ARCHITECTURE, MARCH

for the degree of Master of Architecture in Architecture

The School of Architecture offers a graduate program, leading to a Master of Architecture degree:

The Master of Architecture program is for students holding a four-year Bachelor of Science in Architectural Studies (or similar degree in architecture). Students may be admitted to the Master of Architecture program with Limited Standing if the student holds a bachelor's degree (or higher) in any field other than architecture. Students interested in this track should refer to the Track 3 page for details.

The School of Architecture, together with the graduate programs of computer science, urban and regional planning, and civil and environmental engineering, offers graduate programs leading to the following joint degrees: Master of Architecture and Master of Computer Science, Master of Architecture and Master of Urban Planning, and Master of Architecture and Master of Science in Civil and Environmental Engineering (Construction Engineering and Management) (Structures).

Admission

The admission grade point average for full standing in the Graduate College and the school must be at least 3.0 (A = 4.0). For applicants who meet the other requirements but have an admission GPA under 3.0, admission with limited standing may be permitted if evidence of exceptional qualification is presented.

Applicants are selected for admission on the basis of undergraduate academic performance and profession-related experience. Application material is evaluated by faculty members. The faculty’s recommendations are based upon an appraisal of the admission grade point average determined from official transcripts, a portfolio or brochure of applicant’s past work in architecture, a statement of objectives, three letters of recommendation, and relevant professional work experience.

To apply go to https://grad.illinois.edu/admissions/apply (https://grad.illinois.edu/admissions/apply/). Completed applications must reach the Graduate Programs Office by January 15; students are admitted in the fall semester only. Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores are not required for School of Architecture Masters Degree applicants.

All applicants whose native language is not English must submit Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) scores. A minimum score of 590 on the paper-based test or 243 on the computer-based test or 96 on the internet-based test is required. The University of Illinois also accepts IELTS (academic exam) score in lieu of TOEFL, with a minimum score of 6.5 and 6.5 in all sub-sections required.

Financial Aid

Financial aid for graduate students in architecture is available in the form of fellowships and assistantships (teaching, research, and graduate or resource). Qualified candidates are considered for financial support upon application and in subsequent years of study.

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The MARCH is the School’s accredited degree program and must demonstrate that each graduate possesses the knowledge and skills defined by the learning outcomes set out below. The knowledge and skills are the minimum for meeting the demands of an internship leading to registration for architectural practice.

The school must provide evidence that its graduates have satisfied each criterion through required coursework. If credits are granted for courses taken at other institutions or online, evidence must be provided that the courses are comparable to those offered in the accredited degree program.

When students complete the MARCH degree program, they will be able to:

1. Apply Specialized Knowledge

• Engage in the practice of architecture in its many forms.
• Employ design processes to understand, conceive, and create the many facets of built environments.
• Utilize the interplay of form and space to create compelling experiences in the built environment.
• Address environmental, social, political, cultural, and economic challenges through the application of design inquiry.
• Apply advanced documentation, research, analysis, and design techniques to create innovative design solutions to pressing global challenges.

2. Apply Broad and Integrative Knowledge

• Solve complex problems through the use of advanced design techniques.
• Communicate complex ideas and concepts through a mastery of graphic, verbal, physical, and digital means.
• Integrate community voices, cultural perspectives, and participatory practices into design solutions.
• Employ an understanding of the complex intersections between design and environmental, social, economic, political, and cultural phenomena in historical and contemporary contexts.
• Use scholarly inquiry to answer questions in support of design solutions.

3. Utilize Differentiated Modes of Thinking

• Understand, differentiate, and apply analytical, critical, and conceptual thinking to the design challenges of the twenty-first century.
• Evaluate and apply theories of the built environment to understand their impacts on global ecology, human experience, and wellbeing.
• Research and critically analyze historic and contemporary humanistic conditions related to the built environment in local, regional, and global geographies.

4. Collaborate Successfully

• Foster teamwork and consensus decision-making.
• Lead and steer complex processes to completion.
• Value and integrate interdisciplinarity as well as diverse disciplinary approaches in the realm of design.

5. Contributing to Community, Civic, and Global Equity

• Demonstrate the ability to make empathic and ethical decisions throughout the design process.
• Work toward a more inclusive profession that welcomes practitioners of all genders, abilities, races, ethnicities, and ages.
• Foreground social, environmental, and economic justice in the design of the environment to contribute to greater equity, diversity, and inclusion.

Professional Master of Architecture Degree Programs

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Students must choose a concentration for this degree. Students may also choose to add an optional concentration.

• Required Concentrations:
  • 2 Year Program (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/architecture-march/2-year-program/)
  • Track 3 (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/architecture-march/track-3/)

• Optional Concentrations:
  • Building Performance (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/architecture-march/building-performance/)
  • Health & Wellbeing (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/architecture-march/health-wellbeing/)
  • Urbanism (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/architecture-march/urbanism/)

Joint Programs:

• Architecture, MARCH & Architectural Studies, MS (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/joint-degree/architecture-march-architectural-studies-ms/)
• Architecture, MARCH & Civil Engineering, MS (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/engineering_faa/joint-degree/architecture-march-civil-engineering-ms/)
• Architecture, MARCH & Computer Science, MCS (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/engineering_faa/joint-degree/computer-science-mcs-architecture-march/)
• Architecture, MARCH & Urban Planning, MUP (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/joint-degree/architecture-march-urban-planning-mup/)

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School of Architecture
Director of the School: Francisco Javier Rodríguez-Suárez
Director of Graduate Studies: David J. Isern
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117 Temple Hoyne Buell Hall, 611 Taft Drive, Champaign, IL 61820
(217) 333-7720
School email (arch-grad@illinois.edu)

College of Fine & Applied Arts
College Website (http://faa.illinois.edu)

Admissions
Overview of Grad College Admissions & Requirements (https://grad.illinois.edu/admissions/apply/)

Information listed in this catalog is current as of 09/2023