ARCHITECTURE PROGRAMS

General Info:
- To be an architect in the U.S. you must:
  - ➤ Complete a professional degree program in architecture
  - ➤ Complete a three-year internship
  - ➤ Pass the Architect Registration Exam

- The two accredited program types are the Bachelor of Architecture (B.ARCH) and the Master of Architecture (M.ARCH).
- The education component can be fulfilled in one of three ways, but should be completed in an accredited professional degree program. These avenues to licensure are:

1. **5-year Bachelor of Architecture (a professional degree) + 3-year internship OR**

2. **4 year "pre-professional" Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in a related field like architecture or environmental design + 2-year Master of Architecture (professional degree) + 3-year internship OR**

3. **4-year undergraduate degree in any major + a 3-year (or 3.5) Master of Architecture (professional degree) + 3 year internship.**

Excellent resources for counselors and students:
- Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture http://www.acsa-arch.org
- The American Institute of Architecture also lists programs accredited by the National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB) http://www.naab.org
- Occupational Outlook Handbook https://www.bls.gov/

Common architecture school prerequisites (these vary from school to school):
- 1 course Calculus
- 1 course in Physics (mechanics)
- Courses in Art History or History of Architecture
- Prep in Visual Arts (drawing, sculpture, graphics)
- Courses in Humanities, Philosophy, Literature, Economics

Admissions committees often consider applications from those who, at the time of application, do not have these prerequisites. If applicants do not have the prerequisites, they will either be required to complete them before entry into the program or allowed to make up their deficiencies at the same time they enroll in the architecture school.

Schools of Architecture:

ARIZONA

Arizona State University https://herbergerinstitute.asu.edu/degree-programs/architecture-march
- **MArch** - The 2-year program is for applicants who have completed the 4-year BSD in architectural studies at ASU or an equivalent degree from another school that offers an accredited professional degree in architecture. The 3-plus-year program for applicants with an undergraduate degree in a discipline or field other than architecture.
- **MS Architecture (Energy Perf/Climate Responsive Arch)** educates students to become experts in energy efficient building design and energy technology.
  - ➤ Eligible if student has BArch or MArch, 4-year BA or MA in landscape arch, BS or MS engineering with a background in sustainability issues, or a science degree with back ground in sustainability issues.

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- GPA 3.0 preferred. In these cases, the students have strong portfolios and references, and use their statement of intent to address the lower GPA.
- GRE is encouraged but not required
- Typically accept about 50-60% of applicants, 120 applicants, 50-60 students admitted

University of Arizona https://capla.arizona.edu/academics/undergraduate#undergraduate
- BArch 5-year - 3.5 GPA to be automatically admitted. Students who fall below this criteria and hold at least a 3.0 GPA are still encouraged to apply.
- MArch 2-year program and 3-year program
- Minimum 3.0 GPA
- 6 design units (32 credits), 2 courses in design fundamentals (6 credits), 2 history and theory of arch (6 credits), 2 construction courses (6 credits), 2 structure courses (6 credits), 2 environmental tech courses (6 credits), college algebra and trig, or calc, college physics lab.
- All students must upload Portfolio, personal statement, resume, and letters or recommendation.

CALIFORNIA

New School of Architecture – San Diego https://newschoolarch.edu/academics/school-of-architecture-and-cm/school-of-architecture/
- 5-year on campus program
- NAAB Accreditation
- Articulation agreement with MCC, see here: https://newschoolarch.edu/admissions/admissions-process/transfer-student-admissions/transfer-guides/miracosta-college/
- Upon graduation, students can choose to enter the workforce or pursue further education by earning a Master of Architectural Studies or Master of Construction Management degree.

Academy of Art University http://www.academyart.edu/architecture-school/index.html
- No minimum GPA required for admission (B.arch and M.arch)
- No minimum number of units needed to be considered a transfer student
- No grades less than "C"
- Offered online as well
- M.ARCH two track options; track 1 has 5 year B.ARCH and strong portfolio (2.5 years), track 2 no B.ARCH and not strong portfolio. (3.5-4 years)

UC Berkeley http://arch.ced.berkeley.edu/
- B.A. in Architecture - IGETC may satisfy breadth requirements. Complete prep for major listed on ASSIST website for B.A. in Architecture
- M.Arch 3-year program
- The average GPA for admits was 3.5 on a 4.0 scale. Acceptance rate was 27%
- No grades less than "C-"
- GRE required
- Prerequisite calculus, intro to physics

*California College of the Arts http://www.cca.edu/academics/architecture
- B.ARCH - Complete IGETC for CCA-articulation sheet at Transfer Center; should complete math 126 before transfer and complete calc after transfer. 5-year program.
- Portfolio is required with application and should represent examples of the students work completed in ART courses; may want to take drawing, painting, sculpture, 2D and 3D courses; drafting courses are not necessary; portfolio should include 10-15 images submitted on a disk or slides

- The average GPA for fall 2016 applicants was 3.2 on a 4.0 scale
- This degree is a 5-year program depending on placement
- 3400 applications for Fall 2017 and 52 transfer applicants.
- Institutional acceptance rate 66%
- M.ARCH 3 years program 90 units

*Cal Poly Pomona https://www.cpp.edu/env/architecture/index.shtml
- B.ARCH - Complete golden four (college level English, speech, critical thinking and quantitative reasoning with a grade of "C" or better) by the end of the fall semester for the following fall transfer. Complete 6 units of basic architecture courses
- The average GPA for applicants was 3.5 on a 4.0 scale
- Students that are accepted into the program and have completed 6 units of Arch courses may be asked to submit a portfolio for advanced placement consideration
- Applications are only accepted from upper division CA residents
- M.ARCH 3.0 Minimum GPA, Portfolio needed

*Cal Poly San Luis Obispo https://architecture.calpoly.edu/prospective
- Average GPA for fall 2022 applicants was GPA: 3.32-3.94 on a 4.0 scale
- Admit Rate: 12.0%
- There were 405 transfer applicants, and 34 transfer students were accepted
- Students are accepted based on a point system consisting of GE and major prep completion
- A portfolio consisting of assignments and syllabi accumulated from major prep courses taken at CC's will be required following acceptance into the program; students should keep all syllabi and work completed in courses related to their major. Students should attend portfolio review open house in April
- Major prep at MCC: phys 111,112, math 131,150; Palomar: DT 144, 145, 215, 180 (earns points for admission); no points given for these courses, but may be taken before transfer: DT 105, (216 & 135), (Engr 235 & 245)-both course groupings must be completed before transfer to earn credit

University of San Diego https://www.sandiego.edu/cas/art-architecture-art-history/architecture/
- Average GPA for transfer applicants was 3.4 and first year students was a 3.9.
- There were 14 transfer students and 108 first year students interested in program.
- There were 7 transfer students and 21 first year students interested in a deposit for program.
- This degree is **not** recognized by the NAAB; it is recommended that students complete a NAAB recognized MA program

*University of Southern California https://arch.usc.edu/graduate-programs
- Average GPA for fall applicants was A-
- 130 transfer applicants – 30 admitted and 15 enrolled
- 5-year program, level is based on portfolio
- Complete min. 30 units to be considered a transfer student
- Should complete some art/drawing courses and arch courses for portfolio content and articulated GE courses; discourage draft and cad courses
- At least one semester of college level Physics or Calculus is required

*Southern California Institute of Architecture https://www.sciarc.edu/academics/undergraduate
- Average GPA for fall admits was 3.7 on a 4.0 scale
- Over 500 applications received and acceptance rate is about 54%
- 3-year program, portfolio required (visual creative work, photos, painting, sculpture, does not have to include architecture)

- Should complete some art/drawing courses and arch courses for portfolio content, although no major prep is required in order to transfer
- For list of GE courses required refer to their website
- 3-year program (7 semesters) or 2-year program (5 semesters) program

*Woodbury University http://architecture.woodbury.edu
- Complete IGETC including Comm 101 (student does not need to complete A1 requirement) to meet lower-division GE requirements; must complete at least 30 units to be considered a transfer student
- For fall 2017 minimum GPA 3.23; there were 144 applicants for the SD and Burbank campuses and 95 were admitted.
- Math 126, 131, and Phys 111 should be completed before transfer; although portfolios are not required for admission, they may be required for placement of transfer students once admitted

Professional Program, no Master's needed

NEVADA

University of Nevada, Las Vegas https://www.unlv.edu/architecture/m-arch
- 4-year program, level is based on portfolio
- Complete minimum 24 units to be considered a transfer student
- Minimum cum. 3.0 GPA needed for admission as transfer
- The program may accept up to 39 students
- Transfer students must submit a portfolio of design work, a completed School of Architecture Application for Upper Division form with documentation and description of community service and/or professional experience, a creative or research essay produced for any course, and a Letter of Professional Intent
- This degree is not recognized by the NAAB; it is recommended that students complete a NAAB recognized MA program

Most architecture schools also offer degree programs other than the professional degree in architecture. Opportunities are there for those who wish to study in fields like landscape architecture, historic preservation, design technology, urban design, land development, industrial design, construction science/management and architectural history. It is also possible to pursue a doctorate in architecture. Ph.D. programs in architecture are obtained by those interested in academic research and teaching in the field and do not offer the professional preparation needed to become a practicing architect.

Schools in California that offer M.ARCH programs for those with undergraduate degrees in fields other than architecture are UCLA, UC Berkeley, Cal Poly Pomona, SCI-ARC (Southern California Institute of Architecture) in Santa Monica, and the New School of Architecture in San Diego.

Application **deadlines** vary but are generally in January or early February. Some are earlier so it is important to contact each program early in fall of the year before desired matriculation.

The National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB) is the sole agency authorized to accredit US professional degree programs in architecture. Since most state registration boards in the United States require any applicant for licensure to have graduated from a NAAB-accredited program, obtaining such a degree is an essential aspect of preparing for the professional practice of architecture. While graduation from a NAAB-accredited program does not assure registration, the accrediting process is intended to verify that each accredited program substantially meets those standards that, as a whole, comprise an appropriate education for an architect.