

Architecture

Course 4

The Department of Architecture provides both a deep and broad education in the field of architecture within the context of a leading school of science and technology. Situated in MIT's rich and intense educational environment, the program emphasizes the interconnected relationship between architectural design; building technology; computation; history, theory, and criticism; and art. The department's extensive offerings reflect the program's commitment to the cultural, social, political, technological, and ecological issues of the built environment. By utilizing a rigorous and interdisciplinary approach throughout the program, our students are challenged to be creative, innovative, and responsible leaders in the field.

Architecture at MIT

The Bachelor of Science in Architecture (BSA) curriculum is carefully structured to establish an intellectual context for students to develop an understanding of architecture as a form of contemporary cultural production tied to larger social, economic, and political issues. The range of studios, lectures, workshops, and seminars provides an active learning environment in which individual creativity can be nurtured. The program is continually evolving to engage new ways of thinking about architecture and architectural education.

Architectural design students have the opportunity to study abroad at the Technical University at Delft or Hong Kong University in the fall term of their senior year. Design students are encouraged — and students in all other discipline fields within the department are required — to produce a senior thesis comprised of original research.

More than 250 students register in the department each year, including approximately 40 undergraduates. The department offers over 120 courses annually, taught by 40 permanent faculty members.

Undergraduate Program

The department offers two degree programs for undergraduates — the Bachelor of Science in Architecture (BSA) and the Bachelor of Science in Architecture Studies (BSAS).

The four-year BSA is a pre-professional program useful for those desiring a strong foundation in the

field of architecture as preparation for either continued education in a professional degree program or for employment options in design- or architecture-related areas such as landscape architecture, urban planning, visual arts, media arts and architecture, or art history.

Most states require that an individual intending to become an architect hold an accredited degree. There are two types of degrees that are accredited by the National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB): the Bachelor of Architecture, which requires a minimum of five years of study; and the Master of Architecture, which requires a minimum of three years of study following an unrelated bachelor's degree, or two years following a related pre-professional bachelor's degree. These professional degrees are structured to educate those who aspire to licensure as architects.

Research

Architecture students can take advantage of a number of special facilities at MIT, such as the Media Laboratory, the Energy Lab, and the Department of Urban Studies and Planning.

Every January during the Independent Activities Period, the department organizes an internship program in conjunction with the MIT Alumni Office, where undergraduate and graduate students work in architectural offices.

This experience provides students with valuable hands-on training.

Post-Baccalaureate Opportunities

Approximately 75 percent of undergraduates in the department go on to graduate school to earn a Master of Architecture degree. Others enter into advanced degree programs in other areas of design, building technology, urban design, or architecture and art history.

Contact Information

For more information, please contact: The Department of Architecture, MIT 77 Massachusetts Avenue, Room 7-337 Cambridge, MA 02139-4370

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The MIT Course Catalog contains further information on the Institute, including all graduate and undergraduate courses and programs. Please visit the MIT Course Catalog website for more details at <http://web.mit.edu/catalog/index.html>.

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