

University of Plymouth

Faculty of Arts and Humanities

School of Art, Design and Architecture

Programme Specification

Award Title and Internal Code

Master of Architecture (3420) Stage 1

Date
October 2006

Date of Approval	October 2006
Year of First Intake	September 2007
Year of First Award	July 2009
Revised	November 2009
Revised	November 2010
Revised	November 2011
Revised	August 2012
Revised	August 2013
Revised	November 2014
Revised	July 2016
Revised	November 2017
Revised	June 2018
Revised	March 2019

Final Award: Master of Architecture

Level 7 Intermediate Award Title: Postgraduate Certificate in Architecture

UCAS code/JACS code: N/A

1. Awarding Institution: University of Plymouth

Teaching institution: University of Plymouth

2. Accrediting bodies: RIBA and ARB

The programme carries Architects' Registration Board (ARB) Part 2 Prescription and Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) Part 2 Validation.

This professionally accredited Programme is aimed at students who wish to become architects, or undertake a career in an architecture-related discipline. It carries exemption from ARB/RIBA Part 2. The M Arch Programme is Part 2 of the three parts of study that accumulate to the professional qualification of Architect. This conforms to the currently accepted pattern of full-time architectural education in the EU:

1) BA (Hons) Architecture: 3 years full-time (ARB/RIBA Part 1 exemption)

1 year work placement in practice – generally known as the “year-out” (NB: there is no specific time requirement on this period of work placement)

2) M Arch: 2 years full-time or three years part-time (ARB/RIBA Part 2 exemption)

3) 2 years (minimum) work placement (NB: this two years may be achieved with up to one year of work placement gained during the “year-out”). During this time period students must satisfactorily complete the Certificate of Architectural Professional Practice (CAPP, or similar title; this award carries ARB/RIBA Part 3 exemption).

Date of RIBA re-validation: 2017

Date of ARB re-prescription: 2018

3. Distinctive Features of the Programme and the Student Experience

Students entering the Master of Architecture programme benefit from the following:

- 1) Teaching on the Programme by regionally, nationally and internationally recognised academics and practitioners.
- 2) Teaching on the Programme by full-time research-active staff with internationally recognised expertise in sustainability and urbanism.
- 3) Research within the School which both informs and is informed by the content, nature of projects set for students and teaching methodologies inherent within the programme.
- 4) Core modules delivered in Stage 1 so as to enable students to explore, absorb, analyse and reflect upon key knowledge, skills and understanding in issues central to the School's ethos, notably Sustainability, Urbanism and Technical Design. This allows for a more flexible timetable for students in Stage 2, which enables students to further synthesise and demonstrate their development, particularly in the design studio / professional studies modules and a selected area of individual study within the core areas noted above.
- 5) Tradition of 'live projects' set in response to real contexts and briefs and ethical issues, typically in the context of community regeneration and involving the participation of clients and users, as well as government bodies and professionals.
- 6) Opportunities for field trips and study visits in Europe and further overseas, including visits to and collaborative work with other universities, and Design Studio project work based in both the UK and overseas contexts.
- 7) A purpose-built Faculty of Arts Building, offering opportunities for collaborative work and projects with the students and staff in Fine Art, Art and Performance, Graphics and Photography, 3D Design and Humanities.

- 8) Designated individual, permanent studio space for students in all stages of the M Arch Programme.
- 9) Access to Laser Cutter, 3-D Rapid Production equipment and woodworking and metalworking workshops staffed by full-time technical tutors.

The Programme may be completed in 2 years Full-time study OR 3 years Part-time study.

4. Relevant QAA Subject Benchmark Group(s)

The programme provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding, qualities, skills and other attributes in the following areas:

- 1) The programme outcomes are those set out in the RIBA and ARB Part 2 Syllabus for Architecture (Sept 2011)
- 2) QAA Benchmarking Statement for Architecture, (2001)
- 3) On completion of the programme students achieve ARB/RIBA Part 2 recognition

5. Programme Structure

FULL TIME

SEMESTER 1

SEMESTER 2

STAGE 1

ARCH 651A 20 (3) credits
INCEPTION AND STRATEGIC DESIGN

ARCH 653A 20 (3) credits
CONNECTING SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES

ARCH 654A 20 (3) credits
URBAN METHODOLOGIES

ARCH 652A 40 (3) credits
DETAILED DESIGN

ARCH 656 20 (3) credits
TECHNICAL DESIGN

Students must pass all modules to progress to next stage of Programme.

STAGE 2

ARCH 751A 30 (M) credits
ADVANCED INCEPTION AND STRATEGIC DESIGN

ARCH 753B 30 (M) credits
EMERGING RESEARCH IN ARCHITECTURE

ARCH 752A 40 (M) credits
ADVANCED DETAILED DESIGN

ARCH 755
20 (M) credits
PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

Award of M Arch carries exemption from ARB/RIBA Part 2. Students must pass all modules.

PART TIME

SEMESTER 1

SEMESTER 2

STAGE 1a

ARCH 653A 20 (3) credits
CONNECTING SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES

ARCH 654A 20 (3) credits
URBAN METHODOLOGIES

ARCH 656 20 (3) credits
TECHNICAL DESIGN

Students must pass all modules to progress to next stage of Programme.

STAGE 1b

ARCH 651A 20 (3) credits
INCEPTION AND STRATEGIC DESIGN

ARCH 652A 40 (3) credits
DETAILED DESIGN

Students must pass all modules to progress to next stage of Programme.

STAGE 2

ARCH 751A 30 (M) credits
ADVANCED INCEPTION AND STRATEGIC DESIGN

ARCH 752A 40 (M) credits
ADVANCED DETAILED DESIGN

ARCH 753B 30 (M) credits
EMERGING RESEARCH IN ARCHITECTURE

ARCH 755
20 (M) credits
PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

Award of M Arch carries exemption from ARB/RIBA Part 2. Students must pass all modules.

6. Programme Aims

The aims of the M Arch Programme are to challenge and enable students to:

- 1) Develop and demonstrate their ability for creative and critical thought and judgement in generating the design of buildings and places of the highest caliber.
 - 2) Develop ethical design solutions that are respectful of and responsive to people and their cultural and social traditions.
 - 3) Develop design solutions that are responsive to technology and demonstrate an understanding of structure, construction, environmental design and sustainability.
 - 4) Develop an understanding of the professional skills and responsibilities of design, the economic, legislative and regulatory context including health and safety and design for the disabled.
 - 5) Acquire knowledge, develop strategies for learning and understand research methods.
 - 6) Develop and demonstrate reasoned and coherent written and oral arguments in Design Studio and taught course project work.
 - 7) Develop and demonstrate reasoned and coherent communication of design ideas in Design Studio and taught course project work through visual means (drawings, models, computing and other media).
 - 8) Work together to share knowledge and to develop and articulate an individual critical position relative to a body of contextual and theoretical knowledge identified by the students as important to their development.
- Acquire strategies for self-improvement and continued learning/research to embed confidence, life skills and transferable skills for their future role as leading professionals.

7. Programme Intended Learning Outcomes

8.1. Knowledge and understanding

On successful completion graduates should have developed:

Knowledge and Understanding	Teaching and Learning Strategies
A1 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.	Acquisition of A1 is through lectures, reading, tutorials and workshops in Connecting Sustainable Practices, Design Studio, Professional Studies and Technology. Assessment of A1 is through project work in Connecting Sustainable Practices, Design Studio, Professional Studies and Technology.
A2 Adequate knowledge of the histories and theories of architecture and the related arts, technologies and human sciences.	Acquisition of A2 is through lectures, reading, tutorials and workshops in Connecting Sustainable Practices, Design Studio, Technology and Urban Methodologies. Assessment of A2 is through project work in Connecting Sustainable Practices, Design Studio, Technology, and Urban Methodologies.
A3 The cultural, social and intellectual histories, theories and technologies that influence the design of buildings.	Acquisition of A3 is through lectures, reading, tutorials and workshops in Connecting Sustainable Practices, Design Studio, Technology and Urban Methodologies. Assessment of A3 is through project work in Connecting Sustainable Practices, Design Studio, Technology, and Urban Methodologies.
A4 Knowledge of the fine arts as an influence on the quality of architectural Design.	Acquisition of A4 is through lectures, reading and tutorials in the Design Studio. Assessment of A6 is through project work in the Design Studio.
A5 How the theories, practices and technologies of the arts influence architectural design.	Acquisition of A5 is through lectures, reading, tutorials and workshops in the Design Studio. Assessment of A5 is through project work in the Design Studio.
A6 The creative application of the fine arts and their relevance and impact on architecture.	Acquisition of A6 is through lectures, reading, tutorials and workshops in the Design Studio. Assessment of A6 is through project work in the Design Studio.
A7 Adequate knowledge of urban design, planning and the skills involved in the planning process.	Acquisition of A7 is through lectures, reading, tutorials and workshops in Connecting Sustainable Practices, Design Studio, Professional Studies and Technology. Assessment of A7 is through project work in Connecting Sustainable Practices, Design Studio, Professional Studies and Technology.
A8 Theories of urban design and the planning of communities.	Acquisition of A8 is through lectures, reading, tutorials and workshops in Connecting Sustainable Practices, Design Studio and Urban Methodologies. Assessment of A8 is through project work in Connecting Sustainable Practices, Design Studio and Urban Methodologies.
A9 The influence of the design and development of cities, past and present on the contemporary built environment.	Acquisition of A9 is through lectures, reading, tutorials and workshops in Connecting Sustainable Practices, Design Studio and Urban Methodologies.
A10 Current planning policy and development control legislation, including social, environmental and economic aspects, and the relevance of these to design development.	Acquisition of A10 is through lectures, reading and tutorials in Connecting Sustainable Practices, Design Studio and Professional Studies. Assessment of A10 is through project work in Connecting Sustainable Practices, Design Studio and Professional Studies.

Knowledge and understanding cont.

Knowledge and understanding

A11 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.

A12 The needs and aspirations of building users.

A13 The impact of buildings on the environment, and the precepts of sustainable design.

A14 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.

A15 The nature of professionalism and the duties and responsibilities of architects to clients, building users, constructors, co-professionals and the wider society.

A16 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.

A17 Understanding of the methods of investigation and preparation of the brief for a design project.

A18 The contributions of architects and co-professionals to the formulation of the brief, and the methods of investigation used in its preparation.

A19 Understanding of the structural design, constructional and engineering problems associated with building design.

A20 The physical properties and characteristics of building materials, components and systems, and the environmental impact of specification choices.

A21 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.

Teaching and Learning Strategies

Acquisition of A11 is through lectures, reading and tutorials in Connecting Sustainable Practices, Design Studio, Professional Studies and Technology. Assessment of A11 is through project work in Connecting Sustainable Practices, Design Studio, Professional Studies and Technology.

Acquisition of 12 is through lectures, reading, tutorials and workshops in Design Studio and Urban Methodologies. Assessment of A12 is through project work in Design Studio and Urban Methodologies.

Acquisition of A13 is through lectures, reading, and tutorials in Connecting Sustainable Practices and Technology. Assessment of A13 is through project work in Connecting Sustainable Practices and Technology.

Acquisition of A14 is through lectures, reading, tutorials and workshops in Design Studio, Professional Studies and Technology. Assessment of A14 is through project work in Design Studio, Professional Studies and Technology.

Acquisition of A15 is through lectures and seminars in Professional Studies. Assessment of A15 is through project work in Professional Studies.

Acquisition of A16 is through lectures and seminars in Professional Studies. Assessment of A16 is through project work in Professional Studies.

Acquisition of A17 is through lectures, reading, tutorials and workshops in Design Studio, Professional Studies and Technology. Assessment of A17 is through project work in Design Studio, Professional Studies and Technology.

Acquisition of A18 is through lectures, reading, tutorials and workshops in Design Studio and Professional Studies and Technology. Assessment of A18 is through project work in Design Studio and Professional Studies.

Acquisition of A19 is through lectures and tutorials in Technology. Assessment of A19 is through project work in Technology.

Acquisition of A20 is through lectures and tutorials in Technology. Assessment of A20 is through project work in Technology.

Acquisition of A21 is through lectures and tutorials in Technology. Assessment of A21 is through project work in Technology.

Knowledge and understanding cont.

Knowledge and understanding

A22 Principles associated with designing optimum visual, thermal and acoustic environments.

A23 Systems for environmental comfort realised within relevant precepts of sustainable design.

A24 The necessary design skills to meet building users' requirements within the constraints imposed by cost factors and building regulations.

A25 Understand the cost control mechanisms which operate during the development of a project.

A26 Adequate knowledge of the industries, organisations, regulations and procedures involved in translating design concepts into buildings and integrating plans into overall planning.

A27 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.

A28 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.

A29 The basic management theories and business principles related to running both an architect's practice and architectural projects, recognizing current and emerging trends in the construction industry.

A30 Understanding of the alternative materials, processes and techniques that apply to architectural design and building construction.

A31 Knowledge of the context of the architect and the construction industry, and the professional qualities needed for decision making in complex and unpredictable circumstances.

Teaching and Learning Strategies

Acquisition of A22 is through lectures and tutorials in Technology.
Assessment of A22 is through project work in Technology.

Acquisition of A23 is through lectures and tutorials in Technology.
Assessment of A23 is through project work in Technology.

Acquisition of A24 is through lectures, reading, tutorials and workshops in Design Studio, Professional Studies and Technology.
Assessment of A24 is through project work in Design Studio, Professional Studies and Technology.

Acquisition of A25 is through lectures and seminars in Professional Studies.
Assessment of A25 is through project work in Professional Studies.

Acquisition of A26 is through lectures, reading, tutorials and workshops in Design Studio, Professional Studies and Technology.
Assessment of A26 is through project work in Design Studio, Professional Studies and Technology.

Acquisition of A27 is through lectures and seminars in Professional Studies.
Assessment of A27 is through project work in Professional Studies.

Acquisition of A28 is through lectures and seminars in Professional Studies.
Assessment of A28 is through project work in Professional Studies.

Acquisition of A28 is through lectures and seminars in Professional Studies.
Assessment of A28 is through project work in Professional Studies.

Acquisition of A30 is through lectures, reading, tutorials and workshops in Design Studio and Technology.
Assessment of A30 is through project work in Design Studio and Technology.

Acquisition of A31 is through lectures and seminars in Professional Studies.
Assessment of A31 is through project work in Professional Studies.

8.2. Cognitive and intellectual skills

On successful completion graduates should have developed:

Intellectual – thinking skills

B1 Ability to create architectural designs that satisfy both aesthetic and technical requirements.

B2 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.

B3 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.

B4 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.

B5 The influence of history and theory on the spatial, social, and technological aspects of architecture.

B6 The application of appropriate theoretical concepts to studio design projects, demonstrating a reflective and critical approach.

B7 The creative application of such work to studio design projects, in terms of their conceptualisation and representation.

B8 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.

B9 The needs and aspirations of building users.

B10 The way in which buildings fit into their local context.

B11 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.

Teaching and Learning Strategies

Acquisition of B1 is through lectures, reading, tutorials and workshops in Connecting Sustainable Practices, Design Studio, Professional Studies and Technology.
Assessment of B1 is through project work in Connecting Sustainable Practices, Design Studio, Professional Studies and Technology.

Acquisition of B2 is through Design Studio and Technology.
Assessment of B2 is through project work in Design Studio and Technology.

Acquisition of B3 is through lectures, reading, tutorials and workshops in Connecting Sustainable Practices, Design Studio, Professional Studies and Technology.
Assessment of B3 is through project work in Connecting Sustainable Practices, Design Studio, Professional Studies and Technology.

Acquisition of B4 is through Design Studio and Technology.
Assessment of B4 is through project work in Design Studio and Technology.

Acquisition of B5 is through lectures, reading, tutorials and workshops in Connecting Sustainable Practices, Design Studio, Technology and Urban Methodologies.
Assessment of B5 is through project work in Connecting Sustainable Practices, Design Studio, Technology and Urban Methodologies.

Acquisition of B6 is through Design Studio.
Assessment of B6 is through project work in Design Studio.

Acquisition of B7 is through Design Studio.
Assessment of B7 is through project work in Design Studio.

Acquisition of B8 is through lectures, reading and tutorials in Connecting Sustainable Practices, Design Studio, Professional Studies and Technology.
Assessment of B8 is through project work in Connecting Sustainable Practices, Design Studio, Professional Studies and Technology.

Acquisition of B9 is through lectures, reading, tutorials and workshops in Design Studio and Urban Methodologies.
Assessment of B9 is through project work in Design Studio and Urban Methodologies.

Acquisition of B10 is through Design Studio.
Assessment of B10 is through project work in Design Studio.

Acquisition of B11 is through lectures, reading and tutorials in Design Studio and Professional Studies.
Assessment of B11 is through project work in Design Studio and Professional Studies.

B Cognitive and intellectual skills cont.

Intellectual – thinking skills

B12 The potential impact of building projects on existing and proposed communities.

B13 Understanding of the methods of investigation and preparation of the brief for a design project.

B14 The need to critically review precedents relevant to the function, organisation and technological strategy of design proposals.

B15 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.

B16 The contributions of architects and co-professionals to the formulation of the brief, and the methods of investigation used in its preparation.

B17 The investigation, critical appraisal and selection of alternative structural, constructional and material systems relevant to architectural design.

B18 Strategies for building construction, and ability to integrate knowledge of structural principles and construction techniques.

B19 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.

B20 Strategies for building services, and ability to integrate these in a design project.

B21 The necessary design skills to meet building users' requirements within the constraints imposed by cost factors and building regulations.

B22 Critically examine the financial factors implied in varying building types, constructional systems, and specification choices, and the impact of these on architectural design.

B23 Prepare designs that will meet building users' requirements and comply with UK legislation, appropriate performance standards and health and safety requirements.

B24 Ability to generate design proposals using understanding of a body of knowledge, some of the current boundaries of professional practice and the academic discipline of architecture.

Teaching and Learning Strategies

Acquisition of B12 is through lectures, tutorials and workshops in the Design Studio.
Assessment of B12 is through project work in the Design Studio.

Acquisition of B13 is through lectures, reading, tutorials and workshops in Design Studio, Professional Studies and Technology.
Assessment of B13 is through project work in Design Studio, Professional Studies and Technology.

Acquisition of B14 is through lectures, reading, tutorials and workshops in Design Studio and Technology.
Assessment of B14 is through project work in Design Studio and Technology.

Acquisition of B15 is through lectures, tutorials and workshops in the Design Studio.
Assessment of B15 is through project work in Design Studio.

Acquisition of B16 is through lectures, reading, tutorials and workshops in Design Studio and Professional Studies and Technology.
Assessment of B16 is through project work in Design Studio, Professional Studies and Technology.

Acquisition of B17 is through lectures and tutorials in Technology.
Assessment of B17 is through project work in Technology.

Acquisition of B18 is through lectures and tutorials in Technology.
Assessment of B18 is through project work in Technology.

Acquisition of B19 is through lectures and tutorials in Technology.
Assessment of B19 is through project work in Technology.

Acquisition of B20 is through lectures and tutorials in Technology.
Assessment of B20 is through project work in Technology.

Acquisition of B21 is through lectures, reading, tutorials and workshops in Design Studio, Professional Studies and Technology.
Assessment of B21 is through project work in Design Studio, Professional Studies and Technology.

Acquisition of B22 is through lectures, reading, tutorials and workshops in Design Studio, Professional Studies and Technology.
Assessment of B22 is through project work in Design Studio, Professional Studies and Technology.

Acquisition of B23 is through lectures, reading, tutorials and workshops in Design Studio and Technology.
Assessment of B23 is through project work in Design Studio and Technology.

Acquisition of B24 is through lectures, tutorials and workshops in the Design Studio.
Assessment of B24 is through project work in the Design Studio.

B Cognitive and intellectual skills cont

Intellectual – thinking skills

B25 Ability to apply a range of communication methods to present design proposals clearly and effectively.

B26 Ability to evaluate evidence, arguments and assumptions within a structured discourse relating to architecture culture, theory and design.

Teaching and Learning Strategies

Acquisition of B25 is through lectures, tutorials and workshops in Design Studio.
Assessment of B25 is through project work in Design Studio.

Acquisition of B8 is through lectures, reading and tutorials in Connecting Sustainable Practices, Design Studio and Professional Studies.
Assessment of B8 is through project work in Connecting Sustainable Practices, Design Studio and Professional Studies.

8.3. Key and transferable skills

On successful completion graduates should have developed:

Transferable skills	Teaching and Learning Strategies
<p>D1 Ability to identify individual learning needs and understand the personal responsibility required for further professional education.</p> <p>D2 Problem solving skills, professional judgment, and ability to take the initiative and make appropriate decisions in complex and unpredictable circumstances.</p>	<p>Acquisition of D1 is through lectures, reading, tutorials and workshops in Connecting Sustainable Practices, Design Studio, Professional Studies, Technology and Urban Methodologies.</p> <p>Assessment of D1 is through project work in Connecting Sustainable Practices, Design Studio, Professional Studies, Technology and Urban Methodologies.</p> <p>Acquisition of D2 is through lectures, reading, tutorials and workshops in Connecting Sustainable Practices, Design Studio, Professional Studies, Technology and Urban Methodologies.</p> <p>Assessment of D2 is through project work in Connecting Sustainable Practices, Design Studio, Professional Studies, Technology and Urban Methodologies.</p>

8.4. Employment related skills

On successful completion graduates should have developed:

Employment related skills	Teaching and Learning Strategies
<p>See Knowledge and Understanding, Cognitive and Intellectual Skills, Transferrable Skills, and Practical Skills.</p>	<p>See Knowledge and Understanding, Cognitive and Intellectual Skills, Transferrable Skills, and Practical Skills.</p>

8.5. Practical skills

On successful completion graduates should have developed:

Practical Skills

C1 Ability to create architectural designs that satisfy both aesthetic and technical requirements.

C2 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.

C3 Ability to apply a range of communication methods to present design proposals clearly and effectively.

Teaching and Learning Strategies

Acquisition of C1 is through lectures, reading, tutorials and workshops in Connecting Sustainable Practices, Design Studio, Professional Studies and Technology.

Assessment of C1 is through project work in Connecting Sustainable Practices, Design Studio, Professional Studies and Technology.

Acquisition of B2 is through Design Studio and Technology.

Assessment of B2 is through project work in Design Studio and Technology.

Acquisition of B25 is through lectures, tutorials and workshops in the Design Studio.

Assessment of B25 is through project work in the Design Studio.

8. Admissions Criteria, including APCL, APEL and DAS arrangements

The admissions policy and procedures are designed to ensure that applicants have the intellectual ability, motivation and, where appropriate, the professional experience to benefit from, and contribute to, the Master of Architecture programme.

Admission to the Master of Architecture Programme

The normal minimum requirement for entry to the M Arch is:

- Essential: A lower second degree carrying exemption from the ARB/RIBA Part I examination with a minimum mark of 55% in final year degree design project work.
- Preferred: 6 months minimum work experience in an architects' office (or equivalent) and have completed a Professional Experience Development Record (PEDR) Form monitored by a recognised school of architecture and the RIBA OR:
- Desirable: 12 months minimum work experience in an architects' office, or equivalent 'Year Out' experience of professionally related experience in other relevant fields presented for interview in a portfolio which will include a range of competent design, technical and written work.
- Upon request: Suitable references from previous academic institution, employer and/or similar.
- Essential: Overseas or EU students must attain minimum test scores of 6.5 IELTS (International English Language Testing Scheme) or equivalent standard for TEFL. Overseas and EU students will be advised to contact the University English Language Support Unit for advice and individual support.

The following requirements for entry are recommended:

- Desirable: An upper second degree carrying exemption from the ARB/RIBA Part 1 examination with a minimum mark of 60% in final year design project work.
- Desirable: 12 months minimum work experience in an architects' office with completed PEDR form monitored by a recognised school of architecture and the RIBA.

- Desirable: A range of experience from a 'Year Out' developed from an understanding of the RIBA job stages including, for example, a participation in a range of projects including feasibility studies, small scale interventions or refurbishment work and larger scale new build/urban design projects.
- Desirable: Completion of self-generated long-term (1 month) or several short-term (1 week) study tours, during which students will have visited and examined buildings and urban layouts. These examinations would include documentation (photographs, sketches, analytical and reflective observations in a journal and sketchbook) and be presented in a portfolio. It is desirable that some or all of the studies will have occurred outside the UK.

Applicants may only be admitted with the approval of the Programme Leader.

Selection Procedures

The selection procedures are intended to help ascertain that:

- 1) The candidate is suitable for advanced study.
- 2) The candidate has a realistic understanding of what the programme will entail and of the demands and pressure upon them during the period of study.

Applications will be made on the University postgraduate student application form.

All short-listed candidates will normally be interviewed with portfolio, which will include a range of competent design, technical and written work, by the Programme Leader.

9. Progression criteria for Final and Intermediate Awards

The standard study programme for an award consists of a number of Stages. A Stage is equivalent to one year of study for a full time student.

The credit weighting of the M Arch award will be:

Stage 1 total of 120 credits (contributes to 50% of the overall award)

Stage 2 total of 120 credits (contributes to 50% of the overall award)

- Students undertaking the M Arch must achieve a pass of 50% or above in all modules to qualify for the award. There is no compensation for failed modules.
- Where a student has achieved an aggregate of 70%, they will be awarded the M Arch with Distinction.

- Where a student has achieved an aggregate of 60% they will be awarded the M Arch with Merit
- Where a student has passed 50% (60 credits) at Stage 2/Level 7 they will be awarded Postgraduate Certificate in Architecture

10. Exceptions to Regulations

Not applicable.

11. Transitional Arrangements

Not applicable.

12. Mapping and Appendices:

13.1 ILO's against Modules Mapping

M Arch

Programme Learning Outcomes

The following map identifies the key relationships between the Part 2 programme learning outcomes, FHEQ Level, ARB / RIBA criteria, and the modules in the Part 2 M Arch programme.

- Column 1 indicates the relevant Programme Specification learning outcome number.
- Column 2 lists the Programme learning outcomes.
- Column 3 Reference to FHEQ Level
- Column 4 cross references with the ARB Prescription Criteria / RIBA Validation Criteria.
- Column 5 identifies the module code of the modules in which the relevant learning outcome is assessed

(Note that mapping of assessed learning outcomes sets out modules where assessed learning outcomes MAY be demonstrated within the student portfolio. These outcomes may equally not be addressed in the work generated within each of the modules. This does not contravene professional validation body requirements, as long as all criteria are satisfied across the whole of the portfolio. This recognises that the nature of the student portfolio of work within architecture allows for students to demonstrate learning outcomes within various project work, notably across both studio-based and non-studio-based projects. It is for this reason that the mapping of assessed learning outcomes set out a number of different possible modules within which the relevant criteria may be met; it is equally why the MR for each module lists a number of assessed learning outcomes.)

Prog spec. learn. out no.	Programme Intended Learning Outcomes	Reference to FHEQ Level	Reference to ARB / RIBA Criteria	Module in which LO is assessed
B1 C1	Ability to create architectural designs that satisfy both aesthetic and technical requirements.	7	GC1	ARCH653A ARCH656 ARCH751A ARCH752A
B2 C2	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.	7	GC1.1	ARCH656** ARCH751A ARCH752A
A1 B3	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.	7	GC1.2	ARCH653A ARCH656 ARCH756 ARCH751A ARCH752A
B4	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.	7	GC1.3	ARCH656 ARCH751 ARCH752A
A2	Adequate knowledge of the histories and theories of architecture and the related arts, technologies and human sciences.	7	GC2	ARCH653A ARCH654A ARCH656 ARCH751A ARCH752A
A3	The cultural, social and intellectual histories, theories and technologies that influence the design of buildings.	7	GC2.1	ARCH653A ARCH654A ARCH656 ARCH751A ARCH752A
B5	The influence of history and theory on the spatial, social, and technological aspects of architecture.	7	GC2.2	ARCH653A ARCH654A ARCH751A ARCH752A
B6	The application of appropriate theoretical concepts to studio design projects, demonstrating a reflective and critical approach.	7	GC2.3	ARCH751A ARCH752A
A4	Knowledge of the fine arts as an influence on the quality of architectural Design.	7	GC3	ARCH751A ARCH752A
A5	How the theories, practices and technologies of the arts influence architectural design.	7	GC3.1	ARCH751A ARCH752A
A6	The creative application of the fine arts and their relevance and impact on architecture.	7	GC3.2	ARCH751A ARCH752A
B7	The creative application of such work to studio design projects, in terms of their conceptualisation and representation.	7	GC3.3	ARCH751A ARCH752A
A7	Adequate knowledge of urban design, planning and the skills involved in the planning process.	7	GC4	ARCH653A ARCH654A ARCH755

				ARCH751A ARCH752A
A8	Theories of urban design and the planning of communities.	7	GC4.1	ARCH653A ARCH654A ARCH751A ARCH752A
A9	The influence of the design and development of cities, past and present on the contemporary built environment.	7	GC4.2	ARCH653A ARCH654A ARCH751A ARCH752a
A10	Current planning policy and development control legislation, including social, environmental and economic aspects, and the relevance of these to design development.	7	GC4.3	ARCH653A ARCH751A ARCH752A ARCH755
A11 B8	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.	7	GC5	ARCH653A ARCH656 ARCH751A ARCH752A ARCH755
A12 B9	The needs and aspirations of building users.	7	GC5.1	ARCH654A ARCH751A ARCH752A
A13	The impact of buildings on the environment, and the precepts of sustainable design.	7	GC5.2	ARCH653 ARCH656**
B10	The way in which buildings fit into their local context.	7	GC5.3	ARCH751A ARCH752A
A14 B11	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.	7	GC6	ARCH656 ARCH751A ARCH752A ARCH755
A15	The nature of professionalism and the duties and responsibilities of architects to clients, building users, constructors, co-professionals and the wider society.	7	GC6.1	ARCH755
A16	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.	7	GC6.2	ARCH755
B12	The potential impact of building projects on existing and proposed communities.	7	GC6.3	ARCH751A ARCH752A
A17 B13	Understanding of the methods of investigation and preparation of the brief for a design project.	7	GC7	ARCH656 ARCH751A ARCH752A ARCH755
B14	The need to critically review precedents relevant to the function, organisation and technological strategy of design proposals.	7	GC7.1	ARCH656 ARCH751A ARCH752A
B15	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.	7	GC7.2	ARCH751A ARCH752A*
A18 B16	The contributions of architects and co-professionals to the formulation of the brief, and the methods of investigation	7	GC7.3	ARCH751A ARCH752A ARCH755

	used in its preparation.			
A19	Understanding of the structural design, constructional and engineering problems associated with building design.	7	GC8	ARCH656
B17	The investigation, critical appraisal and selection of alternative structural, constructional and material systems relevant to architectural design.	7	GC8.1	ARCH656
B18	Strategies for building construction, and ability to integrate knowledge of structural principles and construction techniques.	7	GC8.2	ARCH656
A20	The physical properties and characteristics of building materials, components and systems, and the environmental impact of specification choices.	7	GC8.3	ARCH656
A21 B19	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.	7	GC9	ARCH656
A22	Principles associated with designing optimum visual, thermal and acoustic environments.	7	GC9.1	ARCH656
A23	Systems for environmental comfort realised within relevant precepts of sustainable design.	7	GC9.2	ARCH656**
B20	Strategies for building services, and ability to integrate these in a design project.	7	GC9.3	ARCH656
A24 B21	The necessary design skills to meet building users' requirements within the constraints imposed by cost factors and building regulations.	7	GC10	ARCH656 ARCH751A ARCH752A ARCH755
B22	Critically examine the financial factors implied in varying building types, constructional systems, and specification choices, and the impact of these on architectural design	7	GC10.1	ARCH656 ARCH752A ARCH755
A25	Understand the cost control mechanisms which operate during the development of a project.	7	GC10.2	ARCH755
B23	Prepare designs that will meet building users' requirements and comply with UK legislation, appropriate performance standards and health and safety requirements.	7	GC10.3	ARCH656 ARCH751A ARCH752A
A26	Adequate knowledge of the industries, organisations, regulations and procedures involved in translating design concepts into buildings and integrating plans into overall planning.	7	GC11	ARCH656 ARCH751A ARCH752A ARCH755
A27	The fundamental legal, professional and statutory responsibilities of the architect, and the organisations, regulations and procedures involved in the negotiation and	7	GC11.1	ARCH755

	approval of architectural designs, including land law, development control, building regulations and health and safety legislation.			
A28	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.	7	GC11.2	ARCH755
A29	The basic management theories and business principles related to running both an architects' practice and architectural projects, recognising current and emerging trends in the construction industry.	7	GC11.3	ARCH755
B24	Ability to generate design proposals using understanding of a body of knowledge, some of the current boundaries of professional practice and the academic discipline of architecture.	7	GA1.1	ARCH751A ARCH752A
B25 C3	Ability to apply a range of communication methods to present design proposals clearly and effectively.	7	GA1.2	ARCH751A ARCH752A
A30	Understanding of the alternative materials, processes and techniques that apply to architectural design and building construction.	7	GA1.3	ARCH656 ARCH751A ARCH752A
B26	Ability to evaluate evidence, arguments and assumptions within a structured discourse relating to architecture culture, theory and design.	7	GA1.4	ARCH653A ARCH654A ARCH656 ARCH751A ARCH752A
A31	Knowledge of the context of the architect and the construction industry, and the professional qualities needed for decision making in complex and unpredictable circumstances.	7	GA1.5	ARCH755
D1	Ability to identify individual learning needs and understand the personal responsibility required for further professional education.	7	GA1.6	ARCH653A ARCH654A ARCH656 ARCH751A ARCH752A ARCH755
D2	Problem solving skills, professional judgement, and ability to take the initiative and make appropriate decisions in complex and unpredictable circumstances.	7	GA1.7	ARCH653A ARCH654A ARCH656 ARCH751A ARCH752A ARCH755

12.1 Assessment Regulations

Assessment is conducted in accordance with the current "University Academic Regulations" of the University of Plymouth, as outlined in the University Academic

Regulations: Notes for Guidance on Procedures for Taught Programmes, University of Plymouth, current edition.

The adopted assessment strategy is in accordance with the Programme aims and objectives; the individual module's assessment criteria as well as the programmes Learning Outcomes, on which the assessment of Awards is based.

There is to be no compensatable modules at any of the two stages in line with ARB recommendations.

12.2 Quality and Standards in Teaching and Learning

Mechanisms for review and evaluation of teaching, learning, assessment the curriculum and outcome standards for the programme include the following:

- Module Feedback Questionnaire.
- Monthly School Management Team Meetings.
- Monthly School Programme Meetings (for staff)
- Staff Module Review.
- Student Perception Questionnaire.
- Annual Faculty Programme Review.
- Internal Scrutiny of Programmes.
- Programme Committees.
- Staff Student Liaison Group Meetings.
- External Examiner Reports.
- RIBA Validation / ARB Prescription.
- PostGrad Programme in Teaching and Learning in Higher Education for new members of staff.
- Peer review / teaching observation.
- Pedagogic and Studio Research carried out by full-time teaching staff.
- Cross-marking, internal and external moderation and cross-reviewing taking place with all teaching staff and visiting tutors and critics throughout the programme.