

APPLICATIONS for ARCHITECTURE



HOW DO YOU QUALIFY AS AN ARCHITECT?

- You have to register with the Architects Registration Board (ARB) to use the title 'architect'
- The current route to registration involves completion of 3 qualifications:

Part 1 (3 years)

Part 2 (2 years)

Part 3 (12-24 months: Post-grad dip)

+ 2 years of practical experience



- After completion of these components you can register as an architect with the Architects Registration Board (ARB) and join the RIBA as a Chartered Architect. Most architecture qualifications in the UK are recognised by both ARB (accreditation) and RIBA (validation). NB RIBA offers its own programmes at: Foundation level, RIBA Part 1 and 2, RIBA Part 3.

<https://www.architecture.com/education-cpd-and-careers/how-to-become-an-architect?srsId=AfmBOooaZicO8dBuuLmRL9qV7t3U-LTq448c4DgdCdyxGaAaK1LX9gsC>

UCL The Bartlett – 22 Gordon Square, London

- Very highly regarded
- Emphasis on portfolio – very good video on portfolio construction. They are looking for creativity above all else, and how your ideas develop. Like models, drawing, photos, materials, recycling, etc.
- They interview (c20 mins) and you present your digital portfolio and then have a discussion with them.
- They don't seem to mind what A Levels you do if you have the right skills and portfolio. Like many institutions they ask for minimal grades in GCSE English and Maths
- 80,000 applications in 2024 – tariff points not used – A*A*A* -ABB offers, or 40-34 in IB (20 in 3 x HL – 16 in 3 HL)



AA – Architectural Association – 32-39 Bedford Square, WC1B 3ES

- The portfolio is key to success
- Acceptance rate is 10%
- Entry requirements: 3 x A Levels at grade C or above; if one A Level is in an art/design subject there must be at least one A Level in a non-art/design subject as well.
IB: Minimum overall score of 30 points. No guidelines for specific subjects

‘The AA is keen to hear from students who can demonstrate initiative in entering into the very public forms of presentation, discussion and debate that permeate the AA School, the architectural community and the world at large. We are looking for students who have a combination of curiosity and ambition that is required to define a unique path through a school that fosters a multitude of pedagogical methods and agendas.’

The AA is a Higher Education Institution (HEI) and is one of the oldest schools of architecture in the UK. **The AA is not a member of UCAS and all applications are directly through the school.** The procedure is the same for all prospective students.’



University of Cambridge

- Architecture BA, K100, 3 years
60 places, 9 applicants per place
A Level Entry requirements: A*AA
IB entry requirements: 41-42 points with 776 at HL
- 'Architecture at Cambridge combines the intellectual challenges of both arts and sciences with the opportunity for creative design.
Study history and philosophy of architecture, participatory practice, inclusivity, contemporary culture and urbanism. Alongside this you'll learn about construction, structural design and environmental design.'



Department of Architecture and Civil Engineering, University of Bath

North Road, Claverton Down, Bath, BA2 7AY

- Typical offer: A*AA (or AAA or A*AB + an EPQ grade A)
- 4 years
- 2 placements (3-6 months), second terms of yr 2 and yr 3
- Architecture and engineering
- 'We have a significant preference for A Level Mathematics or Physics, and we have generally not been able to make offers to applicants unless they had strong study in Maths or Physics.'
- We also prefer an Art or Design A Level - if you do not study one of these subjects your application will need to show evidence of substantial exposure to art and design.'



Edinburgh School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture (ESALA)

- MA 4 yrs; BA 3 yrs; Part 1
- A*AA is typical, or 39 pts with 666 at HL
- 'Your studies will include contemporary conversations taking place not only in architecture but also in:
landscape
construction
urbanism
economics
politics
ethical practice'
- 1200 students in the department, most in architecture
- Do courses on landscape architecture
- Do courses on interior design
- <https://undergraduate.degrees.ed.ac.uk/index.php?action=view&code=k100>
3.49 video



NOTTINGHAM UNIVERSITY

- Campus university
- Faculty of Engineering. Several different types of course eg BArch (entry requirements AAA, or 34 pts overall or 666 at HL), Architecture and Environmental Design (entry requirements AAA), Architectural Environment, 3 courses (AAA—ABB)

- ‘Your portfolio should contain 12 – 16 images of your work. This can be in the following categories:

Your hand drawings

Photographed images

At least one example of a 3D made piece, such as ceramics, fashion or a simple model.

The remaining 3 – 4 images can include work that is an expansion on sections 1 – 3 above or use of another medium entirely.

When thinking about what hand drawings or photographed images to include we’d encourage you to capture something that’s familiar to you such as where you live. That often tells us more about your interests than a drawing or photograph of a famous building. Your portfolio must not include virtual 3D computer aided designs. These don’t give us a true understanding of your design skills or how you communicate by hand drawing. You’ll receive an email from us confirming the portfolio requirements in more detail, the format and the submission date.’



NEWCASTLE UNIVERSITY - School of Architecture, Planning & Landscaping

- Architecture BA K100, 3 years
Entry requirements: A Level: AAA.
Candidates may be required to submit a portfolio for review as part of the selection process. GCSE grade B/6 in Mathematics and English C/4 is preferred, if not taken at a higher level. IB: A minimum of 36 points. Candidates may be required to submit a portfolio for review as part of the selection process, usually if they haven't done Art or Design at A Level or IB HL.
- Also, Architecture and Urban Planning, BA, K190. 3 years
Entry requirements: ABB/32 points



There are many more places to study architecture, such as Oxford Brookes (once the top UK university for Architecture), Liverpool (the first university in the UK to award a RIBA accredited degree in Architecture)

OXFORD BROOKES

Some courses have lower entry requirements, such as Oxford Brookes. For K100 the offer is AAB for A Level, 33 points for IB, or UCAS Tariff Points 136. Some university courses only make offers with tariff points and this is how to calculate them. Oxford Brookes is ranked joint 17th in The Times University Rankings, compared with Cambridge 4, Bath 5, Edinburgh 6, Nottingham 8, Newcastle 11.

UCAS A LEVEL POINTS		
A*	56	EPQ 28
A	48	24
B	40	20
C	32	16
D	24	12
E	16	8

UCAS IB POINTS					
HIGHER LEVEL		STANDARD LEVEL		EE	ToK
7	56	7	28	A 12	A 12
6	48	6	24	B 10	B 10
5	32	5	16	C 8	C 8
4	24	4	12	D 6	D 6
3	12	3	6	E 4	E 4
2	0	2	0		

SOME OTHER RELATED COURSES TO BE FOUND AT VARIOUS UNIVERSITIES WITH VARIOUS TITLES:

- BS or BA in Landscape Architecture
- Bachelor of Architecture and Urban Planning
- Interior Design
- Architecture and Environmental Design
- Architectural Environment Engineering
- Architectural Environment Engineering including an Industrial Year Meng
- Architectural Environment Engineering Beng
- Structural Engineering with Architecture Beng or Meng
- MSc or PGDip in Sustainable Architecture: Evaluation and Design

THE TIMES UNIVERSITY RANKINGS – ARCHITECTURE 2025

<https://www.thetimes.com/uk-university-rankings/league-table>

Other options are: The Complete University Guide, The Guardian University Guide, or Times Higher Education World University Rankings

Subject Rank	Overall Rank	University	Teaching Quality	Student Experience	Research Quality	Entry Standards	Graduate Prospects	Total
1	10	Loughborough	89.5	86.9	72	166	100	100
2	14	Sheffield	90	89.2	71.8	173	89.4	97.8
3	32	Cardiff	89.5	80.2	67.5	170	92.1	96.8
4	4	Cambridge	80.5	73.1	74.8	202	88	96.3
5	8	Bath	86.9	81	49.5	195	92.1	95.9
6	17=	Edinburgh	85.1	79.1	59	183	92.2	95.7
7	23	Liverpool	90	85.6	55.5	153	88.6	93.6
8	30=	Nottingham	85.4	74.4	59	154	91.5	93
9	20	Strathclyde	87.2	72	50.2	202	81.7	92.7
10	26	Queen’s, Belfast	90.1	79.9	36.5	147	96.3	92.5
11	30=	Newcastle	83	76	56	168	85.5	91.5
12	n/a	Man Sch of Arch	80.7	73.5	53.2	168	88.5	91.3
13=	66=	Liverpool John Moores	88.7	86.3	38.2	148	89.8	91.2
13=	7	University Coll, London	82.5	68	61	177	82.8	91.2
15	40=	University of the Arts London	76.3	72.5	46	159	91.2	89.5
16	54	Coventry	84.6	81.9	54.2	111	88	88.9
17=	50	Oxf Brookes	86.3	77.9	33.2	136	91.3	88.8
17=	84=	Sheff Hallam	86.9	76.6	43.2	117	91.2	88.8
19	61	Robert Gordon	88.9	82.5	14	159	89.5	88.5
20	70	Plymouth	87.1	76.3	49	117	87.3	88.4
21=	87	Uni of Creative Arts	90.1	88.6	41.2	128	81.1	88.2
21=	40=	Kent	78.5	74.2	61	135	83.7	88.2
23	45	Ulster	85.7	78.8	54.2	129	81.1	88.1
24	42	Nott Trent	90.7	85.5	38	119	84.5	88
25	68	Univ of the West of England	85.3	78.2	40.8	152	80.9	87.8
26	107=	B’ham City	88	78.8	31.2	136	85.7	87.4
27	24=	Reading	79.8	71.2	53.5	131	n/a	87.3
28	120	Westminster	89.9	84.6	38.2	130	80.2	87.2
29	36	Dundee	83.5	59.6	n/a	179	97	87
30	102	Greenwich	86.7	78.6	30	125	87.1	86.6

[List goes up to 48 with London Metropolitan University last with 75.1 overall points]