

Programme Specification

BSc Architecture with International Foundation Year
For students entering Foundation year in September 2023

UCAS Code: K101
UFARCHITECFF

This document sets out key information about your Programme and forms part of your Terms and Conditions with the University of Reading.

Awarding Institution	University of Reading
Teaching Institution	University of Reading
Length of Programme	4 years
Accreditation	<p>This programme is not prescribed or validated by the ARB or RIBA.</p> <p>Students who successfully complete Part 0 and meet the progression requirements, which include the course admission criteria, will be transferred to the accredited BSc (Hons) Architecture.</p>

Programme information and content

The programme aims to provide you with the qualifications, BSc and RIBA Part 1, to initiate the process of becoming a fully qualified architect as well as offering transferable academic and personal skills. Students can progress to MArch and RIBA Part 2 and to full qualification with RIBA part 3.

The course offers students opportunities to develop carefully considered approaches to issues related to building and urban design with an emphasis on sustainable cities and societies and the concept of collaborative practice and learning. A carefully considered understanding of location and the wider contexts of architecture will be supported to develop sensitive and appropriate responses. The programme is designed to encourage students to learn architecture in a professional environment with opportunities for collaboration with students and professionals across education in the Built Environment.

This programme comprises of a foundation year (Part 0) provided through the International Foundation Programme (IFP) which provides access to higher education in Britain to international students who do not possess the normal entry requirements of GCE Advanced level qualifications or the equivalent. Through the part 0 you will be equipped with subject specific and general study skills which will enable you to cope with the demands of undergraduate study. This is achieved through the provision of high quality teaching which is sympathetic to the needs of students from a wide range of educational backgrounds.

Foundation year:	<p>In the Foundation year you will have the opportunity to develop transferable skills through the provision of a compulsory credit-bearing Academic Skills module. The key skills relate to Critical Thinking, Essay Writing, Research, Referencing and avoiding plagiarism, Group Work and Projects, Presentations, and Assessment and Examination techniques. You will also take three 40-credit modules as specified in the module information aligned to the 'A Level' entry</p>
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	requirements for the degree. If your level of English is below the standard specified for undergraduate study, one of these 40 credit modules must be International English.
Part 1:	Introduces you to architecture and Design through Design Studio, the History and Theory of architecture, Construction Technology, Visualisation and Communication and Industry and Practice.
Part 2:	Provides you with the opportunity to develop more sophisticated responses to design issues with an emphasis on more complex building types as well as to specific areas of History, Theory, Communication, Construction, and Practice.
Part 3:	Gives you the opportunity to formulate individual research preferences in Design and Theory. Synthesise design, technology and critical practice in your final design project and dissertation.

Module information

Part 0 comprises 140 credits and Parts 1, 2 and 3 each comprise 120 credits, allocated across a range of compulsory and optional modules as shown below. Compulsory modules are listed.

Foundation modules:

Module	Name	Credits	Level
FA0AR1	Art	40	0
IF0ACA	Academic Skills	20	0

If your level of English is below the standard specified for undergraduate study, one of the 40 credit modules must be IF0IE1 International English.

The remaining credits will be made up of optional modules available from a list provided by the International Foundation Programme.

Part 1 Modules:

Module	Name	Credits	Level
AA1DS1	Architecture and Design - An Introduction to Studio	20	4
AA1DS2	Architecture and Design - An Introduction to Site	40	4
AA1HTI	History and Theory of Architecture: an Introduction	20	4
AA1IPI	Industry and Practice - the Business Context of Architecture	10	4
AA1STI	Construction Technology: an Introduction	20	4
AA1VCI	Visualisation and Communication in Architectural Design – An Introduction	10	4

All modules at Part 1 of the programme are compulsory.

Part 2 Modules:

Module	Name	Credits	Level
AA21PC	Industry and Practice – the Business of Projects	10	5
AA2DS3	Architecture Design – Skills in Architectural Design 1	20	5
AA2DS4	Architecture Design – Skills in Architectural Design 2	40	5
AA2HTC	History and Theory of Architecture: Buildings and Places	20	5
AA2STC	Construction Technology: Core Studies	20	5
AA2VCC	Visualisation and Communication in Architectural Design – Digital Media	10	5

All modules at Part 2 of the programme are compulsory.

If you take a year-long placement or study abroad, Part 3 as described below may be subject to variation.

Part 3 Modules:

Module	Name	Credits	Level
AA3DS5	Architecture Design –Complexity	20	6
AA3DS6	Architecture Design –Integration	40	6
AA3HTA	History and Theory of Architecture: Critical writing	20	6
AA3IPA	Industry and Practice – the Business and Practice of Architecture	10	6
AA3SCA	Construction Technology: Integration	10	6

Students must select a further 20 credits from a list of optional modules provided by the School of the Built Environment.

Optional modules:

The optional modules available can vary from year to year. An indicative list of the range of optional modules for your Programme is set out in the Further Programme Information. Details of optional modules for each part, including any Additional Costs associated with the optional modules, will be made available to you prior to the beginning of the Part in which they are to be taken and you will be given an opportunity to express interest in the optional modules that you would like to take. Entry to optional modules will be at the discretion of the University and subject to availability and may be subject to pre-requisites, such as completion of another module. Although the University tries to ensure you are able to take the optional modules in which you have expressed interest this cannot be guaranteed.

Additional costs of the programme

During your programme of study you will incur some additional costs.

For textbooks and similar learning resources, we recommend that you budget between £200 to £300 a year. Some books may be available second-hand, which will reduce costs. A

range of resources to support your curriculum, including textbooks and electronic resources, are available through the library. Reading lists and module specific costs are listed on the individual module descriptions.

Printing and photocopying facilities are available on campus at competitive prices. Total costs will depend significantly on your working practices. Hard copy submissions of drawings, A4, A3, A2, A1, in portfolios will be required as well as interim printing during the development phases of projects.

You will be required to buy a drawing kit on arrival which will cost around £140. You will require a laptop from term 2 of part 1 - advice on specification will be available.

There are a range of field trips included in the course which are usually provided at a low cost 0 - £20 per trip. It would be sensible to budget for at least two of these trips per academic year. In Part 1, Part 2 and Part 3 you will have the opportunity to undertake optional field trips for example to Venice, Rotterdam or Lisbon. The cost, at 2016 prices, will be in the range of £350 > £480.

Costs are indicative and subject to inflation and other cost fluctuations - the estimates were calculated in 2022.

Placement opportunities

You will be provided with the opportunity to undertake a credit-bearing placement as part of your Programme. This will form all or part of an optional module. You will be required to find and secure a placement opportunity, with the support of the University.

Teaching and learning delivery:

You will be taught through lectures, seminars, tutorials and design studio.

The contact hours for the course will depend upon your module combination; however typically during term time Part 1 there will be 17 scheduled hours a week, Part 2 there will be 15 scheduled hours a week and Part 3 there will be 12 scheduled hours a week.

Information about module contact hours can be located in the relevant module description.

Accreditation details

N/A

Assessment

The programme is assessed through a combination of portfolio submission, examinations,

written assignments including essays and reports, practical work, presentations, projects and fieldwork.

Progression

The University-wide rules relating to ‘threshold performance’ as have been modified to comply with the requirements of the ARB and RIBA. Part 0 is not accredited, however, the ARB and RIBA admission requirements have been integrated into the progression requirements at part 0 to facilitate transfer upon successful completion of part 0. They are as follows:

Progression Part 0 Foundation Year

The University-wide rules relating to ‘threshold performance’ as follows

- i. an overall average of at least 40% over all modules taken in Part 0;
- ii. no more than 40 credits of these modules with a mark below 35%
- iii. at least 40% in the Academic Skills module

BSc Architecture with International Foundation Year Specific Progression Requirements above Threshold

In order to progress from Part 0 to Part 1 and be eligible for transfer to BSc Architecture, a student must achieve a threshold performance; and

- i. At least 60% in two 40 credit subject modules, including FA0AR1 (Art).
- ii. No module mark below 40% in the remaining two modules.
- iii. A mark of 60% in the portfolio of the module FA0AR1.

In addition, students taking module International English (IFOIE1) must obtain 55% in that module.

The achievement of a threshold performance at Foundation Year qualifies a student for a Certificate of Completion if they leave the University before completing the subsequent Part.

Part 1

To progress from Part 1 to Part 2 a student must obtain a mark of at least 40% in 120 credits taken in Part 1.

Students who do not obtain a mark of at least 40% in 120 credits will be permitted one re-sit examination in each module that they obtained a mark below 40%.

Students who do not meet the above requirement but gain a University threshold performance at Part 1 may be eligible to transfer to another programme or to leave with a CertHE.

Part 2

To progress from Part 2 to Part 3 a student must obtain a mark of at least 40% in 120 credits taken in Part 2.

Students who do not obtain a mark of at least 40% in 120 credits will be permitted one re-sit examination in each module that they obtained a mark below 40%.

Students who re-sit examinations at Part 2 and meet the Architecture progression criteria will have their marks in those modules capped at 40% for degree classification purposes in accordance with the University regulations.

Students who do not meet the above requirements for progression to Part 3 but gain a threshold performance may be eligible to transfer to another programme or leave with a DipHE.

Part 3

To obtain the BSc (Hons) Architecture degree, a student shall normally be required to have obtained a mark of at least 40% in all non-elective modules taken in Part 3. Students who fail one or more non-elective module in Part 3 would be eligible to be reassessed on one occasion provided they had fulfilled at the first attempt the baseline criteria for a classified Honours degree as stipulated by the University's requirement.

Classification

Bachelors' degrees

The University's honours classification scheme is based on the following:

Mark	Interpretation
70% - 100%	First class
60% - 69%	Upper Second class
50% - 59%	Lower Second class
40% - 49%	Third class
35% - 39%	Below Honours Standard
0% - 34%	Fail

The weighting of the Parts/Years in the calculation of the degree classification is:

Three year programmes:

Part 2: one-third

Part 3: two-thirds

For further information about your Programme please refer to the Programme Handbook and the relevant module descriptions, which are available at <http://www.reading.ac.uk/module/>. The Programme Handbook and the relevant

**module descriptions do not form part of your Terms and Conditions with the
University of Reading.**

BSc Architecture with International Foundation Year for students entering Part 1 in session
2023/24

10 May 2023

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