Master of Architecture
Two Years Full Time (September start)

Introduction

In 2011, the UCD School of Architecture, Planning & Environmental Policy celebrated its centenary. The School has long led the way in architectural study and practice in Ireland. Its undergraduate, graduate and research programmes cover all aspects of the practice of architecture and landscape architecture, as well as advanced areas of conservation, sustainability, urbanism and history and theory. The MArch programme equips students to deal with complex design problems in a challenging context. Through studio projects, academic writing and practical experiments, it develops professional capacities while placing equal emphasis on research and critical enquiry. Its faculty includes many leading figures in architectural practice as well as internationally-recognised researchers. The programme equips graduates to work in the field of architecture anywhere across the world in architectural practice and in other forms of creative practice as well as in the areas of policy, consultancy and academia.

Course Highlight

UCD's Master of Architecture is the only programme that is accredited, by the professional institute in Ireland (RIAI), by the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) and which also has International Certification status with the National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB) in the USA.

Course Content and Structure

- **120 total credits**
- 40 credits taught modules
- 45 credits architectural design
- 25 credits design thesis
- 10 credits dissertation

In Year One, it may be possible for students to spend the Spring Trimester studying in one of our partner architectural schools in Europe, Asia, America or Australia. Subject to limited availability and with approval from the Erasmus/Exchange Co-ordinator. Students may inquire about this option on registration to the Programme.

Core modules include:

- Comprehensive Design Studio
- Architectural Design VII
- Architectural Design VIII
- Masters Design Option
- Design Technologies I
- Research and Innovation in the Designed Environment I
- Professional Studies – II
- Research and Innovation in the Designed Environment II
- MArch Architectural Dissertation
- Making is Thinking – Thesis Preparation
- MArch Design Thesis Seminar
- Reflective Portfolio Module

Why study at UCD?

ESTABLISHED 1854

Graduate education
12,800 graduate students; 17% graduate research students; structured PhDs

Global Profile
1%
UCD is ranked in the top 1% of higher education institutions worldwide

Global community
9,500 international students and a 300,000 alumni network across 165 countries

Global careers
Dedicated careers support; 2-year stayback visa to work in Ireland

RIAI RIBA

University College Dublin
NAAB International Certification 2018—2024
National Architectural Accrediting Board, Inc.
NAAB

Career Opportunities

The MArch qualification is RIAI (and European Union), and RIBA accredited and has Substantial Equivalency with the NAAB. It will equip graduates to work in architecture anywhere across the world, whether in major global centres or in particular regional contexts. This triple accreditation makes this Master's course unique and offers unrivalled opportunities to graduates. Graduates are involved in architectural practice and in other forms of professional creative practice, as well as in areas of policy and consultancy. Many graduates also go on to further postgraduate study, in UCD and elsewhere. Past students in the course's connected programmes have gone on to become international or national experts in their selected fields.

Applicant Profile

- Applicants must hold a bachelor's degree in architecture or another approved equivalent degree with a minimum of upper second class honours (NFQ Level 8) or international equivalent.

- Portfolio Submission is essential.

- Applicants whose first language is not English must also demonstrate English language proficiency of IELTS 6.5 (no band less than 6.0 in each element), or equivalent.

- Students who do not meet the IELTS requirement may wish to consider taking the Pre-Sessional or Pre-Masters Pathway. Full details https://www.ucd.ie/alc/programmes/pathways/

International Fees and Scholarships

Tuition fee information is available on www.ucd.ie/fees. Please note that UCD offers a number of graduate scholarships for full-time, self-funding international students, holding an offer of a place on a UCD masters programme. Please see www.ucd.ie/global/scholarships/ for further information.

Related Masters Programmes of Interest

- Master of Regional & Urban Planning
- MSc Urban Design & Planning
- Master of Landscape Architecture
- MSc Planning, Development & Urban Design

Graduate Profile

Chloe Loh
Wellcome Trust

After completing my three year undergraduate in the UK I spent three years working for different architectural practices in London before deciding to do my master's. An important element distinguishing UCD from other universities is its research-based approach to most modules. These modules allow students to investigate their own interests and develop them into written arguments or effective design proposals; students at UCD are thus encouraged to be self-directed. This is something that has allowed me to project my personal interests into every project and to develop my own style and design method – an important characteristic distinguishing UCD from many other schools. It is a small course quietly producing talented and careful architects, where staff are open to nurturing the ideas of students, both in and outside of the studio environment.