

School of Arts and Sciences

ARCHITECTURAL STUDIES

www.haa.pitt.edu/undergraduate/architectural.html

The Architectural Studies Program is a cross-disciplinary, pre-professional major suited to undergraduate students who plan to pursue a professional graduate degree in architecture—normally a Master of Architecture degree. It is also appropriate for students interested in other careers in the design and construction of the built environment, including landscape architecture, interior design, restoration, historic preservation, real estate development, and contracting.

The program focuses on learning and thinking about architecture rather than on the production of architecture, and for that reason, offers no technical or professional courses. Developed in consultation with 27 departments of architecture, comparable curricula are not known to exist in other publicly supported institutions. In the history of the program, students interested in graduate study—approximately 30 percent of those who complete the degree requirements—have gained admission to many different graduate schools, ranging from Harvard University to Arizona State University.

The University of Pittsburgh offers you a unique opportunity to study architecture in a city whose buildings, monuments, and neighborhoods reflect its distinct industrial and social history. Some of Pittsburgh's architectural highlights include Frank Lloyd Wright's Fallingwater, a world-renowned home designed to gracefully blend into the surrounding waterfall and woodlands; the Allegheny Courthouse and Jail, Henry Hobson Richardson's great stone structure that marries beauty, function, and symbolism; and the many impressive institutions, office buildings, and mansions built by renowned industrialists such as Andrew Carnegie, Henry Clay Frick, and the Mellon family.

The Department of History of Art and Architecture is located in the Frick Fine Arts Building on the edge of 456-acre Schenley Park, and across from The Carnegie, a large cultural complex that includes the Carnegie Museum of Art, the Heinz Architectural Center, and the Carnegie Library. It is just a short walk away from Phipps Conservatory and Carnegie Mellon University, which offers an architecture lecture series and complementary library holdings in its School of Fine Arts.

Required Courses for Majors

The architectural studies major requires the completion of 36 credits, distributed as follows (Note: HA&A stands for the Department of History of Art and Architecture):

1. Core Courses (12 credits)

HA&A 1040 History of Architectural Theory (3 cr.)—This course examines the historical development of aesthetic theories employed in the conception of architectural design through the course of Western civilization. It focuses on Vitruvius in antiquity, the rewritings of Vitruvius in the Renaissance, and the key theorists—both moralist and rationalist—of the modern era, including Ruskin, Viollet-le-Duc, and le Corbusier.

HA&A 1900 Internship (3 cr.)—An internship with a Pittsburgh architecture firm offers you practical, professional experience in one of the design areas, and often helps to focus your particular interests and goals. There is no class meeting, and students work directly with their supervisor to plan and evaluate their work. A quality point average of 2.75 or higher is required.

HA&A 1913 Architectural Studies Seminar (3 cr.)—This is the capstone course of the major, a design studio course intended to make a bridge between this pre-professional curriculum and a graduate professional program.



HA&A 1915 Portfolio (3 cr.)—This senior-year course helps you prepare a portfolio for employment or admission to a graduate program in architecture. Students work on their portfolios individually and consult with the instructor by appointment.

2. Visual Skills (12 credits)

Work in studio arts can be expanded beyond these four required courses in design, sculpture, drawing, and perspective drawing to include a second major.

SA 0110 Foundation Design (3 cr.)—Through lectures, discussions, critiques, and the creation of images and objects, students are introduced to the dynamics of composition, form and content, systems and theory, aesthetic issues, visual analysis, perception and the value of visual awareness, and creativity in an increasingly image-oriented culture. Students gain experience with a variety of media, while developing skills of observation and technique in resolving a visual problem or expressing an idea.

SA 0140 Foundation Sculpture (3 cr.)—This course introduces students to a variety of sculpture techniques and materials through projects that examine certain characteristics of natural and abstract form. The principal goals of the course are to develop skills and provide a basis for individual, creative development.

SA 0130 Foundation Drawing (3 cr.)—Foundation Drawing is a comprehensive introduction to the art of drawing as a unique graphic and expressive medium. Students learn about basic drawing media, techniques, and compositional elements, while stressing personal vision and creativity. The course culminates with an introduction to the human figure.

SA 1430 Perspective Drawing (3 cr.)—This course is designed to give students a working knowledge of the fundamental theories of linear perspective, the role they play in the development of a drawing, and how to use them in specific applications. Students are given increasingly complex course work that results in a workbook that can be used as a reference for future work in the field.

3. History of Architecture (12 credits from the following 3-credit courses, with at least 6 credits from 1000-level courses):

HA&A 0040 Introduction to Architecture (3 cr.)—This course introduces students to the art of architecture from the ancient world through the 20th century, with major emphasis on the Western tradition. Through lectures, readings, and discussion, students learn to understand and make critical evaluations of buildings. **This course is required for all majors.**

HA&A 0045 Introduction to Modern Architecture—The major developments in European and American architecture and the ideas behind them, from the 1890s to the present day, are the focus of this course. Students identify significant ways the built environment has been transformed during this century for the purpose of serving society in ways not previously imagined.

HA&A 0080 World Religious Architecture—From Buddhist stupas and Gothic cathedrals to Shinto torii arches and the natural sites sacred to tribal practice, the search for spirituality throughout history has created a rich variety of consecrated spaces and places. This introductory course focuses on religious sites and monuments around the globe and through history by looking at the cultural and historical factors behind their construction.

HA&A 0440 Frank Lloyd Wright—This course examines the life of America's greatest architect and one of the principal world figures in the art of building during the 20th century. Lectures cover Wright's formation and development as an architect and provide theoretical analysis of his work in comparison with his great contemporaries.

HA&A 1160 Roman Architecture—In examining the development of Roman architecture from its origins in Etruria and central Italy to the Middle Empire (circa 150 C.E.), this course pays special attention to the relationship between architectural forms, types, and functions, and changes in Roman politics and society. The significance of materials and outside influences on the development of local Italian forms also is discussed.

HA&A 1220 Early Christian/Byzantine Architecture—This course balances modern scholarship on the origins and development of church building with a conceptual study of what worship is and where it takes place. Topics of study range from Rome and Constantinople to "underground" churches to the splendor of the basilicas built for Constantine and Justinian. Field trips to church and synagogue services complement lectures and readings.

HA&A 1235 English Medieval Architecture—Selected examples of English Medieval architecture, from the seventh through the 15th centuries, are explored in this course. Emphasis is placed on ecclesiastical buildings, and students examine planning, structural formulation, and style within their historical contexts.

HA&A 1240 Romanesque Architecture—Romanesque architecture, evolving from the building practices of the Carolingian Empire (800 C.E.), marks the coming of age of European culture in the post-antique era. This course treats both formal and functional issues in the development of the Romanesque tradition and emphasizes the mature period of 1050–1140 C.E.

HA&A 1250 Gothic Architecture—This course is a survey of Gothic architecture from its beginnings to the late development of the 15th century in Western Europe. Each student creates a visitor's guide to a specific building constructed in this style.

HA&A 1305 Early Renaissance Architecture—Students examine the buildings, cities, projects, theories, and major designers of this period (1420–1500 C.E.), which marked a fundamental change in the way humankind viewed and thought about the world. Focus is on the new acceptance of rationality and modular linkage in building as a precursor to the rationality and scientific method characteristic of the modern world.

HA&A 1306 High Renaissance Architecture—The high Renaissance (1500–1580 C.E.) forever changed the face of architecture. This course considers the work of Bramante, Raphael, Michelangelo, and Leonardo da Vinci during this period in Rome; traces the mutation of high Renaissance ideals into Mannerism; and looks at the spread of both styles in the churches and town planning of northern Italy.

HA&A 1407 Architecture in the 18th Century—The luxuriousness of French and German rococo, the beginnings of archaeology, industrial architecture, the concepts of rationalism and romanticism—these are all hallmarks of buildings in the 18th century. This course traces these shifts and conflicts in the era 1700–1825, with emphasis on the interchange of architecture with science, technology, industry, and the new demands of public life.

HA&A 1408 Classical Tradition in Architecture—This course explores classical Greek architecture and its reinterpretations in Western culture during the Roman, Renaissance, and neo-classical eras. The significance of the classical aesthetic qualities of order, harmony, symmetry, and rational proportion in projecting the meaning of a building in a variety of cultural climates is examined.

HA&A 1480 Architecture Since 1945—The emphasis of this course is on major developments in architecture between the end of World War II and the present, especially work completed after the mid-1960s in Asia, Europe, and the United States. We take an in-depth look at 10 major buildings that represent the most important, creative movements of this period.

HA&A 1510 Pittsburgh Architecture/Urbanism—What better way to appreciate the complex relationship between the aesthetic, functional, and historical aspects of architecture than to take a good look at the human-made structures of the city we live in? Students examine some important Pittsburgh buildings and architects in the historical development of this city in a socio-economic, as well as architectural, context.

HA&A 1530 American Architecture 1: To Civil War—The theme of this course is the search for identity in American architecture, from the time of the colonial settlements to the Civil War. Using both recorded and unrecorded history, we discover surprising cohesion in the face of great cultural and territorial diversity.

HA&A 1531 American Architecture 2: To Today—The wealth and new social order of post-Civil War America helped shape a new American architecture over the next hundred years, represented by the brilliance of Sullivan, Wright, Mies, Johnson, and the pluralists of today. This course examines their individual successes and the major problems their work only partially resolved.

HA&A 1880 World Cities—By looking at the chronological and historical context of the main patterns of city development, we study the similarities and differences in shape and social context of cities such as St. Petersburg, Brasilia, London, and Los Angeles. Students' reports on individual cities influence the choice of cities to be studied in detail.

HA&A 1910 Special Topics: Architecture—An in-depth look at a topic relating to architecture, this course varies from year to year.

Please note: All courses offered by the Department of History of Art and Architecture in architectural topics count. This is not a complete list.

Related Area: Students are required to complete 12 credits in a related area. Suggested areas include studio arts, history of art and architecture (beyond the credits required for the major), history, the Certificate in Historic Preservation, the Certificate in Civil Engineering, urban studies, anthropology, mathematics, or any natural science.

Pre-Professional Studies:

The curriculum prepares students for graduate professional training in any of the environmental design fields: architecture, interior design, landscape design, urban planning, and preservation. As a pre-professional course of study, the program offers students the opportunity to explore a professional interest while acquiring a liberal arts education. Such preparation instills an intellectual maturity and breadth of cultural experience that serve the student to advantage during professional career training. Students should be fully aware that the degree in architectural studies does not in itself constitute a professional or technical training.

Students are advised that knowledge of calculus and physics is one of the prerequisites to a professional career in architecture. Those who seek recommendation to a professional graduate program in architecture will be expected to complete the following courses or their equivalent by the end of the junior year:

MATH 0220 and 0230 Analytic Geometry and Calculus 1 and 2 (4 credits each)
PHYS 0174 and 0175 Basic Physics for Science and Engineering 1 and 2 (4 credits each)

Students who do not expect to pursue a career in architecture may substitute course sequences in mathematics, statistics, or computer science for the calculus prerequisite, and course sequences in other natural sciences for the physics prerequisite.

Civil Engineering Certificate:

To add a technical, professional component to the architectural studies major, a Certificate in Structural Engineering is offered through the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, which also provides a major. The certificate requires completion of a minimum of 26 credits, including courses in statics and particle dynamics, mechanics of materials, structural analysis, and concrete and steel structures.

MATH 0240 Analytic Geometry and Calculus 3 (4 cr.)
ENGR 0013 Statics and Particle Dynamics (4 cr.)
ENGR 0014 Mechanics of Materials (4 cr.)
CE 1330 Introduction to Structural Engineering (3 cr.)
and
CE 1340 Concrete Structures 1 (4 cr.)
or
CE 1341 Metal Structures 1 (4 cr.)
plus

Two of the following if either CE 1340 or CE 1341 is elected; one of the following if both CE 1340 and CE 1341 are elected:

CE 0109 Computer Methods in Civil Engineering 1 (4 cr.)
CE 0119 Computer Methods in Civil Engineering 2 (3 cr.)
CE 1105 Materials of Construction (4 cr.)
Minimum Total Credits: 26

A related area in Sustainable Architecture is also available through the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering.

For Further Information—Information on all professional programs can be found in the *Guide to Architectural Schools in North America*, ISBN 0-93543-731-2, \$19.95, available from Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture, 1735 New York Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006. Information on the architectural profession and architectural education is fully discussed in Roger K. Lewis' *Architect? A Candid Guide to the Profession*, MIT Press, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA 02142. ISBN 0-262-26048-0, \$21.95. Also recommended: *Architectural Practice* by Robert Gutman, Princeton Architectural Press, 37 East Seventh St., New York, NY 10003, ISBN 0-91041345-2, \$7.95. These books may be consulted in the office of the Architectural Studies Program, 118 Frick Fine Arts Building, or in the Frick Fine Arts Library.

For advising information, please contact:

University of Pittsburgh
Architectural Studies Program
104 Frick Fine Arts Building
Pittsburgh, PA 15260
Drew Armstrong, 412-648-2402
E-mail: amphion@pitt.edu

For information on other majors, please contact:

University of Pittsburgh
Office of Admissions and Financial Aid
Alumni Hall, 4227 Fifth Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15260
412-624-PITT
E-mail: oafa@pitt.edu
Web: www.oafa.pitt.edu