

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

Bachelor of Arts with Honours in Architecture

Awarding institution	Liverpool John Moores University
Teaching institution	LJMU
UCAS Code	K100
JACS Code	K100
Programme Duration	Full-Time: 3 Years
Language of Programme	All LJMU programmes are delivered and assessed in English
Subject benchmark statement	Architecture (2020)
Programme accredited by	The Architects Registration Board (ARB) The, Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) and the Board of Architects Malaysia (LAM)
Description of accreditation	Prescribed by the Architects Registration Board (ARB) at Part 1 level for the purpose of registration in the UK. Validated by the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) at Part 1 level for the purpose of eligibility for membership of the RIBA. Validated by the Board of Architects Malaysia (LAM) at Part 1.
Validated target and alternative exit awards	Bachelor of Arts with Honours in Architecture Diploma of Higher Education in Architecture Certificate of Higher Education in Architecture
Programme Leader	Jamie Scott

Educational aims of the programme

To produce architecture graduates equipped to participate successfully in professional architectural practice and as members of teams whose aims are to design and realise architectural structures and urban plans within the context of global environmental and sustainable concerns.

To provide a cohesive and focussed educational experience that integrates theoretical and practical aspects of architecture in parallel with skills in personal, intellectual and ethical conduct.

To introduce students to progressively challenging and complex problems, in a learning environment that cares for the individual student's progress, irrespective of race, background, gender or physical disability, and allows for increasing personal responsibility and professional maturity.

To deliver a course of study that covers the ARB / RIBA General Criteria at Part 1.

To produce architectural graduates that have attained the ARB / RIBA Graduate Attributes for Part 1.

To encourage students to fully engage with the development of employability skills by completing a self-awareness statement.

Alternative Exit/ Interim Award Learning Outcomes - Certificate of Higher Education

A student who is eligible for this award will be able to:

Demonstrate a basic ability to create architectural designs that satisfy both aesthetic and technical requirements (GC1)

Demonstrate basic knowledge of the histories and theories of architecture and the related arts, technologies and human sciences (GC2)

Demonstrate a basic knowledge of the fine arts as an influence on the quality of architectural design (GC3)

Demonstrate a basic understanding of the relationship between people and buildings, and between buildings and their environment, and the need to relate buildings and the spaces between them to human needs and scale (GC5)

Demonstrate a basic understanding of the methods of investigation and preparation of the brief for an architectural design project (GC7)

Demonstrate a basic understanding of the structural design, constructional and engineering problems associated with building design (GC8)

Demonstrate basic knowledge of physical problems and technologies and the function of buildings so as to provide them with internal conditions of comfort and protection against the climate (GC9)

Utilise and develop communication skills via verbal, visual and written communication.

Alternative Exit/ Interim Award Learning Outcomes - Diploma of Higher Education

A student who is eligible for this award will be able to:

Demonstrate the ability to create architectural designs that satisfy both aesthetic and technical requirements (GC1)

Demonstrate adequate knowledge of the histories and theories of architecture and the related arts, technologies and human sciences (GC2)

Demonstrate a knowledge of the fine arts as an influence on the quality of architectural design (GC3)

Demonstrate adequate knowledge of urban design, planning and the skills involved in the planning process (GC4)

Demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between people and buildings, and between buildings and their environment, and the need to relate buildings and the spaces between them to human needs and scale (GC5)

Demonstrate an understanding of the profession of architecture and the role of the architect in society, in particular in preparing briefs that take account of social factors (GC6)

Demonstrate an understanding of the methods of investigation and preparation of the brief for an architectural design project (GC7)

Demonstrate an understanding of the structural design, constructional and engineering problems associated with building design (GC8)

Demonstrate adequate knowledge of physical problems and technologies and the function of buildings so as to provide them with internal conditions of comfort and protection against the climate (GC9)

Demonstrate that they possess the necessary design skills to meet building users' requirements within the constraints imposed by cost factors and building regulations (GC10)

Utilise and develop communication skills via verbal, visual and written communication.

Target award Learning Outcomes - Bachelor of Arts with Honours

A student successfully completing the programme of study will have acquired the following subject knowledge and understanding as well as skills and other attributes.

A student who is eligible for this award will be able to:

1. Demonstrate adequate knowledge of the histories and theories of architecture and the related arts, technologies and human sciences (GC2)

2. Demonstrate a knowledge of the fine arts as an influence on the quality of architectural design (GC3)

3. Demonstrate adequate knowledge of urban design, planning and the skills involved in the planning process (GC4)

4. Demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between people and buildings, and between buildings and their environment, and the need to relate buildings and the spaces between them to human needs and scale (GC5)

5. Demonstrate an understanding of the methods of investigation and preparation of the brief for an architectural design project (GC7)

6. Demonstrate the ability to create architectural designs that satisfy both aesthetic and technical requirements (GC1)

7. Demonstrate that they possess the necessary design skills to meet building users' requirements within the constraints imposed by cost factors and building regulations (GC10)

8. Demonstrate an understanding of the profession of architecture and the role of the architect in society, in particular in preparing briefs that take account of social factors (GC6)

9. Demonstrate an understanding of the structural design, constructional and engineering problems associated with building design (GC8)
10. Demonstrate adequate knowledge of physical problems and technologies and the function of buildings so as to provide them with internal conditions of comfort and protections against the climate (GC9)
11. Demonstrate adequate knowledge of the industries, organisations, regulations and procedures involved in translating design concepts into buildings and integrating plans into overall planning (GC11)
12. Demonstrate a systematic understanding of key aspects of architecture, including acquisition of coherent and detailed knowledge, at least some of which is at, or informed by, the forefront of the discipline (QD 1.1)
13. Demonstrate an ability to deploy accurately established techniques of analysis and enquiry within architecture (QD 1.2)
14. To devise and sustain arguments, and/or to solve problems, using ideas and techniques, some of which are at the forefront of the discipline (QD 1.3)
15. To describe and comment upon particular aspects of current research, or equivalent advanced scholarship, in architecture (QD 1.4)
16. Demonstrate an appreciation of the uncertainty, ambiguity and limits of knowledge (QD 1.5)
17. The ability to manage their own learning, and to make use of scholarly reviews and primary sources (for example, refereed research articles and/or original materials appropriate to architecture) (QD 1.6)
18. Apply the methods and techniques that they have learned to review, consolidate, extend and apply their knowledge and understanding, and to initiate and carry out projects (QD 1.7)
19. Critically evaluate arguments, assumptions, abstract concepts and data (that may be incomplete), to make judgements, and to frame appropriate questions to achieve a solution - or identify a range of solutions - to a problem (QD 1.8)
20. Communicate information, ideas, problems and solutions to both specialist and non-specialist audiences (QD 1.9)

Teaching, Learning and Assessment

The methods used to enable outcomes to be achieved and demonstrated are as follows:

History & Theory modules - Teaching is predominantly through a series of thematic lectures. Learning is consolidated through seminars. Assessed through written and illustrated essays and reports

Design modules - Teaching is predominantly through a series of thematic lectures. Learning is consolidated through tutorials, design workshops and design reviews. Assessed through written, drawn and modelled coursework submissions

Integrated Design modules - Teaching is predominantly through a series of thematic lectures. Learning is consolidated through tutorials, design workshops and design reviews. Assessed through written, drawn and modelled coursework submissions

Environment and Technology Modules - Teaching is predominantly through a series of thematic lectures. Learning is consolidated through seminars, design workshops and CAD workshops. Assessed through written, drawn and modelled coursework submissions.

Practice and Legislation module - Teaching is predominantly through a series of thematic lectures and CAD workshops. Assessed through written and illustrated reports.

Programme structure - programme rules and modules

The programme, which comprises Levels 4, 5 and 6, is only offered full time. Students will normally enrol on the BA (Hons) programme leading to exemption from the professional, Architects Registration Board (ARB) & Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA), Part 1 examinations.

Following conclusion of the Degree, most students spend one year in practice.

Students may then enrol on the MArch course, which is offered as a full time, two years option, or a part time four years option. Upon completion of the MArch, students are exempt from the professional ARB/RIBA Part 2 examinations. The MArch stresses learning in a more practice orientated studio environment with increased opportunity for specialisation, and includes a major research project.

Upon completion of five years academic study, students will need two years of practical experience before a final professional exam; Part 3 allows registration and use of the title architect. This exam is co-ordinated and conducted by the RIBA Northwest with advice only from the universities in Liverpool and Manchester.

It is possible to leave the programmes after the third year. However the course is designed around a five year academic structure that is required for entry to the architectural profession.

The course is structured in modules, which carry credits as set out below. Detail description of modules are available in the Module Guides.

Year 6 (MArch Year 2) FHEQ-Level 7

Year 5 (MArch Year 1) FHEQ-Level 7

Year 4 Optional Year in Practice

Year 3 (BA Year 3) FHEQ-Level 6

Year 2 (BA Year 2) FHEQ-Level 5

Year 1 (BA Year 1) FHEQ-Level 4

Students will be offered the opportunity of study abroad at Level 5. The programme will offer the opportunity 60 credits of study at Level 5. Students will be enrolled on a 360 credit honours with study abroad programme. A 60 credit Level 5 study abroad module 5120AR will normally replace the semester 2 modules on the standard programme. This study abroad should cover the same learning outcomes as the modules being replaced. The modules to be studied in the host institution must be agreed in advance. The Level 5 mean for the final award mark will be calculated based upon the 120 credits at Level 5.

Level 6	Potential Awards on completion	Bachelor of Arts with Honours
Core	Option	Award Requirements
6111ASA Design Project Research - CDP (20 credits) 6121ARC Integrated Design 2: Weather or not - explorations around climate (20 credits) 6122ARC Integrated Design 2: Supporting Studies (20 credits) 6123ARC Integrated Design 3: Comprehensive Design Project (40 credits) 6131ASA Practice and Legislation: Ethical design practice and building legislation (20 credits)		120 core credits at level 6 0 option credits at level 6
Level 5	Potential Awards on completion	
Core	Option	Award Requirements
5111ASA History and Theory 2: Modernism; from the symbol of the present to the medium of the future (20 credits) 5121ARC Design 5: City Design; analysing and shaping the city (20 credits) 5122ARC Design 6: Building in the city; enriching urban form through architecture (20 credits) 5123ASA Integrated Design 1: Explorative Project - Design (20 credits) 5124ASA Integrated Design 2: Explorative Project - Technology (20 credits) 5131ASA Environment and Technology 2: Use and application of Building Information Modelling (20 credits)		120 core credits at level 5 0 option credits at level 5
Level 4	Potential Awards on completion	
Core	Option	Award Requirements
4111ASA History and Theory 1: A global review of architectural Design (20 credits) 4121ASA Fundamental Skills: Understanding buildings through drawing (20 credits)		120 core credits at level 4 0 option credits at level 4

<p>4122ASA Design 1: Light, space and form; narrative and spatial sequencing (20 credits)</p> <p>4123ASA Design 2: Exploration for a place for making (20 credits)</p> <p>4124ASA Design 3: Crafting a Spatial Proposition (10 credits)</p> <p>4125ASA Design 4: The Need for Design (10 credits)</p> <p>4131ASA Environment and Technology 1: Introduction to structural and environmental design (20 credits)</p>		
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Information about assessment regulations

All programmes leading to LJMU awards operate within the University's Academic Framework.
<https://www.ljmu.ac.uk/about-us/public-information/academic-quality-and-regulations/academic-framework>

Opportunities for work-related learning (location and nature of activities)

The BA (Hons) Architecture programme is a professionally validated programme that awards exemption from the ARB, RIBA and LAM Part 1 examinations.

Most students of architecture enrol with the ultimate goal of becoming a registered architect. To qualify as a registered architect in the UK a candidate must complete Parts 1, 2 & 3 of the ARB / RIBA examination. Before sitting the Part 3 examination candidates must have completed 24 months of mentored and logged practical experience. This can be initiated at any time after enrolling onto a recognised Part 1. Most candidates follow the pattern of completing their first degree BA Hons (Part 1) then taking a fully logged 'year out' in practice before returning to complete their second degree MArch (Part 2) and then logging another 12 months of practice experience before sitting their Part 3 examination.

The department has an RIBA registered Professional Studies Advisor (PSA) who advises students and signs off their log sheets should they choose to register with us during their 'year out'. The programme incorporates a full course of Professional Practice lectures with related coursework in years two and three.

All Architecture students benefit from the structured input of LJMU Careers, Employability and Enterprise Team support, providing a number of workshops and events across all levels of the programme.

Criteria for admission

A/AS Level

128 UCAS points from a minimum of 3 A Levels. Maximum of 20 AS points accepted.

BTEC National Diploma

128 UCAS points

Irish Leaving Certificate

128 UCAS points. Maximum of 20 UCAS tariff points at Ordinary level.

Scottish Higher

128 UCAS points from a minimum of 2 Advanced Highers.

International Baccalaureate

30 IB points.

Access

At least 30 Distinctions and 15 Merits or any other combination that equates to 128 UCAS Tariff points in a relevant subject.

Other

All short-listed applicants are requested to submit a digital portfolio prior to an offer being made. Applicants are awarded an offer on the quality of their digital portfolio or work, and academic attainments.

Prior to starting the programme applicants must have obtained grade 4 or grade C or above in English Language, Mathematics and a Science GCSE or an approved alternative qualification:

Key Skills Level 2 in English/Maths

NVQ Level 2 Functional skills in Maths and English Writing and or Reading

Skills for Life Level 2 in Numeracy/English

Higher Diploma in Maths/English

Functional skills Level 2 in Maths/English

Northern Ireland Essential Skills Level 2 in Communication or Application of Number

Wales Essential Skills Level 2 in Communication or Application of Number

Mature entry

Applications are welcomed from mature and non-standard applicants, who will be considered on an individual basis. These applicants may be required to submit an essay and/or attend an interview, and should demonstrate potential and motivation and/or have relevant experience.

Overseas qualifications

International applications will be considered in line with UK qualifications. Any applicant whose first language is not English will be required to have IELTS 6.0 (minimum of 5.5 in each component) or acceptable equivalent.

External Quality Benchmarks

All programmes leading to LJMU awards have been designed and approved in accordance with the UK Quality Code for Higher Education, including the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications in the UK (FHEQ) and subject benchmark statements where applicable.

The University is subject to periodic review of its quality and standards by the Quality Assurance Agency (QAA). Published review reports are available on the QAA website at www.qaa.ac.uk

Programmes which are professionally accredited are reviewed by professional, statutory and regulatory bodies (PSRBs) and such programmes must meet the competencies/standards of those PSRBs.

Support for students and their learning

The University aims to provide students with access to appropriate and timely information, support and guidance to ensure that they are able to benefit fully from their time at LJMU. All students are assigned a Personal Tutor to provide academic support and when necessary signpost students to the appropriate University support services.

Students are able to access a range of professional services including:

- Advice on practical aspects of study and how to use these opportunities to support and enhance their personal and academic development. This includes support for placements and careers guidance.
- Student Advice and Wellbeing Services provide students with advice, support and information, particularly in the areas of: student funding and financial matters, disability, advice and support to international students, study support, accommodation, health, wellbeing and counselling.
- Students studying for an LJMU award at a partner organisation will have access to local support services

Methods for evaluating and improving the quality and standards of teaching and learning

Student Feedback and Evaluation

The University uses the results of student feedback from internal and external student surveys (such as module evaluations, the NSS and PTES), module evaluation questionnaires and meetings with student representatives to improve the quality of programmes.

Staff development

The quality of teaching is assured through staff review and staff development in learning, teaching and assessment.

Internal Review

All programmes are reviewed annually and periodically, informed by a range of data and feedback, to ensure quality and standards of programmes and to make improvements to programmes.

External Examining

External examiners are appointed to programmes to assess whether:

- the University is maintaining the threshold academic standards set for awards in accordance with the FHEQ and applicable subject benchmark statements
- the assessment process measures student achievement rigorously and fairly against the intended

outcomes of the programme(s) and is conducted in line with University policies and regulations

- the academic standards are comparable with those in other UK higher education institutions of which external examiners have experience
- the achievement of students are comparable with those in other UK higher education institutions of which the external examiners have experience

and to provide informative comment and recommendations on:

- good practice and innovation relating to learning, teaching and assessment observed by external examiners
- opportunities to enhance the quality of the learning opportunities provided to students

Please note:

This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content, teaching, learning and assessment methods of each module can be found in module and programme guides.