

ARCHITECTURE, B.S.

Seven Penn State campuses are scheduled for closure after Spring 2027: DuBois, Fayette, New Kensington, Mont Alto, Shenango, Wilkes-Barre, and York. New students are not being admitted at these campuses.

Begin Campus: University Park

End Campus: University Park

Program Description

The Department of Architecture is a member of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture and the Bachelor of Architecture degree is accredited by the National Architectural Accrediting Board. The major provides for the education of architects at the professional and pre-professional levels.

"In the United States, most state registration boards require a degree from an accredited professional degree program as a prerequisite for licensure. The National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB), which is the sole agency authorized to accredit U.S. professional degree programs in architecture, recognizes three types of degrees:

1. the Bachelor of Architecture,
2. the Master of Architecture, and
3. the Doctor of Architecture.

A program may be granted a 8-year, 3-year, or 2-year term of accreditation, depending on the extent of its conformance with established educational standards.

Doctor of Architecture and Master of Architecture degree programs may consist of a pre-professional undergraduate degree and a professional graduate degree that, when earned sequentially, constitute an accredited professional education. However, the pre-professional degree is not, by itself, recognized as an accredited degree."

Bachelor of Science

The pre-professional Bachelor of Science degree program in Architecture (ARCBS) is a four-year curriculum which requires a minimum of 120 credits. The curriculum overlaps many of the professional (BARCH) program courses, exactly aligned in the first two years. The ARCBS program prepares graduates to pursue careers in fields such as construction, real estate development, public administration, or historic preservation. Students may also continue their education at the graduate level in fields such as architecture, urban planning, or law. Enrollment in the pre-professional (ARCBS) program is limited to those students who transfer from the professional (BARCH) program.

What is Architecture?

The study of architecture is a broad endeavor combining the arts and humanities with engineering, science, and technology. It is a global study – from piazzas in Italy to rural contexts to information networks spanning physical and virtual domains. As creative designers, architects reflect the history, philosophy, dreams, habits, and values of a culture through buildings and spaces. Architects create responsible solutions to the needs of clients and the natural circumstances of sites. The profession spans the classical to the cutting-edge, and studying architecture encourages exploration across a range of interests, and provides flexibility to develop academic concentrations or pursue minors. The architecture studio is a laboratory in which design synthesizes history,

theory, structural systems, building materials, environmental control systems, visual communications, professional practices, and systems integration.

You Might Like this Program If...

- You're fascinated by the intersection of spaces, cultures, history, and people
- You think deeply and love to create
- You're compelled by art, technology, and the environment
- You like formulas and experimentation
- You want to impact society
- You are self-motivated and enjoy the balance of teamwork and working independently
- You honor tradition while inventing novel practices
- You welcome responsibility
- You think and act with precision
- You take risks
- You want to explore, discover, and invent