

HOW TO BECOME AN ARCHITECT



University of
Salford
MANCHESTER

It takes seven years to qualify as a full architect in the UK, but did you know that this time isn't all spent studying at university?

With a combination of degree study and industry work experience, this varied qualification process helps ensure you have the experience you need to succeed in industry, as well as a strong portfolio of work.

See how studying Architecture at Salford can help you on your journey to become a registered Architect.

Undergraduate Degree – Part 1

BSc (Hons) Architecture

Duration: Three years

Combining **creativity with technical knowledge**, this course focuses on design-thinking and the creation of building designs and concepts.

It covers topics such as architectural drawing and modelling, architectural history, digital design technologies, sustainability in architecture, and urban regeneration.



At this level of study, you will develop leadership and management skills, and **build confidence** to contribute your creative ideas during industry critiques and academic challenges.



You will **experience practical studio-based learning**, collaborating with students from different architecture courses and years of study, to develop the skills which are in high demand in industry.

Studying a RIBA accredited course means that you can apply for **free RIBA student membership**. This will give you access to resources and networking opportunities throughout your studies.

During your final year of undergraduate study at Salford, you will also have access to the **RIBA Student Mentoring scheme** where you can learn from a network of chartered members and architecture practices.

Through project-based work, you will quickly **build a strong and varied portfolio** of work to showcase your skills to potential employers. You will also have the opportunity to go on an **overseas study trip** to add to your inspiration.

"My portfolio has developed massively since starting my course. Studying Fine Art at A-level meant that my portfolio was full of oil paintings and drawings etc., however it noticeably lacked a wider range of skill and medium. I can now add technical drawings, modelling, creative software and pieces of architectural writing."

Emilia Tudor – BSc (Hons) Architecture student



Industry Work Experience – Stage 1

Duration: 12 months (recommended)

Before you progress on to a postgraduate course, it is recommended that you complete a year working in industry where you can **apply your skills** and build up your portfolio.

This time will give you the chance to work on live architecture projects where you will have real responsibilities in a related work environment.

During this stage, **you will be supported** by a Workplace Employment Mentor and a Professional Studies Advisor while you are working.

Postgraduate Degree – Part 2

M.Arch Architecture

Duration: Two years

With a Part 2 qualification, you are well on your way to becoming a chartered architect.

Alongside your degree, you will **experience site visits and international field trips**, including our summer school in Boston and New York, delivered with Northeastern University and the PRATT Institute.

Building on your Part 1 studies, this course explores topics such as advanced design technologies, complex structural systems, and architectural practice management.



During your studies, you'll also **complete international workshops** with other institutions and industry partners from the UK, Europe and overseas, working on live briefs and **building your professional network**.

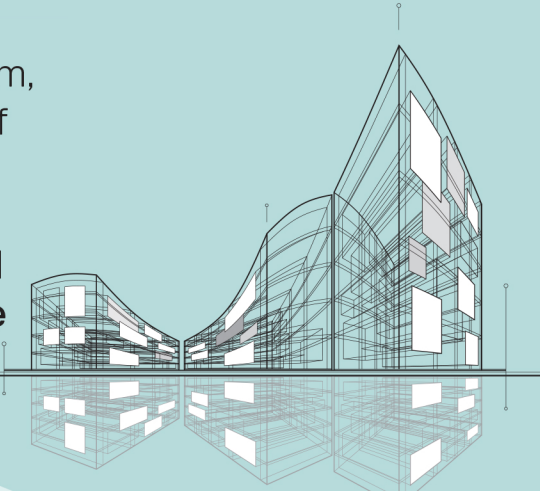
Our MArch students have recently worked on projects with **Islington Mill** and **RHS Garden Bridgewater** as part of their course.

Industry Work Experience – Stage 2

Duration: 12-24 months
(depending on duration of Stage 1 work experience)

Before you can take your qualification exam, you need to have completed a minimum of 24 months working in industry.

Depending on the duration of your Stage 1 experience, this is the time to **build up the remaining experience you need**.



At this stage you can become a **RIBA associated member**. This provides a range of valuable support and services for graduates at this stage in their career.

As a Part 2 architecture graduate, you can **find employment opportunities** with architectural practices, design practices, and engineering consultancy firms, as well as with property developers, building contractors, and major retailers.

Qualifying Exam – Part 3

To officially **qualify as an Architect**, you will need to complete both an oral and written exam.

You will also be assessed on your CV, a case study of work and your career experience so far.

ONCE YOU HAVE SUCCESSFULLY PASSED YOUR PART 3 ASSESSMENTS, YOU WILL BE ABLE TO REGISTER AS AN ARCHITECT WITH THE ARCHITECTS REGISTRATION BOARD (ARB).

