Twin Cities Campus

Architecture B.D.A.

School of Architecture

College of Design

- Program Type: Baccalaureate
- Requirements for this program are current for Spring 2019
- Required credits to graduate with this degree: 120
- Required credits within the major: 48 to 54
- Degree: Bachelor of Design in Architecture

In the Bachelor of Design in Architecture (BDA) program students take a broad approach to design as it relates to architecture. Students learn to think through architecture, often in ways and with projects not necessarily tied to the traditional building scale or to building systems. Students use the lens of architecture to address a broad range of issues within the discipline and practice of architecture and as a bridge to other disciplines and modes of practice. Students develop verbal and visual skills in architecture, and practice the design process as a dialogue between divergent and convergent making and thinking. They undertake projects that link architecture with explorations in visual media (including film, photography, virtual reality), social, cultural and environmental concerns (preservation, disaster relief, neighborhood needs), focused concerns (daylight, facade, material, or modeling studies), and allied disciplines (set design, landscape architecture, urban studies).

All major coursework must be taken A-F.

Program Delivery

This program is available:

- via classroom (the majority of instruction is face-to-face)

Admission Requirements

Students must complete 30 credits before admission to the program.

A GPA above 2.0 is preferred for the following:

- 2.80 already admitted to the degree-granting college
- 2.80 transferring from another University of Minnesota college
- 2.80 transferring from outside the University

Students must complete 30 credits before admission to the program. Freshmen and transfers are usually admitted to pre-major status before admission to this major.

For information about University of Minnesota admission requirements, visit the Office of Admissions website.

Required prerequisites

Prerequisite Courses, Primary Core

It is required that students complete the following classes prior to admission to the BDA:
ARCH 1281 - Design Fundamentals I [AH] (4.0 cr)
ARCH 2301 - Drawing and Critical Thinking (4.0 cr)
ARCH 2281 - Design Fundamentals II (4.0 cr)

General Requirements

All students are required to complete general University and college requirements including writing and liberal education courses. For more information about University-wide requirements, see the liberal education requirements.Required courses for the major or minor in which a student receives a D grade (with or without plus or minus) do not count toward the major or minor (including transfer courses).

Program Requirements

Additional Classes, BDA Primary Core

ARCH 3412W - Architectural History Since 1750 [HIS, GP, WI] (3.0 cr)
ARCH 3411W - Architectural History to 1750 [HIS, GP, WI] (3.0 cr)
or ARCH 3411V - Architectural History to 1750 [HIS, GP, WI] (3.0 cr)

Design Core

Design workshops are designated Arch 32XX. New courses will periodically be added to this list, but ANY Arch 32xx will be allowed for

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the design core.
Take 12 - 18 credit(s) from the following:
•ARCH 3211 *{Inactive}*(2.0 cr)
•ARCH 3212 - BDA: Analytical Modeling of Contemporary Architecture (3.0 cr)
•ARCH 3221 *{Inactive}*(3.0 cr)
•ARCH 3222 - BDA Box Problem (2.0 cr)
•ARCH 3223 - BDA: Screen Test: Metal Work (2.0 cr)
•ARCH 3250 - Design Workshop (1.0 - 6.0 cr)
•ARCH 3261 - BDA: The Art of Daylighting Design: Exquisite Rooms (3.0 cr)
•ARCH 3271 - BDA: Watercolor Sketching: Exploring Iconic Sites (2.0 cr)

BDA Secondary Core
These courses provide introductions to curricular core areas within the school.
Take 3 or more course(s) totaling 9 or more credit(s) from the following:
•ARCH 3511 - Material Transformations: Technology and Change in the Built Environment [TS] (3.0 cr)
•ARCH 3611 - Design in the Digital Age (3.0 cr)
•ARCH 4561 - Architecture and Ecology [ENV] (3.0 cr)
•ARCH 4671 *{Inactive}*(3.0 cr)
•ARCH 4701W - Introduction to Urban Form and Theory [WI] (3.0 cr)
•ARCH 3711W - Environmental Design and the Sociocultural Context [SOCS, CIV, WI] (3.0 cr)
or ARCH 3711V - Honors: Environmental Design and the Sociocultural Context [SOCS, CIV, WI] (3.0 cr)

Architecture Electives
Take 9 or more credit(s) from the following:
•ARCH 3xxx
•ARCH 4xxx
•ARCH 5xxx
•LA 3501 - Environmental Design and Its Biological and Physical Context [ENV] (3.0 cr)

Upper-division Writing Intensive within the major
Students are required to take one upper-division writing intensive course within the major. If that requirement has not been satisfied within the core major requirements, students must choose one course from the following list. Some of these courses may also fulfill other major requirements.
Take 0 - 1 course(s) from the following:
•ARCH 3411W - Architectural History to 1750 [HIS, GP, WI] (3.0 cr)
•ARCH 3711W - Environmental Design and the Sociocultural Context [SOCS, CIV, WI] (3.0 cr)
•ARCH 4701W - Introduction to Urban Form and Theory [WI] (3.0 cr)
•ARCH 3411V - Architectural History to 1750 [HIS, GP, WI] (3.0 cr)
•ARCH 3711V - Honors: Environmental Design and the Sociocultural Context [SOCS, CIV, WI] (3.0 cr)

Program Sub-plans
A sub-plan is not required for this program.

Accelerated
Students accepted to this track join first-year M. Arch students in their classes while enrolled as undergraduate students. Courses taken in their final year as an undergraduate count as elective credits toward the BDA degree, and if accepted into the graduate program will continue to year two (of three) of the M. Arch program.

Students may apply at the end of their junior year of the BDA program (within 32 credits of completing the degree requirements) and apply and the end of their senior year to the graduate school to formally join the graduate program. At the time of application, all liberal education requirements and all required BDA coursework must be completed or in progress slated to be completed by the end of the semester. Eligibility to apply is based on BDA GPA as well as overall GPA. The preferred BDA GPA is 3.8 or higher.

Students with a GPA of 3.5 to 3.8 may apply but must also submit a GRE score. Application to the accelerated program must include all materials needed to apply for the M. Arch. program (portfolio, letters of recommendation, writing samples). Students advancing to the second year of the three-year M. Arch program will apply to the graduate school during the normal application time (see http://arch.design.umn.edu/admissions/graduate/). At that time, the application will only include the online graduate school application to the graduate program (no portfolio, letters of recommendation, writing samples, or GRE).

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