

**REGULATIONS FOR THE DEGREE OF  
BACHELOR OF ARTS IN ARCHITECTURAL STUDIES  
(BA[ArchStud])**

*These regulations apply to students admitted in the academic year 2004-2005 and thereafter.*

*(See also General Regulations)*

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**Admission to the degree**

**Ar1** To be eligible for admission to the degree of Bachelor of Arts in Architectural Studies, a candidate shall

- (a) comply with the General Regulations;
  - (b) comply with the Regulations for First Degree Curricula; and
  - (c) satisfy all the requirements of the curriculum in accordance with the regulations that follow and the syllabuses of the degree.
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**Length of study**

**Ar2** The curriculum shall normally require six semesters of full-time study, spreading over three academic years.

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**Completion of the curriculum**

**Ar3** To complete the curriculum a candidate shall

- (a) satisfy the requirements prescribed in UG 3 of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula;
  - (b) follow instruction in the courses as prescribed under these regulations and complete satisfactorily all coursework requirements set as tests or as parts of any examination; and practical work<sup>1</sup> to be undertaken as an integral part of the BA(ArchStud) curriculum; and
  - (c) satisfy the examiners at the First, Second and Final Examinations respectively in the First, Second and Final Year of the curriculum, with a total of 180 units<sup>2</sup> of courses, in the manner specified below.
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**Examinations**

**Ar4** The Examinations shall comprise

- (a) one paper in each of the following core courses (totalling 162 units):
  - (i) First Examination to be taken in the First Year of study:
    - First Year Courses
    - [whole year course]
    - Architectural Design I (24 units)

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<sup>1</sup> Candidates are required to undertake practical work for a total minimum of 20 weeks normally during their summer vacation in the BA(ArchStud) course under the guidance of the Department of Architecture. Reports for assessment on their practical work have to be submitted to the Department before commencement of the first semester in September.

<sup>2</sup> 1 unit = 8 teaching hours per semester (or 3-unit course = 2 teaching hours per week)

[First Semester courses]

History and theory of architecture I (3 units)

Principles of buildings I (3 units)

Visual communications I (3 units)

Architecture and the creative industries I (3 units)

[Second Semester courses]

History and theory of architecture II (3 units)

Principles of buildings II (3 units)

Visual communications II (3 units)

Architecture and the creative industries II (3 units)

- (ii) Second Examination to be taken in the Second Year of study:

Second Year Courses

[whole year course]

Architectural Design II (30 units)

[First Semester courses]

History and theory of architecture III (3 units)

Building technology I (3 units)

Visual communications III (3 units)

Urbanism I (3 units)

[Second Semester courses]

History and theory of architecture IV (3 units)

Building technology II (3 units)

Visual communications IV (3 units)

Urbanism II (3 units)

- (iii) Final Examination to be taken in the Final Year of study:

Final Year Courses

[whole year course]

Architectural Design III (30 units)

[First Semester courses]

History and theory of architecture V (3 units)

Building structures I (3 units)

Building services I (3 units)

Design and Practices of Technology I (3 units)

Urbanism III (3 units)

[Second Semester courses]

History and theory of architecture VI (3 units)

Building structures II (3 units)

Building services II (3 units)

Design and Practices of Technology II (3 units)

Urbanism IV (3 units)

- (b) 2 units of electives (6 units for each of the First and Second Semesters) for the First Examination and 6 units of electives (3 units for each of the First and Second Semesters) for the Second Examination, to be taken in the following manner:

- (i) not less than 6 units of electives in Chinese and English language enhancement;
- (ii) not less than 3 units of electives in Culture & Value Studies, or in an area of study offered outside the BA(ArchStud) curriculum;
- (iii) not less than 3 units of electives in Humanities and Social Sciences for Science and Engineering candidates;

- (iv) not less than 3 units of electives in Science and Technology Studies for Non-Science candidates; and
  - (v) 3 units of electives in Information Technology related subject(s) (a candidate who has taken and passed Visual communications II is deemed to have satisfied the University's IT requirement and is waived from such requirement of taking 3 units in information technology related subjects, the candidate is exempted from attending the course on Information Technology, and is not required to take and pass the proficiency test on Information Technology).
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**Ar5** Candidates shall normally take 30 units of courses in each semester, unless otherwise permitted or required by the Board of the Faculty.

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### **Selection of courses**

**Ar6** Candidates shall select their courses in accordance with these regulations and the guidelines as specified in the syllabuses before the beginning of each semester. Such selection shall be subject to the approval of the Head of the Department of Architecture. Changes to the selection of courses may be made during the first two weeks of each semester subject to the approval of the Head of the Department of Architecture, and such changes shall not be reflected in the transcript. Requests for changes after the first two weeks of a semester shall not be considered, and a candidate withdrawing from any course without permission shall be given an F grade.

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### **Assessment**

**Ar7** Candidates shall be assessed for each of the courses which they have registered for, and assessment may be conducted in any one or any combination of the following manners: written examinations or tests, written assignments or exercises, continuous assessment of performance, laboratory work, field work, research or project reports, or any other manner as determined by the examiners. Grades shall be awarded in accordance with UG 5 of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula.

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### **Grades**

**Ar8** Courses for which a candidate is given an F grade shall not be counted towards the degree, but shall be recorded on the transcript of the candidate.

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**Ar9** Candidates may be required, in accordance with these regulations, by the Board of the Faculty to repeat a course or to follow another course as replacement, and/or to be re-assessed at a time specified by the Board. In such an event, the new grade obtained shall replace the previous grade in the calculation of the cumulative GPA, but that both grades shall be recorded on the transcript.

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**Ar10** Candidates shall not be permitted to repeat courses for which they have received a pass grade for upgrading purposes.

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### **Failure in examination**

**Ar11** Candidates who have failed in any of the electives may be required to repeat the same course in the next semester or academic year for re-assessment, or to select another elective as replacement

provided that they can satisfy the course selection/combination requirements as stipulated under these regulations.

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**Ar12** The following clauses apply to candidates of all years.

- (a) Architectural Design is a whole year course with continuous assessment over two semesters. Year Examination will be conducted at the end of the second semester. Candidates who have failed in Architectural Design in the respective year Examination at the first attempt may be permitted to present themselves for re-examination at a specified date before the commencement of the following academic year. Candidates who have failed Architectural Design at the second attempt shall not be permitted to proceed to the subsequent year of the curriculum and be required to repeat Architectural Design of that year and shall present themselves for examination only once more.
- (b)
  - (i) Candidates who have failed in not more than three other core courses in the respective year Examination at the first attempt in the first semester may be permitted to present themselves for re-examination in the same course or courses at a specified date during the second semester; for candidates who have failed in not more than three other core courses at the first attempt in the second semester, re-examination will be conducted at a specified date before the commencement of the following academic year.
  - (ii) Those who have failed in not more than one course at the second attempt shall be permitted to proceed to the subsequent year of the curriculum and to present themselves for re-examination in the same course only once more in the following academic year.
  - (iii) Those who have failed in more than one course at the second attempt shall not be permitted to proceed to the subsequent semester or year and be required to repeat all courses failed and to present themselves for re-examination only once more in the following academic year.
- (c) Candidates who have failed in more than three other core courses in the respective year Examination at the first attempt in either the first or second semester shall not be permitted to proceed to the subsequent semester or year and shall be required to repeat all courses failed and to present themselves for re-examination in the following academic year. If they fail again at the second attempt, they may be permitted to present themselves for re-examination only once more at a specified date before the commencement of the following academic year.
- (d) Candidates who have failed in Architectural Design and in not more than three core courses in total in the year Examination at the first attempt may be permitted to present themselves for re-examination at a specified date before the commencement of the following year. If they fail again in any core course or in Architectural Design at the second attempt, they shall not be permitted to proceed to the subsequent year and shall be required to repeat all failed courses and to present themselves for re-examination in each failed course only once more in the following academic year.
- (e) Candidates who have failed in Architectural Design and in more than three core courses in total in the year Examination at the first attempt shall not be permitted to proceed to the subsequent year and be required to repeat all failed courses and to present themselves for re-examination in the following academic year. If they failed again at the second attempt, they may be permitted to present themselves for re-examination in each failed course only once more at a specified date before the commencement of the following academic year.
- (f) Candidates who have failed in Architectural Design or in any core course of the respective year Examination at the third attempt shall be recommended for discontinuation of studies under the provisions of General Regulations G 12.

**Degree classification**

**Ar13** At the conclusion of the Final Examination a pass list will be published in five divisions as follows: First Class Honours, Second Class Honours (Division I), Second Class Honours (Division II), Third Class Honours and Pass. The classification of honours shall be determined by the Board of the Faculty at its full discretion by taking into account the overall performance of the candidates and other relevant factors as appropriate.

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**SYLLABUSES FOR THE DEGREE OF  
BACHELOR OF ARTS IN ARCHITECTURAL STUDIES**

Note: For the purpose of these syllabuses, 3 credits = 2 hours lecture per week

**FIRST YEAR****ARCH1013. Architectural design I (24 credits)**

This whole-year course is devoted to developing an appreciation and understanding of the fundamentals of human activity and physical imperatives through field-work and projects at a level of critical response where students can draw upon their own experience.

Exercises in environmental studies and CAAD in an appropriate context and with an emphasis on the ability to define space, together with group discussions on related issues of shelter, society, and design will form the basis of the year's work.

Field trips form an integral part of the course.

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**ARCH1003. History and theory of architecture I (3 credits)**

A general survey course on Chinese architecture, city planning and Chinese garden with reference to culture and history. It deals with basic knowledge such as philosophies and concepts, spatial analysis, social, environmental and cultural influences, symbolic meanings, building types, materials and construction techniques.

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**ARCH1004. History and theory of architecture II (3 credits)**

This introductory course in the first year deals with a critical survey with reference to factors covering the essential characteristics of western architecture from Greek, Roman to Christian which form the basis on which Modern architecture was developed or a reaction to it.

The purpose of the course is to provide students with an understanding via the culture and tradition that led to the development of Modern architecture from 1900s. It aims to give an awareness that History and theory of architecture is a coherent cultural entity and to enable students to understand the relevance of history in design.

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**ARCH1005. Principles of buildings I (3 credits)**

This course offers an introduction to the basic knowledge in design and construction process, with emphasis upon the principles, basic elements, materials, details, structure and form. Site visits and laboratory assignments form an integral part of the learning process. Case studies involving real projects will be conducted.

**ARCH1006. Principles of buildings II (3 credits)**

The environmental issues of a building are introduced from the macroscopic to the microscopic environment. Prime physical governing factors are examined in relation to the needs of the occupants of the building. Laboratory work and site investigation for carrying out solar design for buildings using physical solar design tools as well as related software will be conducted. Basic building services for a shop/house will be covered.

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**ARCH1007. Visual communications I (3 credits)**

This course covers exercises in two- and three-dimensional spatial elements, i.e. dynamics of visual form; perspectives, projections and basic graphic techniques. The content of the course serves as an introduction by dealing with the clarification of certain fundamental areas of visual enquiry and to develop an awareness, inquisitiveness and a sensitive appreciation of this field.

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**ARCH1008. Visual communications II (3 credits)**

This course is an introduction to digital design media and its use for visual communication in architecture. Computer applications for drawing, drafting, image processing, 3D modeling and visualization, page layout and Internet publishing are introduced through lectures covering theoretical concepts and practical skill building exercises.

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**ARCH1011 & ARCH1012. Architecture and the creative industries I & II (3 credits each)**

These two courses aim to introduce architecture and the design related disciplines (including design, fashion, advertising, art, antiques and crafts, film and video, game and software, music, performing arts, publishing, television and radio) – generally referred to as Creative Industries – to beginning undergraduate students. They assume no previous knowledge or training in the subject and serve to stimulate interests in understanding the creative process in these industries. Students will be required to attend departmental guest lectures as well as other events related to architecture and the creative industries as prescribed by the course coordinator.

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**CARC1001. Practical Chinese language course for Architecture students (3 credits)**

建築學院實用中文課程

1. Practical Chinese Writing Skills 實用中文寫作技巧 (3 lectures)
  - a. *Pai-hua* or literary Chinese 白話或文言
  - b. some characteristics of the Chinese language and communication skills  
漢語特性和語文運用
  - c. modern Chinese usage 現代漢語基礎語法
2. Chinese Characters 漢字 (3 lectures)
  - a. standardized form 規範漢字
  - b. simplified Chinese characters 簡體字
  - c. different scripts 異體字
3. Letter-writing 書信 (3 lectures)
  - a. personal letter writing techniques 私人書信寫作技巧
  - b. architects' business letter writing techniques 事務書信寫作技巧 - 建築專業書信
  - c. architects' official letter writing techniques 公務書信寫作技巧 - 建築專業書信

4. Architect Office Documents 建築師辦公室文書 (3 lectures)
    - a. notices, announcements and proposals 啟示, 通告及建議書
    - b. minutes and reports of meetings 會議文書
  5. Chinese for Special Purposes (Architecture) 專業中文 (6 lectures)
    - a. Chinese culture and the architectural profession 中國文化與建築專業
    - b. report writing for architects 說明書和報告的撰寫技巧 (建築界例子)
    - c. architecture journals: reading skills 建築期刊之閱讀技巧
    - d. technical writing: the language of architecture journals 建築期刊文字
    - e. the language of legal documents: architectural design contracts 建築合同文字
    - f. the language of legal documents: tenders 建築標書文字
  6. Presentation and Communication Techniques 表達與溝通技巧 (2 lectures)
    - a. public speaking and speech writing 演講技巧及演講辭的撰寫
    - b. discussion and the art of persuasion 討論與說服技巧
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### **ECEN1101. Speaking skills for Architecture students (3 credits)**

This course provides Architecture students with an opportunity to reflect on the role of language in presentations for critics and juries. Aspects of presentation skills are practised and developed using students' own designs and extensive use is made of videotaping for feedback. Students are also encouraged to expand and consolidate their linguistic competence in relation to the language and concepts of their discipline. Assessment is wholly by coursework.

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## **SECOND YEAR**

### **ARCH2013. Architectural design II (30 credits)**

This whole-year course focuses on environmental and spatial considerations with emphasis on the integration of building technology in design and the use of digital media in conceptualizing and presenting design ideas.

The course aims at developing both an awareness of architecture within a community environment and an ability to apply architectural language in design. A study of a community will be made paying particular attention to its architectural character and context. This study, which includes basic site survey, will form the basis of ensuing design projects, sketch designs and field studies.

Field trips form an integral part of the course.

Pre-requisite: ARCH1013.

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### **ARCH2003. History and theory of architecture III (3 credits)**

This course develops from first year's introductory course of Chinese Architecture, City Planning and Chinese Gardens with emphasis on the integration of theory and principles related to form and space, aesthetics, technology, ideology and social-culture contexts.

Field trips form an integral part of the course.

**ARCH2004. History and theory of architecture IV (3 credits)**

A continuation of the first-year history course which covers periods of western architecture to the 18th century. It places special emphasis on aspects of theory related to the integration of architecture, art and technology.

Field trips form an integral part of the course.

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**ARCH2005. Building technology I (3 credits)**

This course introduces more complex aspects of construction techniques and materials. Basic principles and design and framing of simple buildings and more complex long span systems are discussed.

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**ARCH2006. Building technology II (3 credits)**

Basic building services, lighting and acoustics will be covered in an integrated approach with structures and construction techniques with emphasis on site visits and technical studies.

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**ARCH2007. Visual communications III (3 credits)**

This course is a further study in using digital media for architectural design and design communication. Techniques for modeling, visualizing, documenting and presenting designs are studied in depth along with underlying principles. Relationship between traditional and digital media in design is also critically examined.

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**ARCH2008. Visual communications IV (3 credits)**

The course is an extension of Visual Communications I dealing with fundamental areas of visual enquiry. Specialized options such as photography, pen and ink, line drawings, life and figure drawings, Chinese calligraphy and painting are offered.

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**ARCH2011. Urbanism I: urban design (3 credits)**

This course offers a comparative study of the history of urban design. The course covers the history of urban design from the earliest cities to the present day. It will introduce the process of urban design, examine planning theories, and synthesize urban morphology (opportunities and constraints of various urban forms).

Field trips form an integral part of the course.

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**ARCH2012. Urbanism II: site planning (3 credits)**

A general survey of the history, theory and practice of site planning and an introduction to relevant problems in urban design and planning.

Field trips form an integral part of the course.



**THIRD YEAR****ARCH3013. Architectural design III (30 credits)**

The whole-year course places emphasis on the development of a design ability to organize building processes of medium complexity within a social and economic framework and in the environmental context of Hong Kong. The course culminates with a comprehensive design project in depth and is assessed by an oral examination. Other design projects, measured drawings and sketch designs supplement the main coursework.

Pre-requisite: ARCH2013.

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**ARCH3003. History and theory of architecture V (3 credits)**

[Architecture of Japan and the West]

This course is concerned primarily with the aesthetics and cultural significance recognized in the architecture of Japan and the western world. Climatic conditions, construction materials and technology are compared. The course also discusses the differences in aesthetics based on proportional systems, the sense of private and public territory, as well as some peculiarities found in Japanese traditional and contemporary culture.

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**ARCH3004. History and theory of architecture VI (3 credits)**

[The rise of modernism: Western Architecture 1700-1900]

This is a survey course on the history of western architecture from the beginning of Enlightenment to the rise of Modernism in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. Emphasis is placed on the understanding of architecture in the social, economic and political contexts of Europe and North America during this period and its significance within the historical development of modern culture.

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**ARCH3005. Building structures I (3 credits)**

This course covers structural philosophy and morphology of multi-storied structures as well as spatial-form resisting structures. Local and international issues and case studies relating to these structural concepts are also discussed.

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**ARCH3006. Building structures II (3 credits)**

This course covers the investigation and general behaviour of soils; shallow and deep foundations; and retaining structures. A discussion of relevant geotechnical issues and case studies are also included in the course.

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**ARCH3007. Building services I (3 credits)**

Building services in medium rise and multifunctional buildings and their applications according to Hong Kong applications are taught. Integration with other environmental considerations is discussed and exercised through case studies and studio projects.

**ARCH3008. Building services II (3 credits)**

Building services and environmental considerations in high rise and complex buildings are discussed. Current international and local issues on building environmental control technologies are also highlighted and illustrated in lectures, site visits, case studies and studio design projects.

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**ARCH3011. Urbanism III (3 credits)**

This course introduces the theory and practice of landscape planning and design with emphasis on urban situations; site utilization, planting, case studies and field trips are included.

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**ARCH3012. Urbanism IV (3 credits)**

This course covers planning objectives, their nature and scope; social and economic implications; introduction to general principles of land use allocation with emphasis on urban context; principles and techniques of planning surveys.

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**ARCH3014. Design and practices of technology I (3 credits)**

The knowledge of technology is disseminated as a tool to make architecture. Historical references outline the development of technology in the modern era. Development of technical design is revealed from working sketches, production documentation, and stages of professional practices. Performance criteria of materials are discussed. The building enclosure is explained as an integrative system, with references to local / international examples.

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**ARCH3015. Design and practices of technology II (3 credits)**

Materials are presented as the basis of construction, in relation to environmental protection and application. Digital technology as a means to make architecture is explained. Awareness to technical documentation and specifications in design realization is revealed. The construction of architecture as a built environment for both physical and mental well being are discussed. Selected building types are discussed with reference to local / international examples.