Bachelor of Arts in Architectural Studies (B.A.) Degree

UCLA Architecture & Urban Design
2010-2012
UCLA Architecture and Urban Design offers a Bachelor of Arts in Architectural Studies. The B.A. in Architectural Studies is a two-year major that begins in the junior year of residence. The sequence of courses designed for this degree meets two objectives. The first provides an understanding of architecture and urban design as a humanist discipline, which engages cultural and social studies, and the history of architecture and cities. The second provides — at the same time for those interested students — a preparation for accelerated graduate professional studies. Students will experience the design process in a studio setting where projects engage the issues raised by the academic coursework. In studio students will develop the ability to think critically about their ideas, and explore the creative process in architecture and urban design in relation to these ideas. The direct experience of design is crucial to an understanding of architecture and urban design and their relation to contemporary social, political, and cultural events.

UCLA is a leading player on the international stage of contemporary architecture. Working with world-class faculty from established Pritzker Prize winners to the upstarts of tomorrow, students integrate the most creative approaches to design, advanced developments in technology, and rigorous approaches to architectural thought available today.
Changing global realities are causing paradigm shifts that redefine the interaction between culture, politics, economics, and the environment. These changes constantly alter the boundaries between disciplines, creating new perimeters of knowledge that will define the conditions of future inquiries into architecture and urban design. At UCLA, we are deeply immersed in a research environment that anticipates change and can move from the realm of ideas to their application, from present situations to emerging new realities.

Architecture now faces fundamental issues of practice that will alter this ancient discipline. Our senior design faculty is among the most progressive in understanding and exemplifying these transformations: Thom Mayne, Greg Lynn, Neil Denari, Craig Hodgetts, and Mark Mack. In analyzing history and theory as they impact architecture and urban design and contribute to the understanding of visual culture, we are further strengthened by the internationally recognized contributions of Sylvia Lavin, Dana Cuff and Diane Favro.

Redefining architectural education in a major research university, we emphasize interaction among the components of our program, design, technology, and critical studies (history and theory), between our departments and others in the School of the Arts and Architecture and the larger University. We are especially strong in examining the theory and impact of the computer on design, and related developments in robotics and the fabrication of building components. We regard critical studies as making a crucial contribution to the evaluation of new directions in design and issues of contemporary practice, including pressing environmental concerns. We are increasing our interest in cross cultural studies, and exchange programs, which are central at UCLA. We have recently started an undergraduate major, allowing us to further expand and enrich our faculty.

Los Angeles is a prototype of the 21st century city, embodying the cultural, social, economic, and political issues, which will be at the center of architectural and urban debates. It also represents a new edge between the West and the East, an intersection of increasing importance where diverse cultures interact, transform, and generate new developments. Los Angeles also provides an infinite resource for the study of architecture and urban design, the direction of high technology and media innovations, and as such is a prime indicator of our global future.

The Department of Architecture and Urban Design at UCLA is at the intersection of a new kind of city with an intense diversity of culture, the growing influence of Asia, and a creative milieu influenced by both high technology and entertainment media. We attract designers and thinkers from around the world who come to share their work and ideas through lectures, exhibitions, and teaching. As a tandem force, the city and the university, with their constant flows of inexhaustible energy, provides a dynamic platform for the study of architecture and urban design today.

Hitoshi Abe, Chair
“From the lofty achievements of virtuosos to the aesthetics of every day life in communities worldwide, the arts are the most powerful symbol of our shared human heritage, the truest mirror of our cultural diversity, and a primary bellwether of our future. We believe that practical and critical knowledge of the arts is an indispensable foundation for enlightened citizenship in an increasingly complex and challenging world.”

Christopher Waterman
Dean, UCLA School of the Arts and Architecture

The School of the Arts and Architecture at UCLA (UCLA Arts) is dedicated to training exceptional artists, performers, architects and scholars who are enriched by a global view of the arts and prepared to serve as cultural leaders of the 21st century. Graduate degree programs are offered in the Departments of Architecture and Urban Design, Art, Design | Media Arts, Ethnomusicology, Music, and World Arts and Cultures. The School’s unique curriculum interweaves work in performance, studio and research studies, providing students with a solid creative, artistic and intellectual foundation. World-class faculty provides a depth of expertise and achievement that supports the most ambitious vision a student can bring to the campus. To enrich their coursework students have access to outstanding art collections, exhibitions and performing arts presentations through the School’s internationally acclaimed public arts institutions. The Hammer Museum presents art ranging from Impressionism to Contemporary and the Fowler Museum at UCLA features material culture and art from Africa, Asia, Oceania, and the Americas. UCLA Live, one of the nation’s premiere arts presenters, brings more than 100 leading performers to the campus each year featuring programs of dance, jazz, world music, blues, international theater, spoken word, classical and popular music. We invite you to join the growing community of UCLA Arts. Please visit our web site at www.arts.ucla.edu

The University

One of America’s leading public research universities, UCLA is also the most multicultural campus in the nation. Situated five miles from the Pacific Ocean and ten miles from downtown Los Angeles, the campus is within a short drive of mountains, beaches, lakes and deserts. The 419-acre campus is a self-contained community replete with restaurants, medical facilities, gyms, botanical and sculpture gardens, movie theaters and concert halls. Students also have access to a wide range of campus services including a career planning center, a nationally recognized library system and a host of professional, social and cultural organizations. Please visit the Web site at www.ucla.edu.
Deadlines

November 1-30: Transfer students should apply during regular UC application period
January 15: Supplemental Materials due
Students are admitted for fall quarter only. Admission is highly competitive and only a limited number of students will be admitted each fall. UCLA students are encouraged to complete the lower division preparation for the major courses with grades of B or better, before applying for admission to the program. Transfer students will be expected to complete the lower division preparation courses during their first year of residency.

UCLA Students

The B.A. program accepts applicants from UCLA with a minimum 3.0 cumulative grade point average at the time of application, typically during their second year of study. Students must take all three lower division courses in architecture (the Introduction to Architecture sequence: ARCH&UD 30, 10A, 10B) by the end of their second (sophomore) year. Students should apply to the program during the fall quarter of their second year, and will be notified of their acceptance by the end of that academic year. Acceptance, however, will be contingent upon their continuing to meet the minimum grade point average at the end of spring quarter.

Transfer Students

Transfer students should apply during the regular UC application period (November 1-30). Transfer students will be required to enroll in the full 2-year major sequence regardless of the number of years already spent in undergraduate studies prior to admission as an architectural studies major.

Admissions Requirements

Application Current UCLA Students

The Change of Major application can be picked up in the Department office located in 1317 Perloff Hall.

Application Transfer Students

The University’s Online Application for Undergraduate Admission can be found at: www.ucop.edu/pathways

Admissions Requirement

Applicants must have a minimum 3.0 GPA, which should include no less than a B in any of the introductory lecture courses in architecture.

Supplemental Requirements

After the UC application has been filed, applicants are required to submit a Department of Architecture and Urban Design supplemental application. Beginning in early January, applicants who have selected the Architectural Studies major at UCLA will be emailed detailed instructions for, and a link to, the online supplemental application. This material is due to be submitted by mid- to late January (applicants will be notified of the exact date), and will include the following specific departmental requirements:

01 Questionnaire (Academic History)
- Schools you have attended (beginning with the most recent)
- Courses currently in progress
- Courses planned for spring and summer
- Awards/Honors/Exhibitions/Internships/Experience
- Relevant Extracurricular Activities

02 Statement of why you wish to study architecture at UCLA. Approximately 500 words.
UCLA Architecture and Urban Design offers a six-week summer program exploring architectural education for students contemplating further academic study in architecture. Courses include: architectural design studio, graphic and digital representation, and history of architecture: baroque to contemporary. www.summer.ucla.edu/institutes/Architecture/overview.htm

**Studio Activities Include**

- Demonstrations using software and modeling techniques
- Group discussions with architects and critics
- Individual project critiques with instructors

Field trips of significant architectural and design sites in Los Angeles take place each week. Important local architects and critics who explore the central significance of Los Angeles for the future of American architecture and urbanism provide weekly lectures.
Prospective students and their parents are invited to join a representative of UCLA Arts for a tour of the departments of:

**Architecture and Urban Design**
**Art**
**Design | Media Arts**
**World Arts and Cultures** (Cultural Studies / Dance)
**The UCLA Herb Alpert School of Music**
**Music**
**Ethnomusicology**
**Musicology**

The 90-minute walking tour will include information on admissions, portfolio requirements, housing, student life, and financial aid/scholarships. Reservations are required for all tours, space is limited to 15 per tour. To make a reservation please go to [www.arts.ucla.edu/rsvp](http://www.arts.ucla.edu/rsvp). We suggest you wear comfortable shoes.

**UCLA Architecture & Urban Design**
1317 Perloff Hall, Los Angeles, CA 90095-1467
Telephone: 310.825.7857
Facsimile: 310.825.8959
Email: info@aud.ucla.edu
Web site: www.aud.ucla.edu

All announcements herein are subject to revision.

For the most up-to-date information, please visit our department’s web site: [www.aud.ucla.edu](http://www.aud.ucla.edu).