

ARCHITECTURE, B.ARCH.

Begin Campus: University Park

End Campus: University Park

Suggested Academic Plan

The suggested academic plan(s) listed on this page are the plan(s) that are in effect during the 2025-26 academic year. To access previous years' suggested academic plans, please visit the archive (<https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/archive/>) to view the appropriate Undergraduate Bulletin edition.

Architecture, B.Arch. at University Park Campus

The course series listed below provides **only one** of the many possible ways to move through this curriculum. The University may make changes in policies, procedures, educational offerings, and requirements at any time. This plan should be used in conjunction with your degree audit (accessible in LionPATH as either an **Academic Requirements** or **What If** report). Please consult with a Penn State academic adviser on a regular basis to develop and refine an academic plan that is appropriate for you.

First Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
ARCH 121*	2 ARCH 122*	2
ARCH 131*	4 ARCH 132*	4
ARTH 201 (GA;IL)**†	3 ARTH 202 (GA;IL)**†	3
ENGL 15, 15A, or 30H‡	3 AE 210*	3
General Education Course (GQ - MATH)	3 General Education Course	3
	General Education Course	3
	15	18

Second Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
ARCH 203*	3 AE 422*	3
ARCH 210*	3 ARCH 204*	3
ARCH 231*	6 ARCH 232*	6
AE 421*	3 General Education Course	3
General Education Course	3 General Education Course	3
	18	18

Third Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
ARCH 311W*	3 ARCH 332*	6
ARCH 380*	3 ARCH 381*	3
ARCH 312 or ARCH 317*2	3 ARCH 480	3
ARCH 331*	6 General Education Course	3
CAS 100A, 100B, or 100C‡	3 General Education Course (GHW)	1.5
	18	16.5

Fourth Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
ENGL 202A, 202B, 202C, or 202D‡	3 Semester Abroad	
ARCH 491*	6 ARCH 499A*	6
General Education Course	3 ARCH 499B*	3

General Education Course	3 ARCH 499C*	3
General Education Course (GHW)	1.5 Supporting Course for Major (see note)*2	3
	16.5	15

Fifth Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
ARCH 451*	3 ARCH 492H*1	6
ARCH 491*1	6 Supporting Course for Major (see note)*2	3
Supporting Course for Major (see note)*2	3 Supporting Course for Major (see note)*2	3
Supporting Course for Major (see note)*2	3	
	15	12

Total Credits 162

* Course requires a grade of C or better for the major

‡ Course requires a grade of C or better for General Education

Course is an Entrance to Major requirement

† Course satisfies General Education and degree requirement

1 Additional Courses for Major (6 credits)

Select 6 credits from: ARCH 491 (6, maximum 12), ARCH 492H(6), or ARCH 499F(6) (Sem: 9-10)

2 SUPPORTING COURSES AND RELATED AREAS FOR MAJOR (18 credits)

-Select 3 credits in non-Western traditions in architecture from approved department list (Sem: 1-8)

-Select 15 credits in consultation with an academic adviser. This category of course work gives students the freedom to explore a range of academic interests, develop concentrations, or pursue minors (Sem: 3-10)

University Requirements and General Education Notes:

US and IL are abbreviations used to designate courses that satisfy Cultural Diversity Requirements (United States and International Cultures).

W, M, X, and Y are the suffixes at the end of a course number used to designate courses that satisfy University Writing Across the Curriculum requirement.

General Education includes Foundations (GWS and GQ), Knowledge Domains (GHW, GN, GA, GH, GS) and Integrative Studies (Inter-domain) requirements. N or Q (Honors) is the suffix at the end of a course number used to help identify an Inter-domain course, but the inter-domain attribute is used to fill audit requirements. Foundations courses (GWS and GQ) require a grade of 'C' or better.

All incoming Schreyer Honors College first-year students at University Park will take ENGL 137H/CAS 137H in the fall semester and ENGL 138T/CAS 138T in the spring semester. These courses carry the GWS designation and satisfy a portion of that General Education requirement. If the student's program prescribes GWS these courses will replace both ENGL 15/ENGL 30H and CAS 100A/CAS 100B/CAS 100C. Each course is 3 credits.

Program Notes:

The Bachelor of Architecture (BARCH) program, which is a direct admission major, is offered only at the University Park campus.

A ten semester sequence of design studio coursework is the central component of the program and it is this sequence which determines the length of time required to complete the program. Because each design studio course is offered only once each year, a minimum of five academic years will be required to complete this sequence.

A portfolio review is required for change of major consideration. Please refer to the Department's Web site for additional information.

Additional Advising Notes:

In order to take A E 210 (Introduction to Architectural Structural Systems), students must be proficient in MATH 22 (College Algebra II and Analytic Geometry) and MATH 26 (Plane Trigonometry). Satisfactory performance on the mathematics proficiency examination or completion of appropriate mathematics coursework will be necessary in order for students to be able to schedule A E 210 in semester 2 of the recommended academic plan.

ARCH 311W may be taken in either semester 5 or semester 6. Because this is a writing-intensive course, the Department cannot accommodate all third-year BARCH students in only one semester. In the opposing semester (5 or 6) students must select 3 credits of non-Western traditions in architecture coursework from ARCH 312 Critical Postcolonial and Contemporary Perspectives in South Asian Architecture (semester 6) or ARCH 317 Theory of Modern Japanese Architecture (semester 5). Other courses meeting the NAAB requirement for global traditions may be approved by petition.

CAS 100 (Effective Speech) is a particularly useful course for BARCH students and may be scheduled earlier than the sophomore year if students are able to do so.

Although the recommended academic plan lists specific semesters for the General Education coursework, in most instances, students have the flexibility to schedule these courses when it is most convenient for them to do so. For example, students who wish to take MATH 140 (Calculus with Analytic Geometry I) and MATH 141 (Calculus with Analytic Geometry II) in order to satisfy the General Education quantification (GQ) requirement may choose to take these courses during the first two semesters of the program.

Students must select 15 credits of supporting courses in consultation with their academic adviser. This category of coursework gives students the freedom to explore a range of interests, develop concentrations, or pursue minors. Students may schedule these courses when it is most appropriate for them to do so. Students may wish to begin taking supporting courses earlier in their academic career in order to pursue a concentration or a minor which involves a sequence of coursework. For example, some students may choose to take Italian language courses prior to the semester they will spend in Rome. For students who do not acquire any background in Italian before going to Rome, an introductory Italian language and culture course is available in Rome.