
nus architecture
BA (ARCHITECTURE)
COURSE INFORMATION
FOR 2005/06 COHORT

4-Year BA (Architecture) Programme

Career Opportunities and Professional Registration

The 4-year BA (Arch.) degree course is a basis for basic education and training either in architecture or in related fields. BA (Arch) graduates may join architectural firms or architectural departments of a government or statutory body. There are also opportunities in related fields such as interior design, industrial design, industrialized building systems, graphic design, commercial art and architectural journalism. The BA (Arch) degree does not in itself qualify graduates for registration with the Board of Architects. BA (Arch) graduates may be considered for admission to the Master of Architecture course or other academic graduate studies.

BA (Arch) graduates must proceed to the M (Arch) course in order to eventually register as an architect with the Board of Architects, Singapore. M (Arch) graduates with a minimum of two years of practical experience in an architectural department of a government establishment, statutory board or architectural firm are eligible to sit for the Professional Practice Examination conducted by the Board of Architects, Singapore. Those who pass the examination are then eligible to apply for registration as architects.

The Bachelor of Arts (Architecture) is a 4-year course leading to the following degree classifications: First Class Honours, Second Class Honours (Upper Division), Second Class Honours (Lower Division), Third Class Honours and Pass.

The BA (Arch) course operates under the modular system which requires students to complete Essential Modules, General Education Modules (GEM), Singapore Study Modules (SS), Breadth (Elective outside student's Faculty) and Unrestricted Elective Modules (UE). The core subject is Design supported by a range of essential subjects to form the basic framework for a strong foundation programme in architectural studies under NUS policy. GEM, SS, Breadth and UEs widen the scope of intellectual pursuit. The course curriculum therefore comprises the University, School and Department Programme Requirements.

Chart 1: Framework of 4-year BA (Architecture) Programme

N o .	Modules	Modular Credits
1	UNIVERSITY REQUIREMENTS	
1	General Education Modules (GEM) comprising	
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1	➤ 1 from Group A: Science & Technology	4
	➤ 1 from Group B: Humanities & Social Sciences	4
	➤ 2 from any Group	8
1	Singapore Studies (SS)	4
.		
2		
1	Breadth (Elective modules outside Student's Faculty)	8

. 3	-Which includes HR3003 (Management & Human Relations)	
	Subtotal	28 MC (17.1%)
2	PROGRAMME REQUIREMENTS	
2 .1	School Requirements comprising:	
	➤ BU1481 Building Science (gateway module offered by DOB)	4
2 .2	Major Requirements comprising:	
	➤ Essential modules taken within the Department	108 [104]
	➤ Essential modules taken outside the Department	12 [16]
	Subtotal	124 MC (75.6%)
3	UNRESTRICTED ELECTIVES (WITHIN/OUTSIDE) STUDENT'S FACULTY (UE) # - Which includes AR1221 (Ideas of & Approaches to Architecture)	12
	Subtotal	12 MC (7.3%)
	GRAND TOTAL	164 MC (100%)

[] - Requirement for Design Technology and Sustainability (DTS) Track. See Concurrent BA (Arch)/ M.Arch Programme.

Architecture Concurrent Degree Programme

Streaming

Under the Architecture Concurrent Degree Programme, students will indicate their choice of study towards the end of the 3rd year.

The following courses are offered and students are required to rank them according to their choice of study

- Architectural Design Track
- Design Technology and Sustainability Track
- Landscape Architecture Track
- Academic Track

The students will be streamed based on their preference and fulfilment of the admission requirements. Please see table 1

Graduation Requirements for 4-year B.A. (Arch.) Programme

The students required to fulfil the graduation requirements for the corresponding course of study as summarized in Table 1, along with the other requirements governing the CAP to progress in this programme and graduate with a B.A. (Arch.)/ B.A (Arch.) Hons following the NUS classification.

Students who exit the concurrent degree programme at B.A. (Arch.) Level 4 and consequently seek admission to M.Arch/M.LA would be required to fulfil a minimum CAP of 3.5 and other criteria governing admission as determined at the point of application.

Progression to M.Arch/M.LA under the Architecture Concurrent Degree Programme

The admission requirements for various tracks of the M.Arch and M.LA are summarized in Table 1.

Students would receive both B.A. (Arch.) Hons/ B.A. (Arch.) (depending on his/her CAP) and M.Arch/

M.LA degrees concurrently upon completing the Masters programme. The specialization of the course of study (if any) would be reflected in the transcript of the Masters programme.

A summary of the Architecture Concurrent Degree Programme is shown in Table 1 below

Table 1

Level 5 (Masters)	Master of Architecture			Master of Landscape Architecture	Master of Arts (Architecture) or Other NUS Graduate Courses
		with specialization in Urban Design	with specialization in Design Technology & Sustainability (WEF AY2009/10)		
Admission Criteria to Level 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Min C in AR4101 and AR4102 • Min CAP of 2.0 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Min B+ average for AR4101 and AR4102 • Portfolio Review • Min CAP of 2.0 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Min B- average for AR4103 and AR4104 • Min CAP of 2.5. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Min B- average for LA4701 and LA4702 • Min CAP of 2.5. 	Subjected to admission criteria of Master of Arts(Architecture) or other NUS Graduate programmes
Level 4 B.A (Arch)/ B.A (Arch) Hons	Design Track		Design Technology & Sustainability Track	Specialization in Landscape Architecture	Specialization in Architectural Studies
Special Terms 3 & 4				Bridging Course	
Eligibility Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Min B- average for AR3101 and AR3102 • Min B- for AR3102 • Creditable Pass in all modules 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Min C grade for both AR3101 and AR3102 		
Level 3	Common program leading to RIBA Part 1				
Level 2					
Level 1					

Listing Of Modules

4-year BA (Arch) candidates are required to read the following modules:

1. School Requirements

BU1481 Building Science (gateway module offered by DOB)

2. Major Requirements comprising:

- Essential modules taken within the Department
- Essential modules taken outside the Department

Chart 2: The 4-year BA (Arch) course is structured as follows:

a) BA (Arch) Curriculum – *Architectural Design Track*

Common							
Level 1		Level 2		Level 3		Level 4	
Sem 1	Sem 2	Sem 1	Sem 2	Sem 1	Sem 2	Sem 1	Sem 2
AR1101 Design 1 (8 credits)	AR1102 Design 2 (8 credits)	AR2101 Design 3 (8 credits)	AR2102 Design 4 (12 credits)	AR3101 Design 5 (8 credits)	AR3102 Design 6 (12 credits)	AR4101 Design 7 (8 credits)	AR4102 Design 8 (8 credits)
		AR2722 Design & the Env (4 credits)		AR3222 H & T of Western Arch (4 credits)		AR5011 Research Methodology (8 credits)	
AR1222 H & T of Modern Arch (4 credits)		AR2221 H & T of SEA Arch (4 credits)	AR2223 Theory of UD & Planning (4 credits)				
	AR1326 Arch Constr I (4 credits)		AR2326 Arch Constr II (4 credits)		AR3323 Arch Con & Structures (4 credits)		
BU2482 Building Materials (4 credits)	BU1481 Building Science (4 credits)	BU2484 Building Structures (4 credits)	BU2480 Building Services (4 credits)				
General Education Modules (GEM) – 16 credits Singapore Study Module (SS) – 4 credits Breadth (Electives outside Student's Faculty) – 8 credits** Unrestricted Electives (within/ outside Student's Faculty) (UE) – 12 credits#							

AR1221 (Ideas of & Approaches to Architecture) is a compulsory UE to be read in Semester 1 of Year 1

Students who wish to proceed to the Master of Architecture course are required to take the following as Unrestricted Electives in Semester 1 of Year 4

- AR5321 Advanced Architectural Technology
- UD5221 Theory & Elements of Urban Design

** HR3003 (Management & HR) is a compulsory Breadth to be read in Semester 1 of Year 3

Students are not allowed to declare S/U option for AR1221, HR3003, AR5321 and UD5221

b) BA (Arch) Curriculum – *Design Technology and Sustainability Track*

Common							
Level 1		Level 2		Level 3		Level 4	
Sem 1	Sem 2	Sem 1	Sem 2	Sem 1	Sem 2	Sem 1	Sem 2
AR1101 Design 1 (8 credits)	AR1102 Design 2 (8 credits)	AR2101 Design 3 (8 credits)	AR2102 Design 4 (12 credits)	AR3101 Design 5 (8 credits)	AR3102 Design 6 (12 credits)	Students are required to read the following modules, completing one in each semester: a) AR4103 Architectural & Technology Design 1 (8 credits) b) AR4104 Architectural & Technology Design 2 (8 credits)	
		AR2722 Design & the Env (4 credits)		AR3222 H & T of Western Arch (4 credits)			
AR1222 H & T of Modern Arch (4 credits)		AR2221 H & T of SEA Arch (4 credits)	AR2223 Theory of UD & Planning (4 credits)			BU4480 Total Building Performance (4 credits)	
	AR1326 Arch Constr I (4 credits)		AR2326 Arch Constr II (4 credits)		AR3323 Arch Con & Structures (4 credits)		
BU2482 Building Materials (4 credits)	BU1481 Building Science (4 credits)	BU2484 Building Structures (4 credits)	BU2480 Building Services (4 credits)				
General Education Modules (GEM) – 16 credits Singapore Study Module (SS) – 4 credits Breadth (Electives outside Student's Faculty) – 8 credits** Unrestricted Electives (within/ outside Student's Faculty) (UE) – 12 credits#							

AR1221 (Ideas of & Approaches to Architecture) is a compulsory UE to be read in Semester 1 of Year 1

Students who wish to proceed to the Master of Architecture (specialization in DTM) course are required to take the following as Unrestricted Electives in 4th year:

-AR5321 Advanced Architectural Technology in Semester 1 of Year 4

- AR4323 Integrated Design & Sustainability in Semester 2 of Year 4

** HR3003 (Management & HR) is a compulsory Breadth to be read in Semester 1 of Year 3

Students are not allowed to declare S/U option for AR1221, HR3003, AR5321 and AR4323

c) BA (Arch) Curriculum – **Landscape Architecture Specialization**

Common									
Level 1	Level 2		Level 3		Special Term 3		Special Term 4	Level 4	
Sem 1	Sem 2	Sem 1	Sem 2	Sem 1	Sem 2			Sem 1	Sem 2
AR1101 Design 1 (8 credits)	AR1102 Design 2 (8 credits)	AR2101 Design 3 (8 credits)	AR2102 Design 4 (12 credits)	AR3101 Design 5 (8 credits)	AR3102 Design 6 (12 credits)	LA3701 Intro to Landscape Design (4 credits)		LA4701 Landscape Design Studio 4a (8 credits)	LA4702 Landscape Design Studio 4b (8 credits)
		AR2722 Design & the Env (4 credits)		AR3222 H & T of Western Arch (4 credits)		LA3711 Sketchbook 1 (2 credits)	LA3712 Sketchbook 2 (2 credits)	LA4301 Mat & Techq (4 credits)	LA4202 Planting Design (4 credits)
AR1222 H & T of Modern Arch (4 credits)		AR2221 H & T of SEA Arch (4 credits)	AR2223 Theory of UD & Planning (4 credits)			LA3201 Intro to Hist of Landscape (4 credits)	LA3211 Tropical Plant Identification 1 (4 credits)	LA4201 Theory of Modern Landscape Architecture (4 credits)	LA4212 Tropical Plant Identification 2 (4 credits)
	AR1326 Arch Constr I (4 credits)		AR2326 Arch Constr II (4 credits)	AR3323 Arch Con & Structures (4 credits)			LA3301 Plant Sc & Horticulture (4 credits)		
BU2482 Building Materials (4 credits)	BU1481 Building Science (4 credits)	BU2484 Building Structures (4 credits)	BU2480 Building Services (4 credits)						
General Education Modules (GEM) – 16 credits Singapore Study Module (SS) – 4 credits Breadth (Electives outside Student's Faculty) – 8 credits** Unrestricted Electives (within/ outside Student's Faculty) (UE) – 12 credits#									

AR1221 (Ideas of & Approaches to Architecture) is a compulsory UE to be read in Semester 1 of Year 1

Students are required to take the following as compulsory Unrestricted Electives in 4th year:

-BL5102 Environmental Science (Semester 1)

-DE5107 Environmental Planning (Semester 2)

** HR3003 (Management & HR) is a compulsory Breadth to be read in Semester 1 of Year 3

Students in Landscape Architectural Specialization will read a total of 196 modular credits. Modules taken in special terms 3 and 4 will be graded as CS (Completed Satisfactory) or CU (Completed Unsatisfactory). The grades will not be factored into CAP computation and do not count towards the 12 MCs limit for S/U modules

Students are not allowed to declare S/U option for AR1221, HR3003, BL5102 and DE5107

c) BA (Arch) Curriculum – **Architectural Studies Specialization**

← Common →

Level 1		Level 2		Level 3		Level 4	
Sem 1	Sem 2	Sem 1	Sem 2	Sem 1	Sem 2	Sem 1	Sem 2
AR1101 Design 1 (8 credits)	AR1102 Design 2 (8 credits)	AR2101 Design 3 (8 credits)	AR2102 Design 4 (12 credits)	AR3101 Design 5 (8 credits)	AR3102 Design 6 (12 credits)		
		AR2722 Design & the Env (4 credits)		AR3222 H & T of Western Arch (4 credits)		AR5312 Typo Morphology in Arch (4 credits)	AR4142 Research Report (8 credits)
AR1222 H & T of Modern Arch (4 credits)		AR2221 H & T of SEA Arch (4 credits)	AR2223 Theory of UD & Planning (4 credits)			AR4222 Asian Arch and Urban Hist (4 credits)	AR4223 Arch and Urban Heritage (4 credits)
	AR1326 Arch Constr I (4 credits)		AR2326 Arch Constr II (4 credits)		AR3323 Arch Con & Structures (4 credits)		
BU2482 Building Materials (4 credits)	BU1481 Building Science (4 credits)	BU2484 Building Structures (4 credits)	BU2480 Building Services (4 credits)				
General Education Modules (GEM) – 16 credits Singapore Study Module (SS) – 4 credits Breadth (Electives outside Student's Faculty) – 8 credits** Unrestricted Electives (within/ outside Student's Faculty) (UE) – 12 credits#							

AR1221 (Ideas of & Approaches to Architecture) is a compulsory UE to be read in Semester 1 of Year 1

Students who wish to proceed to the Master of Architecture course are required to take the following as Unrestricted Electives in Year 4

- AR5011 Research Methodology (Semester 1)
- Another elective as advised by the Department

** HR3003 (Management & HR) is a compulsory Breadth to be read in Semester 1 of Year 3

Students are not allowed to declare S/U option for AR1221, HR3003 and electives prescribed in 4th year

Student Workload

Students are expected to read a minimum of 15 modular credits during each semester. Students are not allowed to take more than 6 modules (including retakes but excluding English), whether essential, GEM, SS, Breadth or UE modules in each semester. Students who have not passed, or been exempted from, the Qualifying English Test at the time of admission to the University must take an additional module, AR1000 English, by their third semester of study, i.e. level 2 semester 1.

Maximum Period of Candidature

The maximum period of candidature is used as an indication of the ultimate period a student is allowed to spend at the University to fulfill the course requirements for the award of a degree. The maximum period of candidature for a 4-year BA (Arch) is 6 years. The period of approved leave of absence granted to a student is excluded from the maximum period of candidature.

Teaching Approach

Design modules are taught through design studios. Critique sessions will form part of the studio procedure in teaching. Lecture modules include formal lectures, followed by seminars/tutorials. Field

trips, site visits, measurement and study of buildings for research, investigation and documentation may be involved.

Assessment and Examination

Assessment criteria will vary according to the modules offered. In the Department of Architecture, design modules are assessed by 100% "continuous assessment" (CA). The other essential modules may also be assessed by 100% CA or a combination of CA and Examination.

Students who fail an **essential** module will retake the module when it is next offered and must sit for the examination in that Semester. For the retake module students have to attend lectures and tutorials and complete assignments and examinations. A new CA grade has to be obtained.

Students who fail a **GEM/SS/Breadth/UE** module may either replace it with a new GEM/SS/Breadth/UE module or retake the failed module the following year. There is no limit to the number of times a student may retake the same GEM/SS/Breadth/UE module.

A student who has passed the examination of a module will not be permitted to retake the same module again for the purpose of improving his/her grade. This condition may not apply to the Design modules where the prerequisite for progression to the next level is a 'C' grade. Students who achieve a 'D' grade would be required to retake the Design module.

Progression of Students

A student must pass Design with a minimum C grade and attain more than 75% of modular credits of the prescribed essential modules for the level of study to be considered for promotion to the next level.

Degree/ Honors Classification

Successful candidates of the 4-year BA (Arch) course are awarded the degree based on the following classification:

<u>Class of Honours</u>	<u>CAP Cut Off</u>
1 st class Honours	Min CAP 4.5 plus min grade of A- for dissertation or major project
2 nd class Honours (Upper Division)	CAP 4.0 to 4.49 (inclusive)
2 nd class (Lower Division)	CAP 3.5 to 3.99 (inclusive)
3 rd class Honours	CAP 3.2 to 3.49 (inclusive)
Pass	CAP 2.0 to 3.19 (inclusive)

Students have to take all essential modules offered in the semester to which they have progressed, provided they have passed the relevant prerequisites. In addition, they may take modules to satisfy University and other requirements.

Minimum Graduating criteria for

- **BA (Arch):** Min. Grade C for Design and CAP 2.0
- **BA (Arch) Hons:** Min. Grade C for Design and CAP 3.2

Modules Information

Please refer to <http://www.nus.edu.sg/registrar/nusbuletin/modulesearch.html>