UNIVERSITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON

Course Specification

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Core Information

Awarding Body / Institution:	University of Wolverhampton		
School / Institute:	School of Architecture and Built Environment		
Course Code(s):	AT013H01UV	Full-time	3 Years
UCAS Code:	K100		
Course Title:	BSc (Hons) Architecture		
Hierarchy of Awards:	Bachelor of Science with Honours Architecture Bachelor of Science Architectural Studies Diploma of Higher Education Architecture Certificate of Higher Education Architecture		
Language of Study:	English		
Date of DAG approval:	26/May/2017		
Last Review:	2015/6		
Course Specification valid from:	2012/3		
Course Specification valid to:	2021/2		

Academic Staff

Course Leader:	Olive White
Head of Department:	Dr David Heesom

Course Information

Location of Delivery:	University of Wolverhampton
Category of Partnership:	Not delivered in partnership - Standard Provision
Teaching Institution:	University of Wolverhampton
Open / Closed Course:	This course is open to all suitably qualified candidates.

Entry Requirements:

Entry requirements are subject to regular review. The entry requirements applicable to a particular academic year will be published on the University website (and externally as appropriate e.g. UCAS

- A minimum of grade ABB or AAC from A level or equivalent
- Successful merit on a HNC in a relevant subject discipline.
- BTEC QCF Extended Diploma DDM
- Applicants will normally be expected to hold GCSE English and Maths at grade C+/4 or equivalent
- If you've got other qualifications or relevant experience, please contact The Gateway for further advice before applying.
- International entry requirements and application guidance can be found here
- Successful completion of the International Foundation Year in Science and Engineering guarantees entry on to this course providing successful interview outcome.

Other Requirements

All applicants will be required to attend an interview, where a portfolio of your work will be reviewed and you will have the opportunity to visit our excellent facilities. More information on what we expect from a portfolio can be found at http://www.wlv.ac.uk/about-us/our-schools-and-institutes/faculty-of-science-and-engineering/school-of-architecture-and-built-environment/portfolio-tips/

Students must have studied a minimum of two years post GCSE level. However, it is expected that some applicants will be mature students with work experience, who wish to further their career development. These applicants will be processed through standard procedures, which may involve an interview as part of the process. Please see http://wlv.ac.uk/mature for further information.

Those who do not meet the entry requirements may be offered an alternative course

Distinctive Features of the Course:

This course builds on the rich heritage of Wolverhampton and its unique geographic position within the Black Country region of the UK, seen by many as the birthplace of the industrial revolution.

The course provides you with a fully engaging design based education and will allow you to explore your architectural design abilities through studio-based learning. In addition to developing your creative capabilities, this course will draw on our rich technological history to allow you to integrate design with the latest emerging technology for the development of buildings that excite the user and shape the local, national and international urban environment. Sustainability features heavily in all aspects of the course and this underlying ethos will feature throughout your studies, ensuring that you design for a built environment that leaves a positive legacy.

Our proven track record of research and industry engagement in the field of Building Information Modelling (BIM) and advanced visualisation/modelling technologies is embedded into the course. As you develop your knowledge of the design process, the use of these tools will position you at the cutting edge of today’s global construction industry, enabling you to model and manage the full spectrum of design information.

Educational Aims of the Course:

The aim of this course is to challenge you to explore your creative design capabilities whilst exploiting traditional and modern technologies and materials for the development of the current and

future Built Environment. Throughout your study, you will explore how architecture can shape national and international communities and culture, including developing a deep understanding of the responsibility to create sustainable solutions.

Each level of the course is centred on the design studio and this gives you the opportunity to engage with real world projects and put theory into practice. In total, half of the course is based around design projects, where assessment is undertaken through the submission of design portfolios. Working within a studio environment will allow you to develop vocational architectural skills and develop your intellectual capabilities to explore theory and critically evaluate your work and that of others.

Our rich heritage with emerging technologies will equip you for the modern construction industry. Our expertise in the field of Building Information Modelling (BIM) and visualisation techniques along with their integration into the curriculum, will position you to exploit this exciting new approach to the worldwide construction sector.

Our strong international links will provide you with the opportunity to develop design skills that draw from a range of cultures and identities. Study trips will support this element of your learning and assist you in relating culture to theory and how these can be included in your design projects.

Intakes:

September

Major Source of Funding:

Office for Students (OFS)

Tuition Fees:

Tuition fees are reviewed on an annual basis. The fees applicable to a particular academic year will be published on the University website.

Year	Status	Mode	Amount
2020/1	H	Full Time / Sandwich	£9250.00
2020/1	Overseas	Full Time / Sandwich	£12250.00
2021/2	H	Full Time / Sandwich	£9250.00
2021/2	Overseas	Full Time / Sandwich	£12950.00
2022/3	H	Full Time / Sandwich	£9250.00
2022/3	Overseas	Full Time / Sandwich	£13450.00
2023/4	H	Full Time / Sandwich	£9250.00
2023/4	Overseas	Full Time / Sandwich	£14450.00
2024/5	H	Full Time / Sandwich	£9250.00
2024/5	Overseas	Full Time / Sandwich	£14950.00
2025/6	H	Full Time / Sandwich	£9535.00
2025/6	Overseas	Full Time / Sandwich	£15995.00

PSRB:

AT013H01UV (Full-time)

Professional Accreditation Body:
Architects Registration Board (ARB)

Accrediting Body:
Architects Registration Board (ARB)

Accreditation Statement:
Prescribed by the Architects Registration Board (ARB) at Part 1 level for the purpose of registration in the UK.

Additional Notes:
"Qualifications which are prescribed by the Architects Registration Board (ARB) at Parts 1, 2 and 3 are required for registration with that body and only those registered with ARB may lawfully practise using the title 'architect'."

Approved	Start	Expected End	Renewal
15/Aug/2021	23/Nov/2017	31/Dec/2028	31/Dec/2028

AT013H01UV (Full-time)

Professional Accreditation Body:
Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA)

Accrediting Body:
Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA)

Accreditation Statement:
Validated by the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) at Part 1 level for the purpose of eligibility for membership of the RIBA.

Approved	Start	Expected End	Renewal
08/Jul/2021	01/Sep/2021		01/Jan/2026

Course Structure:

September (Full-time)

Full time and Sandwich Undergraduate Honours students normally study 120 credits per academic year; 60 credits semester 1 and 60 credits semester 2.

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 80 credits in each academic calendar year.

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
4AT014	Architectural Communication	20	YEAR	Core
4AT016	History and Theory of Architecture	20	YEAR	Core
4AT017	Design Studio: Principles of Architectural Design	20	SEM1	Core
4AT018	Materials, Construction and Structure	20	SEM1	Core
4AT015	Design Studio: Designing for the Individual Client	40	SEM2	Core

September (Full-time)

Full time and Sandwich Undergraduate Honours students normally study 120 credits per academic year; 60 credits semester 1 and 60 credits semester 2.

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 80 credits in each academic calendar year.

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
5AT021	Climate Responsive Design	20	SEM2	Core
5AT024	City and Urbanism	20	SEM1	Core
5AT022	Design Studio: Integrating Technology	20	SEM1	Core
5AT020	Advanced Materials Construction and Structure	20	SEM1	Core
5AT023	Design Studio: Integrating Urban Design	40	SEM2	Core

September (Full-time)

Full time and Sandwich Undergraduate Honours students normally study 120 credits per academic year; 60 credits semester 1 and 60 credits semester 2.

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 80 credits in each academic calendar year.

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
6AT009	Special Studies Dissertation	20	SEM1	Core
6AT013	Design Studio: Major Project	40	SEM2	Core
6AT014	Architectural Practice & Management	20	SEM2	Core
6AT011	Design Studio: Integrating Comprehensive Design	40	SEM1	Core

Please note: Optional modules might not run every year, the course team will decide on an annual basis which options will be running, based on student demand and academic factors, to create the best learning experience.

Learning, Teaching and Assessment

Academic Regulations Exemption:

Section 1.2.3 - University Academic Calendar: Request to allow Design Studio modules 6AT011 and 6AT012 to run consecutively for seven weeks each. Approved.

Section 1.3.1 - University Academic Framework: Exemption to permit the inclusion of a 40 credit Design Studio module at each level of study. Approved.

Sections 4.4.3 - Compensation: Exemption to allow no compensation for marginal failure on any modules. Approved but noted agreed thresholds for third attempts in Section 4.4.4. will apply. Students are required to re-take any failed modules, if they achieve less than 29% for any summative assessment, or would otherwise be entitled to re-sit if they achieve between 30% and 39% for any summative assessment.

Section 4.5.1 - Continuation and Progression: In order to progress from one year to the next, full-time students are required to have passed modules totalling 120 credits and be in a position to not exceed the maximum period of registration over which an award or interim award may be studied. Approved.

Section 5.2.2 - Classification of award: The inclusion of grades for Design Studio modules at Level 5 and Level 6, and the Specialist Dissertation module at Level 6, in the calculation of the award classification. Approved.

Approved by AFRSC on 9/5/2013.

Reference Points:

QAA Subject Benchmark – Architecture RIBA & ARB (January 2010).

Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ) - descriptors for a qualification at Honours (H) Level.

University Assessment Handbook.

University of Wolverhampton Equality and Diversity Policy (2008).

Equality Act 2010.

School ethics guidelines (2011).

Overview of Assessment:

As part of the course approval process, the course learning outcomes were mapped to each of the modules forming the diet of the programme of study. This process confirmed that all course learning outcomes can be met through successful completion of the modules. This mapping applies to the final award as well as to all of the intermediate awards.

Learning Outcomes	Modules
BHONS01 "Through analysis of user requirements and current knowledge, you will have the ability to generate and effectively communicate comprehensive architectural designs through a range of media, taking into account aesthetics, technical building requirements and environmental impact "	
BHONS02 "You will evaluate and articulate the cultural histories and aesthetic theories of architecture, including how the arts can influence and inform architectural design. You will then implement this knowledge in the development of design concepts."	
BHONS03 "You will understand the role of the architect as a professional within the construction industry, including their legal responsibilities to operate within standards and codes, the requirement to maintain professional development and their relationship to others within the sector. "	
BHONS04 "You will develop a systematic understanding of how to develop comprehensive design briefs and manage projects to meet complex client/user requirements, ensuring that financial, environmental, social, and economic sustainability techniques are applied to the overall project "	
BHONS05 "You will critically evaluate the role of architecture within the broader domain of urban design, understanding the relationship between people, buildings and communities and how current legislation impacts on the development of the built environment in a national and global context"	
BHONS06 "You will demonstrate the ability to synergise aesthetic form with engineering and material constraints surrounding structure, including critically analysing alternative systems to specify safe, sustainable and cost effective solutions."	

Learning Outcomes	Modules
BHONSN01 "Through analysis of user requirements and current knowledge, you will have the ability to generate and effectively communicate comprehensive architectural designs through a range of media, taking into account aesthetics, technical building requirements and environmental impact "	
BHONSN02 "You will evaluate and articulate the cultural histories and aesthetic theories of architecture, including how the arts can influence and inform architectural design. You will then implement this knowledge in the development of design concepts."	
BHONSN03 "You will understand the role of the architect as a professional within the construction industry, including their legal responsibilities to operate within standards and codes, the requirement to maintain professional development and their relationship to others within the sector. "	
BHONSN04 "You will develop a systematic understanding of how to develop comprehensive design briefs and manage projects to meet complex client/user requirements, ensuring that financial, environmental, social, and economic sustainability techniques are applied to the overall project "	
BHONSN05 "You will critically evaluate the role of architecture within the broader domain of urban design, understanding the relationship between people, buildings and communities and how current legislation impacts on the development of the built environment in a national and global context"	
BHONSN06 "You will demonstrate the ability to synergise aesthetic form with engineering and material constraints surrounding structure, including critically analysing alternative systems to specify safe, sustainable and cost effective solutions."	

Teaching, Learning and Assessment:

Year 1:

Following an introduction to key concepts and methods, you will start by exploring communication methods, including making physical models and exploring forms of representation and manipulation of architectural form by graphic, photographic and digital means.

Small scale individual and group design studio projects allow an exploration of the methods of realisation, including the conventions of architectural drawing as a means of communication and methods of construction.

In parallel with design projects, you will also broaden your understanding of both historical and contemporary precedents of art and architectural design along with the fundamental knowledge of structure and materials used.

The year concludes with a Major Design project during which you apply the knowledge gained in the proceeding and concurrent modules to a small residence/retreat for an individual client.

All work is thoroughly documented and presented in a final individual portfolio. All portfolio tasks will be subject to intermediate reviews during which students are required to present the work to a panel of tutors and peers.

Year 2:

During this year you will consolidate your skills in preparation for the final year where theoretical views are tested. You will have the opportunity to develop your own design process and critical thinking skills, testing these skills within two projects of greater programmatic complexity and constraints. Reflective thinking skills will also be further developed through daily workbooks, begun in first year and in the design report.

During this level there will also be further integration of supplementary lecture subjects within the design studio focusing on Integrating technology in semester 1 and urban design in semester 2.

In semester 1 you will build on your construction knowledge by exploring traditional and new technologies, building services and advanced structure and apply them to the design of multi-storey or large span building. The Design Studio allows you to bring together your design prowess with aspects of technology in such a way as to enhance the form and function of your design.

In semester 2 You will build on experiences by exploring the issues of designing a building in the local urban context through architectural intervention projects. This will include the measurement, research, analysis, and representation of a local site. Through an informed understanding of context, you will propose innovative and thoughtful interventions to house public, convivial activities associated with the economic and physical opportunities of the local urban context. Theory and history will inform the understanding of the unique cultural context of the region. The special technical issues of building with existing buildings and their role in a sustainable city will be considered.

Year 3:

Through a two small design challenges and a major Design Studio project, you will explore the role of the architect in making architecture. Methods and precedents of practice in shaping the built environment will be focused on contemporary issues of architecture, responding to the social context of architectural practice. Sustainable design will feature heavily in this year and you will bring together your previously acquired knowledge of sustainability issues into a design project.

The third year will emphasise the relationship between theory and the design process and practice. It will enable you to define a position within contemporary architectural dialogue, which is personally relevant to you, and then test this theoretical and practical position within architectural form. You will also explore the materials and technologies available to designers seeking to design sustainably.

In addition to the design modules you will undertake a special study module requiring you to prepare a dissertation on a chosen topic. As well as preparing a report/case study on an aspect of professional practice in preparation for your year out.

General:

It should be noted that visits to exhibitions, tours of cities (at home and abroad) and field trips will be arranged to supplement your acquisition of knowledge and understanding of Architectural design.

At the end of each academic year there will be a briefing session on the content of the following year, so that you may carryout preparatory research. This will be particularly directed at the special study dissertation at the end of Level 5.

All students are entitled to:

1. Have access to a digital copy of all lecturer-produced course documents.

Throughout this course you will have access to electronic versions of lecture material, including slides and handouts through the University Virtual Learning Environment (VLE). In addition you will be able to access detailed assessment briefs through the VLE and see all information about the modules you are studying.

2. Have formative assessment/s opportunities on line with meaningful electronic assessment feedback

Throughout each of the modules you will engage with design projects both inside and out of the studio / classroom. As you work through these projects you will receive ongoing feedback to help you maximise your potential.

3. Collaborate on line with others in their learning cohort

All of the modules that you study will include interactive learning where you will work with other students in groups to come up with the best solution to a problem, interact with specially designed

computer packages or you may even have the opportunity to continue your discussions outside of the classroom through online discussion forms and social media.

4. Participate in ePDP

The course you are studying will help you on your way to a professional career as an architect and as such you need to start planning your development from an early stage. Part of taking up a career in this field will require you to undertake personal development planning to identify your areas for improvement. Through the University ePDP system you will have the opportunity to create a development plan for your time at the University and beyond.

5. Submit all (appropriate) assessments online

Once you have completed your assignments, some of the modules will provide you with the opportunity to submit your work online through our VLE.

6. Engage in interactive learning during all face to face sessions

During face to face sessions you will work in a range of physical environments including design studios and prototyping/modelling laboratories and developing a range of skills by interacting with the departments' specialist facilities and staff. This may include realising designs through making physical models, presenting design schemes to your peers or creating CAD models which can then be produced using the latest prototyping tools.

Assessment Methods:

At the University of Wolverhampton, a variety of modes of assessment will be used to support and test your learning and progress and to help you develop capabilities that are valued beyond your University studies and into your working life. Your course may include a variety of assessment activities:

Written examinations (including online examinations, open and closed book examinations and quizzes)
Coursework (for example, essays, reports, portfolios, project proposals and briefs, CVs, poster presentation)
Practical (for example, oral and video presentations, laboratory work, performances, practical skills assessment)

In the final year of your undergraduate degree, and at the end of your postgraduate degree, you are likely to be expected to write an extended piece of work or research, such as a dissertation or a practice-based piece of research.

Student Support:

Within each of the modules you will develop academic study skills through completion of weekly tasks that will help you to develop your design abilities, understand how to research particular topics through the web and more traditional means and how to write in an academic and industry relevant style.

The University complements this by supporting your learning through the provision of generic study skills including communication and how to write academic assignments. In addition, there will be opportunities to develop your information seeking and information management skills. These may be in the form of seminars or workshops delivered by LIS staff and embedded into the curriculum or by following the programme of "InfoBite" workshops available in the Libraries.

From the very start of your course you will work with staff within the department and with your personal tutor to develop a Personal Development Plan (PDP) and this will provide you with a record and action plan of where you need to develop your skills in particular areas.

Employability in the Curriculum:

This honours degree is fully validated by RIBA which requires students to complete Part 1 work experience (with logbook) prior to commencing their Part 2 studies in architecture.