The place for the Architect

lancaster.ac.uk/architecture
The perfect environment for an Architecture course

Lancaster University is one of the top universities in the UK with an outstanding track record for graduate employability. Building on our institutional reputation for excellence, the new BA (Hons) Architecture programme aims to be one of the UK’s leading destinations for aspiring architects.

Lancaster’s world-leading teachers and researchers are tackling some of the most pressing challenges in the built environment. From reducing urban pollution to developing ground-breaking building materials, we are passionate about architecture and its role in addressing major global issues such as climate emergency.

This new course is fully up to date with the latest in architectural practice and is informed by our innovative design-led research into the future of the profession. You will find that working on live projects with real clients is integral to the course.

The Lancaster campus is an inspirational setting for studying architecture. The School of Architecture will be housed in the BREEAM award-winning Lancaster Institute for the Contemporary Arts. You will have plenty of workshop time, including your own individual space in our purpose-built design studio.

Degree information and entry requirements

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<th>Degree</th>
<th>Award</th>
<th>Duration</th>
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<td>Architecture</td>
<td>BA (Hons)</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>K100</td>
<td>AAB, plus portfolio and interview</td>
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Prior to making an offer, we will invite you for an interview where you can share some of your ideas via a portfolio. This is a chance for you to visit campus and meet our team, and for us to get to know you. You will find information about what to expect from the interview and how to prepare your portfolio on our website.

For information on fees, scholarships and any additional costs you might need to consider, please see our website: lancaster.ac.uk/study

Gold standard teaching

Lancaster University has been awarded the highest possible score in the UK government’s 2017 Teaching Excellence Framework. Our TEF gold rating is based on high quality teaching, our excellent facilities and the good careers our graduates attain.

Inspiring the next generation of architects

“The issues currently faced by modern architects - rapid urbanisation, changing family structures, new materials, the challenge of creating more sustainable communities - can only be tackled by highly creative and innovative, but also socially embedded solutions. Our new School of Architecture will be open to rethinking things from scratch.”

Professor Ruth Dalton
Professional Architect
Professor of Spatial Design and Cognition, Lancaster University
The BA (Hons) Architecture programme is comprised of four main components: Design Studio, Architectural Technology, Architectural Humanities and Professional Practice.

**Year 1**

We will assume no prior knowledge of Architecture, but that you do share our enthusiasm and passion for the subject. Alongside lectures, seminars and workshops you will have one-to-one tutorials, plenty of opportunity for hands-on work in the studio and will get to know others on the course through project work and group work.

**Design Skills**

One of the key skills of an architect is to be able to show clients their ideas for transforming space. In this module, you will learn digital and analogue techniques to represent architectural space and form, both measured and illustrative. You will develop hand-drawn skills for visual communication, including orthogonal drawing, and layout and annotation conventions.

**Architectural Design Studio 1**

Architecture in its primary form is a mode of shelter. This Design Studio will develop analytical survey skills, site analysis and observations, mapping the various dynamics and people relationships of a place towards a design proposal. You will explore materials and representative techniques to present both cultural and social understanding of spaces, but also their materiality and identity.

**Architectural Technology**

In this introduction to structural principles, materiality and tectonics, you will start to build up your knowledge of architectural technology, as well as wider infrastructure and technical elements. You will start to create building technology models and studies, and we will look at sustainable materials, passive architecture principles and lean construction.

**Architectural Humanities 1**

Architectural history is fascinating and we will explore the theory, culture, and design that has influenced architectural design past and present. Initially, we will look at architectural humanities principles from the first civilizations to 19th century. Later in the module, we will move on to age of industrialization, modernism and post-modernism discussing key moments in the late 19th and 20th century.

**Year 2**

Now that you have grasped the foundations and the fundamentals of Architecture, we will build up your knowledge and practical skills. Throughout this year, you will learn about and analyse contemporary architecture and emerging methods of construction and technologies.

**Architectural Design Studio 2A**

Competency in digital skills is essential for any practicing architect. In this module we will be aiming to develop your skills in CAD, 3D modelling and rendering towards a professional level. You will learn about site and survey capture techniques, modelling, rendering and digital fabrication using industry standard software packages while also completing a design brief. This module includes a live project experience, where you will gain awareness of the participation process through design approach and explore communication skills in relation to fine arts.

**Architectural Design Studio 2B**

Every architect needs a sound knowledge of the building regulations for the country in which they are operating. Focusing on UK building regulations, in this module we introduce urban design principles and planning frameworks. Your project will be to create an urban masterplan, which should include consideration of social and cultural impacts. You will then take this further and focus on an urban building and specific building scheme. You will design a public building, part of which will be in sufficient detail to demonstrate compliance with RIBA (the Royal Institute of British Architects) for your building, design and construction process.

**Advanced Technology**

The module will focus on contemporary construction technologies and provide an understanding of architectural technology and all the components associated with this. Active systems, energy efficiency systems and eco-technology will be some of the topics covered. The module will also provide an overview of the regulatory framework, including construction law, building regulation, contracts and administration. In addition to these professional contexts, you will learn about physical and material aspects of building elements through detailed models, which may include lighting and environment.

**Architectural Humanities 2**

Continuing from your first year module, we will explore a range of perspectives on contemporary architectural practice. You will be asked to think about the role of the architect, for example in relation to post-war urbanism, digitisation and smart cities. This will be brought to life through visits to sites of particular interest.
Architectural Design Studio 3A

We will challenge you in this module! You will be asked to consider a site and a global problem and to come up with a solution. The problem is likely to be topical such as climate emergency, work force automation, data security or the ageing population. You will need to create a brief, present a feasibility study, and use your problem solving skills and strategies to implement a responsive urban and architectural solution. You will be using digital and analogue media, as well as physical modelling. The activity could include responding to a competition or call for tender, consultation with residents/users, as well as site visits where appropriate. You will need to assess feasibility, using your design skills and contextual knowledge, and consider a range of strategic, functional, legal and technological issues, as well as getting into detailed technical aspects in your design. You will then present your project using a variety of media and appropriate techniques.

Architectural Design Studio 3B

In the second half of the final year Architecture Design Studio module, you will complete a major project. This forms part of the graduate portfolio that demonstrates your readiness for practice and further postgraduate study on an MArch (Part II) qualification. This major project will present a comprehensive, fully detailed design project for a building with interior space up to 1500 sqm in size, and will cover aspects of communication, realisation and resolution with a fully integrated technology design report.

Professional Practice

Building on professional development in previous Design Studio and Architectural Technology components, this module delivers a series of lectures and seminars designed to consolidate your understanding of professional practice, in the context of the range of possibilities for architects. You will study RIBA professional publications, aspects of building regulations, planning applications, site appraisal, building control application and architectural practice management.

Architectural Humanities - Future Practice

The final Architectural Humanities module will develop and explore a specialist topic in design cultures and futures. You will explore cases from historical and contemporary points in the built environment, concerning your graduate portfolio and developing interests. This will be informed through lectures in research skills and research methods, alongside 1:1 dissertation tutoring.

Year 3

Your final year is designed to expand and stretch your critical thinking through practical project work at an advanced level. You will be asked to explore the future of architectural practice and to consider new ways of designing and living.

Lancaster University

School of Architecture

Our new School of Architecture will allow you to explore the future of architectural practice through experimentation and world-leading research. You will develop skills and knowledge that will enable you to be agile and ethical in your practice, and ready to meet the challenges posed by contemporary global problems such as climate emergency, work force automation, data security and the ageing population.

Our design studios and surrounding environment will provide space to reflect, debate and create. Lancaster’s green campus features woodland and ponds, and is situated close to the Lake District World Heritage Site. It is a perfect location from which to investigate the global climate emergency, and to test alternate means of working and living using the apparatus of sustainable and lean construction.

The School’s areas of interest are framed uniquely positioned to use resources on the edge of the post-industrial sprawl that characterises the modern city. We are also uniquely positioned to use resources on campus such as the Ruskin Library, the Lancaster Environmental Centre, and the new Lancaster Health Innovation campus, as well as the proposed second Eden Project due to open in Morecambe in 2023.

We are interested in:

Future Practice: discovering how emerging digital technologies are radically changing the ways in which we design, make and work in the future.

Home and Living: through examining historical and contemporary housing, we can consider the role of future homes in relation to issues of greater density, intergenerational living, and mobility.

Community and Public Sector: examining the social responsibility of the architect in the context of community live-project briefs.

City and Urban: bringing together physical, digital and social aspects of living in city and urban environments in order to address complex challenges related to health and wellbeing, sustainable behaviours, safety and security.

Population and Policy: we question how national and local authority (district, county and unitary authorities) regulations address the challenge of building in the context of over-population.

Our facilities

As well as an individual working space in our studios, you will access our workshops which provide facilities for model-making at various scales, encompassing hand tools and digital fabrication equipment including 3D printers and laser cutters. Digital facilities will include laser scanning, visualisation equipment and large-scale printing. A new IT lab will give access to the full Adobe Creative Suite and other specialist software. In addition, you will be able to access the workshops and specialist facilities used by the other disciplines that are based in the Lancaster Institute for the Contemporary Arts (Film Studies, Fine Art, Design and Theatre).
Your future career

Professional accreditation

Architecture in the UK is a regulated profession which means that you must be registered with the Architects Registration Board (ARB) to practise using the title ‘architect’.

There are three main routes to registration, but typically, if you are studying in the UK, you will:

+ take a three-year full time first degree in architecture (often referred to as ‘Part 1’)
+ followed by a year of appropriate professional experience
+ then a two-year full time second degree or diploma in architecture (often referred to as ‘Part 2’)
+ followed by a further year of professional experience
+ then the Professional Practice Examination – or Part 3

You would need to have all three qualifications in order to apply for registration together with a minimum of 24 months appropriate practical training experience.

(http://students.arb.org.uk/)

It is intended that the Lancaster’s BA (Hons) Architecture will be the first stage (Part 1) of the three-stage process of professional qualification as an architect in the UK. We are planning to introduce an MArch qualification in 2021 which would form the second stage (Part 2).

Work placements and professional experience

You will have the opportunity to take an optional work placement during your second year as part of the Architectural Design Studio 2B module.

We will organise extra curricular activities during the summer term that will provide opportunities to pursue areas of particular interest to you and develop your awareness and experience of professional practice. These are likely to include a summer school (potentially forest-based), competitions, exhibitions and placement opportunities.

Your career

Many students continue to postgraduate study in order to continue the route to becoming a fully qualified Architect. However, a range of professional careers are open to those who have completed part 1 and these include:

+ Architectural Technician/Assistant
+ Architectural Visualisation
+ Landscape Architecture
+ Interior Architect / Spatial Design
+ Urban Designer

Get in touch

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Important information

The information in this leaflet relates primarily to 2020/21 entry to the University and every effort has been taken to ensure the information is correct at the time of printing in September 2019. The University will use all reasonable effort to deliver the course as described but the University reserves the right to make changes after going to print. You are advised to consult our website at www.lancaster.ac.uk/study for up-to-date information before you submit your application. Further legal information may be found at www.lancaster.ac.uk/compliance/legalnotice.

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