Majors

Architecture is interdisciplinary in nature, drawing from various bases of knowledge and requiring collaboration with other fields. Our program balances architectural education with a strong liberal arts base. Students can take classes in any field that interests them — art, engineering, computer science, psychology, literature, business, and more — allowing them to develop their abilities to think, communicate, and work across disciplinary lines.

We offer two degree tracks that allow students to individualize their educational experience. Students on both tracks may pursue minors, second majors, and dual degrees. While the BS in Architecture is an optimal springboard to graduate school, both tracks prepare students to move on to master’s degrees, positioning them for teaching and leadership positions in architecture and other related fields.

The Major in Architecture

Bachelor of Arts in Architecture

The Bachelor of Arts in Architecture is a more flexible course of study that allows students to take additional architecture design studios or to pursue courses in other areas of interest across the University.

For additional information about current requirements, please visit the Degree Requirements page.

Bachelor of Science in Architecture

The Bachelor of Science in Architecture offers a more intensive study of architecture during the senior year. Students will take upper-level design studios focused on advanced building design, along with structures courses, architectural history/theory courses that emphasize urban design issues, and technology courses in environmental systems or landscape architecture.

For additional information about current requirements, please visit the Degree Requirements page.

Year-by-Year Plans for Both Degrees

All architecture students take similar courses during their first three years; courses during the fourth year will differ depending on the student’s choice of degree track.

First Year

• Beginning design studios, with exploration of materials, media, and geometry
• Interdisciplinary drawing course
• Design of a small building
• Introduction to digital technology
• Additional course work in the liberal arts

Second Year

• Design studios focused on the relationship of architecture to the landscape and to the urban environment
• Interdisciplinary elective studies between art, architecture, and design
• Architectural history courses
• Additional course work in the liberal arts

Third Year

• Intensified design studios exploring building assemblies, structure, landscape, and sustainability
• Building systems course
• Architectural theory course
• Additional course work in the liberal arts

Fourth Year

For the Bachelor of Arts in Architecture

• Student-directed capstone project
• Ultimate flexibility to complete a second major or an additional minor or to explore other areas of interest
• Option to take additional architecture course work, including the student’s choice of studios and theory classes

For the Bachelor of Science in Architecture

• Continue in-depth study of architecture through design studios
• Structures courses
• Architectural history and theory course work, with an emphasis on urban design issues
• Technology courses in environmental systems or landscape architecture