# ARCHITECTURE

## What can I do with this degree?

### AREAS

**RESIDENTIAL ARCHITECTURE**
- Single Family Housing
- Multiple-Unit Residential
- Tract Homes
- Senior/Assisted Living
- Remodeling/Renovations

**COMMERCIAL/INSTITUTIONAL ARCHITECTURE**
- Private Industry including:
  - Office buildings
  - Convention centers
  - Medical offices
  - Health clubs
  - Motels, hotels
  - Restaurants
  - Shopping centers
  - Supermarkets
  - Theaters
  - Arenas
- Public/Government including:
  - Schools, colleges, universities
  - Government facilities
  - Military facilities
  - Libraries
  - Hospitals
  - Recreational facilities
  - Churches
  - Museums

### EMPLOYERS

- Architecture firms
- Real estate developers
- Construction firms
- Individual homeowners
- Self-employed

### STRATEGIES

**RESIDENTIAL ARCHITECTURE**

*Description: Designing new homes or renovating existing ones for either single or multiple families.*

- Gain experience in an architect's office. Obtain an internship while in school.
- Develop strong communication skills and patience which are important when working with individuals in designing their homes.
- Study houses and architecture styles.
- Read books and magazines about architecture.
- Develop computer skills.

**COMMERCIAL/INSTITUTIONAL ARCHITECTURE**

*Description: Designing office buildings, factories, laboratories, malls, schools and other commercial or government facilities.*

- Get hands-on experience while in school.
- Learn the technical side of preparing construction documents; spend time in the field to understand the mechanics of construction.
- Important to understand the various jobs and processes that will take place in the buildings.
- Advanced training may be helpful if specializing in a certain typology such as historic preservation and renovation or a certain type of building such as schools or hospitals.
- Get involved in leadership roles on campus; architects may serve as project leaders coordinating the work of engineers and contractors.
- Take computer classes.
- Writing skills are necessary for advancement in firm.
### AREAS

**EDUCATION**
- Teaching
- Research
- Part-time Instruction
- Special Collections Libraries

**EMPLOYERS**
- Colleges and universities

**STRATEGIES**
- Graduate degree in architecture desirable for full-time professorships.
- Professional experience and licensure in the field of architecture is beneficial.
- Develop a working knowledge in the building design or construction industry, along with knowledge of CADD, project planning, and estimating.
- Create a portfolio for faculty review.

### RELATED PROFESSIONAL

**URBAN PLANNING**
- Federal, state, local government
- Real estate firms
- Developers
- Contractors
- Self-employed
- Architecture firms
- Design firms
- Engineering firms
- Corporations
- Architecture departments

**REAL ESTATE DEVELOPING**
- Law firms

**CONTRACTING**
- Law firms

**PROPERTY ASSESSMENT**
- Law firms

**INTERIOR DESIGN**
- Law firms

**ARCHITECTURAL ENGINEERING**
- Law firms

**CONSULTING**
- Law firms

**FACILITIES MANAGEMENT**
- Law firms

**PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT/MARKETING**
- Law firms

**LAW**
- Law firms

**INSURANCE LIABILITY**
- Law firms

**WRITING**
- Magazines, journals, publishers

**MBA DEGREE**
- May open more opportunities within business and industry.
- Learn about real estate market and supply and demand in area for developing.

**CONTRACTOR'S LICENSE**
- Considered valuable for working in the design/build area of architecture.

**MANY LARGE CORPORATIONS**
- Employ architects to serve as client representatives when working with architectural firms.
- Design and organizational skills are helpful.

**ARCHITECTURAL ENGINEERING**
- Consulting
- Facilities Management
- Product Development/Marketing

**CONSULTING**
- Law firms

**FACILITIES MANAGEMENT**
- Law firms

**PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT/ MARKETING**
- Law firms

**LAW**
- Law firms

**INSURANCE LIABILITY**
- Law firms

**WRITING**
- Magazines, journals, publishers

**SPECIALIZED TRAINING OR ADVANCED DEGREES**
- May be required, i.e. master's in urban planning, degrees in landscape design, interior design, etc.

**J.D.**
- For law practice.
- Hands-on experience in architecture and construction will help prepare one for contract negotiation and litigation.

**TAKE COURSES IN**
- English and journalism.
- Develop writing skills. Get involved with campus publications.
GENERAL INFORMATION

• To gain entry into the field of architecture, one must receive either a Bachelor's or Master's degree from an accredited school of architecture, complete a full-time internship (three to five years) and pass a licensing examination.
• Architecture is a combination of art and science.
• Architecture involves much more than designing buildings. Talk to architects and visit their offices to learn more about the field.
• Students of architecture must be able to conceptualize and understand spatial relations and be detail-oriented. Develop creativity, analytical skills, and a sense of quality.
• Take many art and photography classes but not mechanical drawing classes.
• Oral and written communications skills are important, particularly when working with clients, construction crews or government officials. Good writing skills are valuable for developing architectural proposals.
• Computer Aided Design and Drafting (CADD) and other computer technologies are prevalent in the field of architecture. Develop as many computer skills as possible.
• The job market for architects, especially residential, varies with changes in economy as demand is often tied to level of construction.
• One third of architects are self-employed as either partners or running their own firms.
• Most architects work in firms of fewer than five people.
• Related fields include: graphic, interior, or industrial planning, real estate development, civil engineering, and construction management.
• Some architects specialize in a particular building type. Graduate study in the field may be helpful for specializing. Other architects may specialize in a certain function of the firm such as project management or specification writing.
• Areas of specialization include: historic preservation/renovation, healthcare facilities, sports facilities, educational facilities, master planning and interior design.
• Students should design a portfolio to use when interviewing. Include freehand drawings, final drawings by hand and computer, process sketches, photos of study models and finished models, a sample of writing, and work from technical courses.