



**University at Buffalo**  
*The State University of New York*

**School of Architecture and Planning Advisement**

School of Architecture and Planning

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ARCHITECTURE**

The UB Department of Architecture offers the only accredited professional master of architecture (M.Arch.) degree in the State University of New York system, along with an undergraduate preprofessional bachelor of science in architecture (B.S. Arch.), as well as an undergraduate architecture minor. Founded in 1969, the department offers introductory courses for non-majors, as well as undergraduate preprofessional, graduate professional, and advanced postprofessional training in the field of architecture. Additional degree programs include a dual master of architecture plus master of urban planning (M.Arch. + M.U.P.), a dual master of architecture plus master of business administration (M.Arch. + M.B.A.), a dual master of architecture plus master of fine arts in Media Arts Production (M.Arch. + M.F.A.), and a research-based advanced postprofessional master of architecture (M.Arch.II).

Architecture is the applied art and technique of designing and building structures, and architects are professionals with specialized knowledge about the design of built and natural environments. People need places in which to live, work, play, learn, shop, and eat. These places may be private or public; indoors or outdoors; or rooms, buildings, or complexes, and together, they make up neighborhoods, towns, suburbs, and cities. Architects transform concepts and then develop images, plans, and designs of buildings, communities, and landscapes for construction.

**Recommended academic preparation:**

Incoming students should prepare themselves in the areas of:

- freehand drawing;
- manual drafting;
- figure drawing;
- sculpting;
- studio art;
- technical drawing; and,
- 2-D and 3-D design.

Graphic techniques, model making, ceramics production, metal working, as well as many other visual skills are taught in the preprofessional bachelor of science in architecture program, but students who have some earlier studio preparation may find it easier to succeed in design coursework. In addition, the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture recommends introductory courses in urban studies, art, and world history for those interested in architecture.

Architects must be able to graphically communicate their ideas visually to their clients; therefore, design and drawing ability is helpful for such communication. Equally important is a visual orientation and the ability to conceptualize and understand spatial relationships.

Good communication skills, the ability to work independently or as part of a team, and creativity are important qualities for anyone interested in becoming an architect.

Many of the building technology courses and design studios required in the Department of Architecture depend upon prior knowledge of physics and calculus, and physics and calculus are prerequisites for the structures/construction courses in architecture. Students may fulfill these prerequisites with successful completion of Advanced Placement high school calculus and Advanced Placement high school physics, or successful completion of introductory college calculus and introductory college physics.

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The bachelor of science in architecture (B.S. Arch.) is a preprofessional baccalaureate degree designed to instill concepts and skills upon which professional architecture studies at the graduate level are based. It allows students to complete all prerequisites for eligibility to enter a two-year accredited professional master of architecture (M.Arch.) degree program. This format provides candidates for the preprofessional bachelor of science in architecture with a liberal exposure to the applied arts, humanities, social sciences, technologies, and aesthetic expression. The goal is to convey architecture as a field of study and a way of viewing the world. A minimum of 128 semester credit hours is required for the preprofessional bachelor of science in architecture.

#### **Acceptance Information:**

**Admissions Statement.** The School of Architecture and Planning has an admission policy that actively encourages applicants from protected groups and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or veteran status. Admission is competitive, and; applicants are reviewed according to the admission criteria. Acceptance of students in the preprofessional, professional, and postprofessional programs is determined on the basis of the applicants' qualifications and experience. However, since the school's size is limited, the programs may exercise discretionary powers of selection. Courses and programs offered by the School of Architecture and Planning may include an instructional technology fee. Contact UB School of Architecture and Planning Advisement or visit <http://wings.buffalo.edu/ap/> for additional information on undergraduate admission and advisement.

#### **Bachelor of Science in Architecture Freshmen Admissions:**

For students with no previous postsecondary education experience, the Department of Architecture uses the same requirements for departmental admission at the freshman level as the university uses; that is, high school average, completed high school courses, rank in high school class, and standardized exam scores (SAT/ACT). Portfolios are not required for the initial freshmen application process; however, portfolios and academic letters of recommendation may be requested at a later time as part of the undergraduate admissions review. First-time freshman applicants are notified of the departmental decision at the same time that they are notified of the university's admission decision, with competitive admission on a space available basis. Minimum SAT, ACT, and TOEFL scores are required for studio enrollment. The preprofessional bachelor of science in architecture is a fall-only admission program. Contact UB School of Architecture and Planning Advisement or visit <http://wings.buffalo.edu/ap/> for additional information on undergraduate admission and advisement.

#### **Bachelor of Science in Architecture Transfer Admissions:**

Transfer students must first apply to the University at Buffalo by February 15 and meet its transfer admission requirements. Department of Architecture transfer admission application forms and portfolio requirement information (if appropriate) are mailed or downloaded once the undergraduate transfer admission application is received by the University at Buffalo. Transfer students should consult directly with the Department of Architecture to determine architecture application deadlines, academic admission criteria, and recommended preparatory courses. Applications from undergraduate transfer students received after February 28 will be reviewed on a space-only available basis until May 31 as guided by the School of Architecture and Planning's admission statement. Visit <http://transfer.buffalo.edu/degreeprograms.php> for transfer admission procedures. No additional transfer application material will be reviewed after May 31. **A minimum GPA of 2.85 in architecture and architecture-related courses and a minimum overall GPA of 2.85 is required for admission consideration. Admissions is competitive and granted on a space-available basis.** Minimum SAT, ACT, and TOEFL scores are required for studio enrollment. The preprofessional bachelor of science in architecture is a fall-only admission program. Contact UB School of Architecture and Planning Advisement or visit <http://wings.buffalo.edu/ap/> for additional information on undergraduate admission and advisement.

For more information on the UB preprofessional bachelor of science in architecture, visit:

[http://www.ap.buffalo.edu/portfolios/arch\\_portfolio.asp?p=arch-ug](http://www.ap.buffalo.edu/portfolios/arch_portfolio.asp?p=arch-ug)  
<http://www.ap.buffalo.edu/techne/>  
<http://undergrad-catalog.buffalo.edu/academicprograms/arc.shtml>  
<http://wings.buffalo.edu/ap/advising/BSArch-Major.pdf>  
<http://wings.buffalo.edu/ap/BSArch-Prep-Courses.pdf>  
<http://wings.buffalo.edu/ap/>  
<http://www.ap.buffalo.edu/architecture/admissions/undergraduate.asp>

For further information on undergraduate admission and advisement, contact UB School of Architecture and Planning Advisement via e-mail at [ap-advising@buffalo.edu](mailto:ap-advising@buffalo.edu).