CURRICULUM

B.S. in Architecture

Earn your Bachelor of Science in Architecture in four years, which prepares you to continue towards a Master’s degree and become a licensed architect. This degree also gives you room to explore additional interests within the liberal arts, making you a well-rounded candidate for graduate schools and firms.

On this track you will take five Core Design Studios, one or two Advanced Topics studios and one Urban Design Studio. You will also take required drawing and computing, structures and building systems coursework along with electives in your area of study. You have the option to study abroad in your third year to gain a global design perspective.

BS+ Master of Architecture

Graduate with your BS + Master of Architecture degree in either the 4+2 timeframe, or accelerate by beginning some graduate coursework in the fourth year. At the graduate level, students complete advanced coursework in Design, Building Materials and Assemblies, Acoustics and Lighting, History Theory, Professional Practice, and many Advanced Electives around faculty and visitors expertise. Students work alongside students from RWU and other universities, studying with full- and part-time faculty and Teaching Firms in Residence. These are supplemented by input from visiting critics, collaboration with consultants from leading firms, and often short term trips to project sites including the US and sometimes international locations in Europe, Asia and Latin America. Graduation from the NAAB Accredited Master of Architecture program with internships supported by the Career Investment Program will get you started toward licensure as a practicing architect.

Application Requirements

A portfolio of two and/or three-dimensional work demonstrating evidence of an applicant’s creative potential is required for all applicants for admission to the B.S. in Architecture program. The intent of the portfolio requirement is twofold — to offer applicants some idea of activities you will be engaged in as an architecture student, and to allow the school to begin to estimate your emerging potential at this earliest stage of your architectural education.

ARCHITECTURE

Studying architecture at RWU means designing spaces that can have a true impact on society. Our program is diverse and dynamic as it combines rigorous professional training in design, history, planning, and technology with a broad liberal arts education. You will develop your own unique sense of design with the guidance of expert faculty, many of whom are accomplished architects, scholars, and preservationists. This includes professionals who are part of our unique Teaching Firm in Residence program. RWU students get real experience with real clients in state-of-the-art facilities.

Architecture majors graduate with a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) and are well-prepared for further graduate study in architecture and related fields. Students with a B.S. degree can go on to complete a Master of Architecture degree from RWU or another NAAB-Accredited institution, to proceed toward Architecture licensure.*

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CAREER OUTLOOK

Where are RWU architecture alumni now?

Employers:

- MASS Design, Boston, Kigali
- HOK New York and Washington
- Kyu Sung Woo, Boston
- Machado and Silvetti, Boston
- Perkins + Will, Chicago and Boston
- Safdie Architects, Boston
- Sasaki, Watertown, MA
- SHoP Architects, New York
- Studios Architecture, New York

Graduate Schools

- University of Michigan
- Harvard University
- Cornell University
- Yale University
- MIT
- Columbia University
- Washington University in St. Louis
- University of Virginia
- University of Oregon
- University of Colorado
- University of Texas, Austin

*master of Architecture program

www.rwu.edu
Learn and Do More at RWU

With a hands-on educational experience throughout the RWU curriculum, architecture majors:

Work in Design Studios
In all four years of undergraduate study, architecture majors work and learn in their own design studios, developing critical thinking, design communication, representation and technical skills. The studio is a place to practice your craft and develop the discipline needed to become a successful architect.

Study Abroad
Spend a semester studying architecture in Florence at the Palazzo Rucellai, or in Barcelona at the Barcelona Architecture Center.

Complete a paid internship with the Career Investment Program
The Career Investment Program provides financing for undergraduate and graduate student assistantships on campus, as well as for internships off campus with professional firms, organizations and government agencies. You have the opportunity to gain professional experience toward licensure with many leading firms around the country and region. Many students land full-time positions with these firms upon graduation.

Faculty
Faculty are accomplished architects, historians, engineers, and planners from around the world. They serve as mentors throughout your entire RWU career and beyond, offering their expertise and individualized support to ensure your success.

Facilities
You will have your own individual design studio space with Samsung flat-panel monitors with rCloud technology. Additional facilities include:
- The architecture library
- Photography studio and darkroom
- Digital manufacturing lab
- Exhibition gallery
- Woodworking shop and model shop
- Review and seminar rooms

Resources
The Architecture program offers additional resources to help you make the most of your experience.
- The Women's Leadership Network provides mentorship, hosts events, and supports female SAAHP graduates in program success, career placement, and advancement.
- Peer mentoring programs within each major build a strong sense of community within the school.
- The Student-Athlete Mentoring Program, specifically for architecture students, is the only one of its kind in the country.
- RWU has one of the largest chapters in the country of the American Institute of Architecture Students (AIAS), which organizes lectures, programs, conferences, and excursions.

*NAAB Statement on Accreditation

In the United States, most state 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 U.S. 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, three-year, or two-year term of accreditation, depending on the extent of its conformance with established educational standards.

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

Roger Williams University, School of Architecture, Art and Historic Preservation, offers the following NAAB-accredited degree programs:
- Master of Architecture (pre-professional degree + 23 UG Architecture credits + 38 GR credits)
- Master of Architecture (non-pre-professional degree + 101 credits)

The program received its last accreditation in 2018. The next accreditation visit is in 2026.