

ARCHITECTURE: HEALTH AND WELLBEING, MARCH

for the Master of Architecture in Architecture, Health & Wellbeing Concentration

The Health and Wellbeing Concentration in the Master of Architecture Program at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign provides students with the opportunity to develop an in depth understanding of the relationship between conditions in the built environment and individual performance and population health, well-being, and quality of life. A series of required and elective courses exposes students to a growing base of knowledge at the nexus of architecture, planning, medicine, public health, psychology, and numerous other fields. Concentration coursework enables students to develop expertise in research and strategies for environmental design, planning, and policy to improve human health and wellbeing outcomes through interventions in diverse environment types and contexts, at a range of scales. Responding to an unmet need in the profession, students completing the concentration will be prepared to work on interdisciplinary teams addressing complex societal problems involving the built environment’s critical role in human health and wellbeing in the US and internationally.

Students can declare the Health and Wellbeing Concentration in any of their first three full-time semesters in their M.Arch program. Approval will not be granted if submitted during the student’s last full-time semester in the program.

This concentration can be completed within the normal timeframe of the M.Arch degree. Successful completion of the concentration will be noted on the student’s official transcript.

Admission

The admission grade point average for full standing in the Graduate College and the school must be at least 3.0 (A = 4.0). For applicants who meet the other requirements but have an admission GPA under 3.0, admission with limited standing may be permitted if evidence of exceptional qualification is presented.

Applicants are selected for admission on the basis of undergraduate academic performance and profession-related experience. Application material is evaluated by faculty members. The faculty’s recommendations are based upon an appraisal of the admission grade point average determined from official transcripts, a portfolio or brochure of applicant’s past work in architecture, a statement of objectives, three letters of recommendation, and relevant professional work experience.

To apply, go to the Graduate College online application (<https://grad.illinois.edu/admissions/apply/>). Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores are not required for School of Architecture Masters Degree applicants. Please review the English Proficiency Requirements for Graduate Admission (<https://grad.illinois.edu/admissions/instructions/04c/>).

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Students who declare the Concentration must complete a minimum of 22 hours of coursework with a focus on health and wellbeing.

Code	Title	Hours
Required Architecture Studios		6
This studio also forms part of the standard M.ARCH Core curriculum.		
ARCH 572	Design: Health and Well-being (To be taken from a faculty member whose primary program area affiliation is Health and Wellbeing or as jointly approved by the chair of the Health and Wellbeing Program Area and the Concentration Advisor. Studios with the ARCH 572/575 rubric may be used to fulfill this concentration requirement.)	6

Students in the concentration are strongly encouraged to consider participation in the Chicago Studio during their MARCH program to explore health and wellbeing topics in the context of urban neighborhoods and communities.

Code	Title	Hours
Architecture Graduate Courses		16
These courses may also fulfill elective requirements for the M.Arch. degree. Complete 4 or more courses at 2-6 hours for a total of 16 hours.		
Required Coursework		
ARCH 563	Human-centric Research for Designed Environments	4
ARCH 521	Applications in the Built Environment, Architecture and Global Health and Well-Being	4
or ARCH 522	Advanced Research in Environment, Architecture & Global Health	

Elective Health and Wellbeing course		
In consultation with the Health and Wellbeing Advisor, students may take a course within the School of Architecture or select a course from a unit outside the School of Architecture that addresses a health and wellbeing topic or other topical course.		3-6

Additional Elective Coursework from outside The School of Architecture		
Students must take one or more courses from a unit outside the School of Architecture. Course(s), approved in advance by the Health and Wellbeing Advisor, must be focused on Health and Wellbeing.		2-6

Code	Title	Hours
Total Hours to earn the Concentration in Health and Wellbeing for the M.Arch.		22

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School of Architecture

Director of the School: Francisco Javier Rodríguez-Suárez
 Associate Director for Curricular and Academic Programs: Emelie Mies
 School website (<http://arch.illinois.edu>)

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School email: arch-grad@illinois.edu

College of Fine & Applied Arts

College website (<http://faa.illinois.edu>)

Admissions

Overview of Grad College Admissions & Requirements (<https://grad.illinois.edu/admissions/apply/>)