3

Year Four	Semester 7	15
	ARCH 4111 Design Studio V	6
	ARCH 3340 Theory of Structures I	3
	General Elective	3
	General Elective	3

Semester 8	15
ARCH 4121 Design Studio VI	6
ARCH 3330 Building Systems I	3
General Elective	3
General Elective	3

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS & POLICIES

Students are responsible for meeting with a CAP academic advisor to confirm degree requirements and progress made toward degree completion. Students fulfilling the BS ARCH degree are required to complete the following minimum program requirements (full information available at catalog.ucdenver.edu):

- 1) Students must complete a minimum of 120 credit hours.
- 2) Students must maintain at least a 2.0 University of Colorado cumulative grade point average to remain in good standing.
- 3) A total of at least 45 upper-division (3000/4000 level) credits is required.
- 4) Students must complete a minimum of 30 credit hours from CU Denver, including at least three design studios.
- 5) Students must repeat *required* architecture core courses in which a grade lower than C- is earned in order to fulfill requirements. ARCH and CAP electives are not included; see degree plan for more details.

Courses	Credits	Notes
Course pre-requisites change regularly. Students are responsible for consulting advisors and the class schedule in the student portal for pre-requisite information.		
Required CU Denver Core Curriculum Coursework	36 - 37	See CU Denver Core Curriculum Guide
General Elective Coursework	11 – 12	Assumes completion of Foreign Language Proficiency.

Required BS ARCH courses:	Credits	Notes
MATH 1130 Precalculus <u>or</u> MATH 1110 College Algebra & MATH 1120 College Trigonometry	4 7	Fulfills CU Denver Core Mathematics with C- or higher; MATH 1110 & MATH 1120 jointly fulfill CU Denver Core Biological/Physical Sciences non-Lab requirement.
PHYS 2010 College Physics I & PHYS 2321 College Physics Lab I	5	Fulfills CU Denver Core Biological/Physical Sciences with Lab requirement. Pre-requisite: C- or better in MATH 1110 & MATH 1120, or MATH 1130
ARCH 1110 Introduction to Architecture	3	Taught in FALL term, only.
ARCH 2230 Architectural History I	3	Pre-requisite: ENGL 1020 or higher is preferred; SPRING.
ARCH 3230 Architectural History II	3	Pre-requisite: ARCH 2230; FALL.
ARCH 1711 Visualization I	3	
ARCH 1712 Visualization II	3	Recommended pre-req: ARCH 1711; co-req: ARCH 2121
ARCH 2111 Design Studio I	6	Pre-/co-requisite: ARCH 1711
ARCH 2121 Design Studio II*	6	Pre-requisite: ARCH 2111, ARCH 1711; Pre-/co-requisite ARCH 1712
ARCH 3111 Design Studio III*	6	Pre-requisite: ARCH 2121, ARCH 1721
ARCH 3121 Design Studio IV*	6	Pre-requisite: ARCH 3111
ARCH 4111 Design Studio V*	6	Pre-requisite: ARCH 3121
ARCH 4121 Design Studio VI*	6	Pre-requisite: ARCH 4111
ARCH 3130 Construction Practices I: Material & Structural Systems	3	Pre-requisite: FALL
ARCH 3430 Construction Practices II: Building Envelope	3	Pre-requisite: ARCH 3130; SPRING
ARCH 3340 Theory of Structures I*	3	Pre-requisite: Pre-calc equivalent and Physics w/lab

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ARCH 3330 Building Systems I*	3	
CAP Electives Any ARCH / LDAR / UPRL / HIPR courses numbered 3000-4999 NOT listed above.	6	<i>Check individual courses for pre-requisites; please consult CAP Advising to discuss applicable transfer coursework.</i>
Total Program Hours:	120	

*Course reserved for fully admitted BS ARCH students, only.

CAREER RESOURCES

Are you interested in learning about career and occupational options for this major? Visit the CU Denver Career Center located in the Tivoli Student Union (TV) Suite 267, 303-315-7315 to speak with a career counselor. Admitted BS ARCH students are also encouraged to connect with CAP's career and professional resource to discuss individual career goals; please call 303-315-1000 to arrange an appointment. Additional resources may be found at www.onet.org , www.ncarb.org , and www.aia.org .