

Course Specification

Course Summary Information			
1	Course Title		BA (Hons) Architecture with Foundation Year
2	BCU Course Code	UCAS Code	US0100F K10F
3	Awarding Institution		Birmingham City University
4	Teaching Institution(s) (if different from point 3)		
5	Professional Statutory or Regulatory Body (PSRB) accreditation (if applicable)		Architects Registration Board (ARB) Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA)

6	Course Description
	<p>Are you looking for an architecture degree course at a respected School with connections to over 60 local architecture firms? Validated by the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) and prescribed by Architects Registration Board (ARB) to give full exemption from the ARB / RIBA Part 1 examination, you will be based at our innovative Birmingham School of Architecture and Design, where you start your journey towards becoming a registered architect. We've helped over 80 per cent of our graduates gain jobs in professional practice.</p> <p>Birmingham School of Architecture and Design offers fully accredited programmes at RIBA Parts 1, 2 and 3, enabling you to fully qualify as a registered architect within one school.</p> <p>About foundation courses</p> <p>This four year programme has been specifically designed to allow students who do not initially meet the entry requirements for a three year degree, to undertake additional level 3 study designed to ensure they are successful on their chosen degree programme.</p> <p>After successful completion of your foundation year, you will have the flexibility to switch (should you wish to change direction) onto a number of related undergraduate degree programmes within Birmingham School of Architecture and Design.</p> <p>What's covered in the course?</p> <p>With the diverse architecture of Birmingham as your initial inspiration, you'll focus on urban environment and look at neighbourhoods, cities, and regional and global networks.</p> <p>Industry connections in your second and third years help you foster direct links and contacts within practice, helping you to find work experience. We also work closely with RIBA West Midlands, the Midlands Architecture Centre (MADE), and Birmingham City Council. From the first year onwards, you will begin to construct your own online webpage of work and projects, which can then be transformed into an online portfolio and/or CV.</p> <p>Our recent RIBA Validation Board visit commended our links with professional practice and the supportive learning community we offer. We were also commended for our flexible approach to learning, with strong support for part-time students.</p>

	<p>We're a boutique school, accepting only 65 students each year, creating an intimate learning environment and meaning you'll get fantastic individual support.</p> <p>You'll have the chance to be part of Co.LAB, a collaborative architecture and design initiative within the School working on live projects. This engagement with one-to-one scale interventions and real-world practice helps you in your learning journey to become a more rounded and responsive designer.</p> <p>The course goes beyond lectures and gives you great opportunities. Students from all years are offered places to attend events such as national building information modelling (BIM) events, which provide a forum for you to engage directly with practitioners and industry specialists, as well as informing you of changes in current practice.</p> <p>You'll also benefit from the insight of guest speakers such as Professor CJ Lim and renowned American landscape architect Martha Schwartz, together with other practising architects from firms such as Foster and Partners, Make, Associated Architects, Invisible Studio, Mole Architects, Ash Sakula and various others. Film work also plays an important part in the perception of the city, and you're encouraged to use this medium along with a wide variety of other creative outputs drawing upon our fantastic workshop facilities.</p> <p>In your final year, you'll showcase your work at the Graduate Show, an event attended by practitioners where previous students have been headhunted by leading practices including Grimshaws, Hopkins Architects, Hawkins Brown and Glenn Howells Architects.</p> <p>You will study in our state-of-the-art Parkside Building, which has been praised for its investment and facilities by RIBA. While based in Parkside, you will get sharpen your CAD and digital visual communication skills, prototyping and digital production, while also having access to a range of specialist software.</p>
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7	Course Awards		
7a	Name of Final Award	Level	Credits Awarded
	Bachelor of Arts with Honours Architecture	6	480
7b	Exit Awards and Credits Awarded		
	Foundation Certificate Architecture and Design	3	120
	Certificate of Higher Education Architecture	4	240
	Diploma of Higher Education Architecture	5	360
	Bachelor of Arts Architecture	6	420

8	Derogation from the University Regulations
	Not applicable

9	Delivery Patterns		
Mode(s) of Study	Location	Duration of Study	Code
Full-Time	City Centre	4 Years	US0100F

10	Entry Requirements
	<p>The admission requirements for this course are stated on the course page of the BCU website at https://www.bcu.ac.uk/, or may be found by searching for the course entry profile located on the UCAS website.</p>

11	Course Learning Outcomes
1	Supported by its design, structure and implementation, the degree programme enables students to achieve Undergraduate Honours degree level education and competence in architecture, meeting ARB/RIBA Part 1 exemption through engaging with differing structured programme modules that expose and develop themes, ideologies and skills in a focused and reiterative pattern.
2	Students gain a systematic understanding in the subject area, its associated skills, techniques and knowledge by engaging in a range of study modes and output types responsive to the programme requirements and the professional, technical and cultural context of architecture.
3	Students develop and construct a comprehensive academic and design portfolio of their coursework that demonstrates creative and critical accomplishment in exploratory and integrated design practice and academic study.
4	Students prepare for appropriate employment and further learning through engagement with international, national and regional best practice and interdisciplinary working. This includes engagement with professional bodies, professional practice and aligned cognate disciplines.

12	Course Requirements																																																															
12a	<p>Level 3:</p> <p><i>In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 120 credits):</i></p> <table><tr><th>Module Code</th><th>Module Name</th><th>Credit Value</th></tr><tr><td>ARC3000</td><td>Communication Skills</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>ARC3001</td><td>Design Disciplines</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>ARC3002</td><td>Design Techniques</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>ARC3003</td><td>Place and Space and Objects</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>ARC3004</td><td>Presentation Techniques</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>ARC3005</td><td>Professional and Academic Development</td><td>20</td></tr></table> <p>Level 4:</p> <p><i>In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 120 credits):</i></p> <table><tr><th>Module Code</th><th>Module Name</th><th>Credit Value</th></tr><tr><td>ARC4010</td><td>History of Modern Architecture</td><td>15</td></tr><tr><td>ARC4011</td><td>Environmental Design Strategies</td><td>15</td></tr><tr><td>ARC4012</td><td>Design Principles</td><td>30</td></tr><tr><td>ARC4013</td><td>History of Pre-Modern Architecture</td><td>15</td></tr><tr><td>ARC4014</td><td>Structures and Materials</td><td>15</td></tr><tr><td>ARC4015</td><td>Design Resolution 1</td><td>30</td></tr></table> <p>Level 5:</p> <p><i>In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 120 credits):</i></p> <table><tr><th>Module Code</th><th>Module Name</th><th>Credit Value</th></tr><tr><td>ARC5010</td><td>Architectural Theory</td><td>15</td></tr><tr><td>ARC5011</td><td>Praxis</td><td>15</td></tr><tr><td>ARC5012</td><td>Design Process</td><td>30</td></tr><tr><td>ARC5013</td><td>Collaborative Practice</td><td>15</td></tr><tr><td>ARC5014</td><td>Technical Integration</td><td>15</td></tr><tr><td>ARC5015</td><td>Design Resolution 2</td><td>30</td></tr></table>	Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value	ARC3000	Communication Skills	20	ARC3001	Design Disciplines	20	ARC3002	Design Techniques	20	ARC3003	Place and Space and Objects	20	ARC3004	Presentation Techniques	20	ARC3005	Professional and Academic Development	20	Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value	ARC4010	History of Modern Architecture	15	ARC4011	Environmental Design Strategies	15	ARC4012	Design Principles	30	ARC4013	History of Pre-Modern Architecture	15	ARC4014	Structures and Materials	15	ARC4015	Design Resolution 1	30	Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value	ARC5010	Architectural Theory	15	ARC5011	Praxis	15	ARC5012	Design Process	30	ARC5013	Collaborative Practice	15	ARC5014	Technical Integration	15	ARC5015	Design Resolution 2	30
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Level 6:

In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 120 credits):

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
ARC6010	Critical Study in Architecture	30
ARC6011	Design Exploration	30
ARC6012	Technical Investigation	15
ARC6013	Design Resolution 3	45

12b Structure Diagram

Level 3

SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
Core ARC3000: Communication Skills (20 credits) ARC3005: Professional and Academic Development (20 credits) ARC3002: Design Techniques (20 credits)	Core ARC3001: Design Disciplines (20 credits) ARC3003: Place, Space and Objects (20 credits) ARC3004: Presentation Techniques (20 credits)

Level 4

Core ARC4010: History of Modern Architecture (15 credits) ARC4011: Environmental Design Strategies (15 credits) ARC4012: Design Principles (30 credits)	Core ARC4013: History of Pre-Modern Architecture (15 credits) ARC4014: Structures and Materials (15 credits) ARC4015: Design Resolution 1 (30 credits)
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Level 5

Core ARC5010: Architectural Theory (15 credits) ARC5012: Design Process (30 credits) ARC5014: Technical Integration (15 credits)	Core ARC5011: Praxis (15 credits) ARC5013: Collaborative Practice (15 credits) ARC5015: Design Resolution 2 (30 credits)
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Level 6

Core ARC6010: Critical Study in Architecture (30 credits) ARC6011: Design Exploration (30 credits)	Core ARC6012: Technical Investigation (15 credits) ARC6013: Design Resolution 3 (45 credits)
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13 Overall Student Workload and Balance of Assessment

Overall student *workload* consists of class contact hours, independent learning and assessment activity, with each credit taken equating to a total study time of around 10 hours. While actual contact hours may depend on the optional modules selected, the following information gives an indication of how much time students will need to allocate to different activities at each level of the course.

- *Scheduled Learning* includes lectures, practical classes and workshops, contact time specified in timetable
- *Directed Learning* includes placements, work-based learning, external visits, on-line activity, Graduate+, peer learning
- *Private Study* includes preparation for exams

The *balance of assessment* by mode of assessment (e.g. coursework, exam and in-person) depends to some extent on the optional modules chosen by students. The approximate percentage of the course assessed by coursework, exam and in-person is shown below.

Level 3

Workload

40% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	480
Directed Learning	480
Private Study	240
Total Hours	1200

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	63%
Exam	0%
In-Person	37%

Level 4

Workload

% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	TBC
Directed Learning	TBC
Private Study	240
Total Hours	1200

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	100%
Exam	0%
In-Person	0%

Level 5

Workload

30% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	356
Directed Learning	844
Private Study	240
Total Hours	1200

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	100%
Exam	0%
In-Person	0%

Level 6

Workload

37% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	439
Directed Learning	521
Private Study	240
Total Hours	1200

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	100%
Exam	0%
In-Person	0%