MASTER OF ARCHITECTURE I DEGREE PROGRAM

FIRST PROFESSIONAL DEGREE

Brennan Buck, Director of the Professional Master of Architecture program

The Master of Architecture I curriculum provides disciplined instruction in the fundamentals and contemporary state of architecture in a setting that ensures the flexibility and latitude necessary for students to develop their individual talents and skills.

The school believes that the educational experience of its program is enriched by students who have diverse educational backgrounds and, therefore, embraces students who in their undergraduate education have majored in a wide spectrum of disciplines, from architecture to any of the arts, sciences, or humanities. This program, leading to a degree of Master of Architecture (M.Arch.), is for students holding undergraduate liberal arts degrees, such as a B.A. or B.S., who seek their first professional architectural degree. It typically requires three years of full-time residency to complete the degree requirements.

Entering students, with a sound liberal arts background assumed, are required to follow a curriculum in which their creative, conceptual, analytical, and representational skills are developed through a rigorous and structured four-term core design studio sequence that embraces and integrates the multifaceted complexities of architectural design. Architectural design problems in the first-year fall term focus on the interrelationship of representation, space, and form. Spatial and form-making skills are further developed in the spring term with the integration of materiality, site, and inquiries into dwelling. The first year concludes with the Building Project, where students work with an institutional client to undertake the design of an affordable single or multi-family dwelling that is further developed until mid-June, and then realized over the summer. This provides a unique opportunity for carrying the design through the building process to realization. In the fall term of the second year, students explore the interplay of context, community, and architecture through a single term-long project: the design of a public building. The spring term of the second year is devoted to exploring the multi-layered systems that constitute the built environment through an urban design project, where design thinking can extend beyond a single building. In the fall and spring terms of the third year, students, through a lottery system, choose from a variety of advanced design studios, offered by a diversity of leading practitioners, educators, and theoreticians.

The design studios are supported, augmented, and expanded on through required and elective courses from the four area studies that compose the curriculum: design and visualization, technology and practice, history and theory, and urbanism and landscape. In addition, students are encouraged to take elective courses offered by other schools and departments.

Course of Study

In course titles, *a* designates fall term, *b* designates spring term, and *c* designates summer. The school reserves the right to change the prescribed course of study as necessary.

M.Arch. I: Total Requirement: 114 credits

FIRST-YEAR REQUIRED COURSES

Pre-First Year (Summer)

ARCH 5090	Architectural Foundations [1]	0
ARCH 5091	Fundamentals of Modeling and Fabrication	0
Fall		
ARCH 5001	Architectural Design 1	9
ARCH 6006	Structures I	3
ARCH 7001	Architecture and Modernity: Theories & Projects	0
Visualization elective [2]		3
Spring		
ARCH 5002	Architectural Design 2	9
ARCH 6003	Building Project I: Research and Design	3
ARCH 6007	Structures II	3
ARCH 7002	Architecture and Modernity: Sites & Spaces	0
Early Summer		
ARCH 5092	Visualization and Computation [3]	3
ARCH 6004	Building Project II [3]	3

SECOND-YEAR REQUIRED COURSES

Fall

ARCH 5003	Architectural Design 3	9
ARCH 6005	Environmental Design	3
ARCH 8001	Introduction to Urban Design	0
Elective [4]		3
Spring		
ARCH 5004	Architectural Design 4	9
ARCH 6002	Architectural Practice and Management	3
ARCH 6008	Systems Integration and Development in Design	3
Elective [4]		3

THIRD-YEAR REQUIRED COURSES

Fall

Advanced Design Studio		9
Elective [4]		3
Elective [4]		3
Elective [4]		3

Spring	
Advanced Design Studio	9
Elective [4]	3
Elective [4]	3
Elective [4]	3

[1] This course is required for those students so designated by the Admissions Committee. Typically, this course will be required for students who do not have significant pre-architectural training. This five-week course ordinarily begins in mid-July and concludes in mid-August.

[2] Students are offered a selection of course options in the fall term of their first year that satisfy the first-term visualization requirement. Selection is made through a student-run lottery.

[3] This course typically concludes in late June.

[4] One elective must be a qualified Visualization elective (in addition to the required Visualization elective taken during the first year of study), one elective must be in the History and Theory studyarea#and must require one or more research papers totaling at least 5,000 words, one elective must be in the Urbanism and Landscape studyarea, and one elective must be in the Technology and Practice studyarea. Students may not substitute independent elective course work to fulfill these requirements.

If an entering student can demonstrate competence and passing grades from an accredited school in the material covered in any of the program's required support courses (except for ARCH 6002), that student may request a waiver of those courses. A waiver of any required course, however, does not reduce the number of course credits required to fulfill the program's degree requirements. Support course waivers are granted by the Curriculum and Rules Committees based upon the recommendations of the course's study area coordinators. Requests for a waiver must be submitted to one of the course's study area coordinators *within one week of the start of the first term of the student's enrollment*. A transcript, course syllabus, and a notebook or examples of work accomplished must be presented to the study area coordinators.

Summer Preparation Courses for Incoming M.Arch. I Students

In the six weeks before the beginning of the fall term, the school offers four summer preparation courses that are required of incoming M.Arch. I students.

1. Architectural Foundations (ARCH 5090). This five-week course is offered at no charge for those newly admitted students who do not have significant pre-architectural training. This course is required only for those students who have been informed in their acceptance letter that they must take this course. Students required to take the summer session must satisfactorily pass this course before being admitted to the school's first-year M.Arch I program in the fall. Classes are held each day, Monday through Friday. The average day is broken into morning and afternoon sessions. Students are expected to complete assignments outside of class.

2. Summer Shops Techniques Course (ARCH 5091). This one-week course introduces incoming students to the school's fabrication equipment and shops. The course

stresses good and safe shop techniques. Students are not allowed to use the school's shops unless they have satisfactorily completed this course.

3. Summer Digital Media Orientation Course. This two-part course, which occurs during the same week as the Summer Shops Techniques Course, covers accessing the school's servers, the use of the school's equipment, and the school's digital media policies and procedures. This course is required only for those M.Arch. I students who did not take Architectural Foundations (ARCH 5090); see paragraph 1 above.

4. Arts Library Research Methods Session. This ninety-minute session covers various strategies to answer research questions pertaining to course curricula and topics by using tools such as the Yale University online catalog, architecture databases, image resources, print resources, and archival resources.

School Portfolio

In addition to the 114 satisfactorily completed course credits, a student must satisfactorily complete the portfolio requirement (as described under Academic Regulations in the chapter Life at the School of Architecture) in order to receive an M.Arch. degree. The portfolio requirement is administered and periodically reviewed by the Design Committee.

Academic Rules and Regulations

Procedures and restrictions for the M.Arch. I program can be found in the school's *Academic Rules and Regulations* section of the *School of Architecture Handbook*. This handbook is available online at http://architecture.yale.edu/academics/school-handbook.

National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB)

Following is information from the National Architectural Accrediting Board:

In the United States, most registration boards require a degree from an accredited professional degree program as a prerequisite for licensure. The National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB), which is the sole agency authorized to accredit professional degree programs in architecture offered by institutions with U.S. regional accreditation, recognizes three types of degrees: the Bachelor of Architecture, the Master of Architecture, and the Doctor of Architecture. A program may be granted an eight-year term, an eight-year term with conditions, or a three-year term of initial accreditation, depending on the extent of its conformance with established education standards.

Doctor of Architecture and Master of Architecture degree programs may require a non-accredited undergraduate degree in architecture for admission. However, the non-accredited degree is not, by itself, recognized as an accredited degree.

Yale University School of Architecture offers the following NAAB-accredited degree programs:

- M.Arch. (pre-professional degree + 114 credits)
- M.Arch. (non-pre-professional degree + 114 credits)

The date of the next accreditation visit is 2030.