

Architecture

Almost 2000 years ago, a Roman architect and theorist named Vitruvius composed the earliest known treatise on architecture. Entitled *De Architectura*, Vitruvius's treatise described three principles of architecture: commodity, firmness, and delight. Of these principles, the first two are easiest to understand. By commodity, Vitruvius refers to a building's ability to accommodate a particular human activity on a particular site. Firmness, a building's structural integrity, we can also readily envision. By delight, however, Vitruvius seems to be intuiting a building's ability to not only provide shelter but, also, to elevate the human spirit. While commodity falls into the realm of sociology, and science defines firmness, delight is the rogue element barely confined by the discipline of art. Delight is the most important of Vitruvius's trinity but it is the hardest to define. In the end, we can only say that to become architecture, a building must reimagine the way that we inhabit the earth and, in so doing, it must convince us with its beauty.

Much has changed over the past 2000 years yet Vitruvius's principles remain relevant to today's architects. Of course, a modern architect's role is more complex. An architect now achieves commodity through her intimate knowledge of a wide variety of human endeavors and a broad understanding of ecology and context. An architect must be capable of achieving firmness by manipulating a number of different construction, structural, and mechanical systems and she must be able to communicate her finesse through drawings and models to clients, consultants, contractors, and government authorities. Finally, an architect must have a passion for delight that leads her to a mastery of all these practical concerns so that her buildings not only answer to the pressing demands of clients, budgets, and legal codes but also answer to the timeless call of all human culture. Today, as was true 2000 years ago, an architect must convince us with beauty.

Pursuing Architecture at Ohio State

Admission to the major is based on the completion of five prerequisite courses, the student's cumulative grade point average (GPA), the secondary grade point average for the prerequisite courses, and a portfolio review. The portfolio is developed in one of the prerequisite courses, Architecture 202.

The prerequisite courses are:

- Math 150, Elementary Functions
- Math 117, Survey of Calculus
- Physics 111, General Physics: Mechanics and Heat
- Architecture 200, Outlines of Architecture
- Architecture 202, Introduction to Basic Design in Architecture

Students must have at least a 2.75 cumulative GPA and a 2.75 secondary GPA to be considered. Portfolios and academic records are reviewed during the summer and students are notified of their standing prior to the start of autumn quarter. The curriculum is sequential so that students must begin in the fall.

A total of 192 credit hours are required for the B.S. in Architecture degree. A summary of the requirements includes:

- Prerequisite courses (five courses, 23 credit hours)
- Design Studio (nine courses, 54 credit hours)
- Structures (three courses, 10 credit hours)
- Construction (three courses, 9 credit hours)
- History and Theory of Architecture (four courses, 15 credit hours)
- Architectural Graphics (three courses, 9 credit hours)
- Architecture Electives (9 credit hours)
- Additional GEC courses (45 credit hours)
- Free and Directed electives (23 credit hours)

Co-Curricular Opportunities

Ohio State offers many opportunities for students to learn and grow outside of the classroom. These range from cooperative education (co-op) and internships to study abroad programs to student organizations. Co-ops and internships place students in professional environments while they are Ohio State students. Ohio State offers more than 100 study abroad programs in 40 countries around the world. In addition, there are hundreds of student organizations on campus to meet the interests of a diverse student population.

These experiences enable students to gain valuable work experience, learn about cultures, and take on leadership roles before they enter the workforce. All of these experiences enhance learning and may provide an advantage in the job market.

Honors & Scholars Programs

Ohio State offers the Honors & Scholars programs to create an environment of intellectual support and stimulation within a close-knit community of high-ability undergraduate students. Through these programs, students have access to smaller classes, undergraduate research opportunities, close working relationships with faculty, priority scheduling, and unique housing options. Honors & Scholars programs represent great opportunities to be part of a smaller community within a large university. Good candidates for these programs will receive additional information upon admission to the university. For more information about these opportunities, refer to the Honors & Scholars web site at honors-scholars.osu.edu.

Qualified students are invited to apply to the Architecture

For more information, check these web sites:

School of Architecture: knowlton.osu.edu

Ohio State: www.osu.edu

Admissions: undergrad.osu.edu

Multicultural Center: multiculturalcenter.osu.edu

First Year Experience Program: fye.osu.edu

Curriculum Sample

This is a sample list of classes a student will take to pursue a degree in architecture. Since university students need more than specific education in a narrow field, they also will take classes to complete the General Education Curriculum (GEC). The GEC will allow students to develop the fundamental skills essential to collegiate success across major programs. Course work options satisfying the GEC often come from a variety of academic areas of study allowing students to tailor their GEC toward their interests. Note: This sample represents one of several possible paths to a degree in architecture. Consult the departmental web site, knowlton.osu.edu, for details on each specific track.

Freshman Year:

GEC (English composition)	5
Math (Elementary Functions)	5
Outlines of Architecture	3
Architecture Survey	1
Introduction to Architectural Design	5
Math (Calculus)	5
Physics: Mechanics and Heat	5
Physics: Electricity, Magnetism, and Light	5
GEC (social science)	10
Electives	1
Total hours	45

Sophomore Year:

Architectural Design I, II, III	18
Architectural Structures I, II, III	10
Architectural History (Ancient and Medieval)	4
Architectural History (Renaissance to Crystal Palace)	4
Architectural History (Modern)	4
Architectural Graphics I, II, III	9
Total hours	49

Junior Year:

Architectural Design IV, V, VI*	18
Architectural Theory	3
Construction I, II, III	9
Foreign Language/Directed Elective	5
GEC (culture and ideas)	5
GEC (second writing course)	5
GEC (literature)	5
Total hours	50

Senior Year:

Architectural Design VII, VIII, IX*	18
Architecture electives	9
Social Science 3	5
Biological Science	5
Foreign Language/Directed Elective	5
Electives	8
Total hours	50

Scholars program, scholars.osu.edu/architecture.html.

Career Prospects in Architecture

Because of the complexity of the profession, the Knowlton School of Architecture offers a 4+2 program of study. The first four undergraduate years provide a broadly based liberal arts education culminating in the preprofessional degree of Bachelor of Science in Architecture. Following the undergraduate program, there is a two-year graduate course of study devoted to architecture that culminates in a National Architectural Accrediting Board professional degree of Master of Architecture. An advantage of the 4+2 program is that the graduates of the undergraduate program can complete their studies at Ohio State or any other accredited architectural program in the United States.

The undergraduate architecture major is challenging. The tenets of a liberal arts education are not only instilled but, through the creative enterprise of the design studio, acted upon. The architecture major encourages an independent intellectual acuity that uniquely prepares a student for the increasingly dynamic marketplace. It is significant that many people who major in architecture go on to be successful in not only the profession itself but also in other arts, in business and in public service.

Graduates of the professional Master of Architecture program become licensed architects after a three-year internship and registration exam. Many architects choose to specialize in the design of a particular building type, concentrating on health care, schools, retail, or high-rise design while others select a specialization within an office practice and become project managers, specification writers, or marketing experts. Some firms are involved in real estate development and construction, a relatively new form of practice known as "design/build." Local, state, and federal governments also employ architects to plan and oversee the work of private design and planning firms. Architects with expertise in computer-aided design are also in great demand.

Careers in research and teaching are also possible and many architects combine private practice with teaching or architectural journalism. Others trained as architects enter allied planning, engineering, real estate development and construction fields, or develop graphic, product, or interior design specialties. Theater, film, and television industries attract architecture graduates as do museums, display firms, and architectural product and materials manufacture.

New graduates with a preprofessional degree can expect internship salaries in the \$25,000 range annually. Those with professional degrees who have completed their internship and their registration exams may command salaries of \$40,000 or more. Partners in large architecture firms earn considerably more, with income and benefits often exceeding \$100,000.

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* Students are required to take either Architectural Design VI or IX.