

EP.07.08  
(Rev. 9/22/06)

PROPOSAL TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY

TITLE:

Differentiating Master's Degree nomenclature for professional and post-professional programs in architecture.

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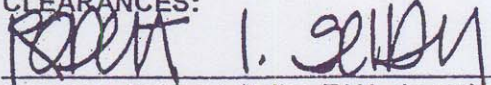
**BRIEF DESCRIPTION:** The School currently awards a single master's degree, the Master of Architecture (M Arch) to students who either complete the one-year non-accredited post-professional program, or the two-year accredited professional program. Professional degrees in Architecture are accredited by the National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB). The accredited degree is one credential required in most jurisdictions to sit for the Architect Registration Exam (ARE). Awarding the same degree for both professional and post-professional programs creates confusion for licensing boards and students; the latter may assume they are receiving a professional degree when they are not. This is especially true for international students who hope to sit for the ARE in the United States after one year of study. This proposal aims to reserve the M Arch degree for professional programs for students holding a Bachelor of Science in Architectural Studies (BSAS) and to offer a Master of Science in Architectural Studies (MSAS) for students holding a professional degree in architecture (B. Arch, M. Arch or D. Arch) and interested in conducting research programs in architecture. This is not a proposal to establish a new program; this is only a proposal to change the degree nomenclature of one existing program.

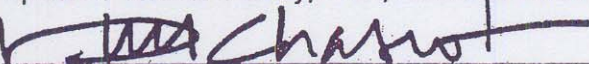
**JUSTIFICATION:** A change in degree nomenclature is necessary to meet accreditation standards and to clarify to licensing jurisdictions that the current one-year degree is not a professional degree. The Board of Directors of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture (ACSA) approved the following statement on 7 December 2002 (revised 6 January 2003): "**ACSA Board's position is that NAAB should accredit three professional degrees: The B. Arch, the M. Arch and the D. Arch.** The ACSA Board believes that the designations B. Arch, M. Arch, and D. Arch should be reserved for accredited professional degree programs." NAAB's Board of Directors has accepted ACSA's position statement. The MSAS is a one year, 32 hour course of study with a research agenda established by faculty and candidate. The M. Arch degree is a two year, 62 hour program with specific comprehensive design courses to meet accreditation standards. Sample one year and two year programs are attached.

**BUDGETARY AND STAFF IMPLICATIONS:** none

**GUIDELINES FOR UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION:** none

CLEARANCES:

  
Sponsor: Robert I. Selby, FAIA, Associate Director for Graduate Studies Date: 9 NOV 04

  
School of Architecture: David M. Chasco, AIA, Director, School of Architecture Date: 11.11.04

  
College of Fine and Applied Arts: Date: 9/7/06

Graduate College: Richard Wheeler Dean, Graduate College Date:

Office of the Provost: Date:



## STATEMENT FOR PROGRAMS OF STUDY CATALOG:

# Architecture

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### **Graduate Degree Programs**

The School of Architecture offers three graduate programs leading to either the Master of Architecture degree or the Master of Science in Architectural Studies. The M Arch is a professional degree accredited by the National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB). The MSAS degree is a post professional degree, not an accredited professional degree.

*A one-year MSAS post-professional degree for students holding a professional degree in architecture;*

A two-year M. Arch professional degree program for students holding a four-year Bachelor of Science in Architectural Studies (BSAS), or a similar degree in architecture.

A program of variable length for students holding a bachelor's degree or higher in any field other than architecture. Upon completion of undergraduate courses as prerequisites, students pursue the two-year M. Arch degree program.

The School of Architecture, together with the graduate programs of business administration, computer science, urban and regional planning, and civil engineering, offers graduate programs leading to the following joint degrees: Master of Architecture and Master of Business Administration, Master of Architecture and Master of Computer Science, Master of Architecture and Master of Urban Planning, and Master of Architecture and Master of Civil Engineering (Construction Management or Structures).

The School of Architecture, together with the Department of Landscape Architecture, offers a graduate program leading to the Doctor of Philosophy degree.

### **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 qualifications is presented.

Applicants are selected for admission on the basis of undergraduate academic performance and profession-related experience. Applications 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.

Application forms for graduate admission and financial aid may be obtained from the address above. Application may also be made on-line. Completed applications must reach the Graduate Programs Office by January 15; students are admitted in the fall semester only. Graduate



Record Examination (GRE) scores are not required for School of Architecture applicants. All applicants whose native language is not English must submit Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) scores. A minimum score of 590 on the paper-based test or 243 on the computer-based test is required.

### **Graduate Teaching Experience**

Although teaching is not a general Graduate College requirement, experience in teaching is considered an important part of the graduate experience in these programs.

### ***Master of Science in Architectural Studies***

*Applicants who have earned a professional degree in architecture (B. Arch, M. Arch, or D. Arch) may apply for this one-year degree program developed to emphasize further study in depth of one optional area of concentration and/or participation in research.*

*Candidates admitted to the MSAS graduate program must complete at least 32 hours of graduate work. Candidates must spend at least two semesters and earn at least half of the required hours in residence. Candidates admitted with full status may complete the program in one year of full-time academic study.*

### **Master of Architecture**

The two-year professional degree program, intended for students entering with a four-year baccalaureate in architectural studies, emphasizes further study in architectural disciplines, study in depth in one optional area of concentration, and/or participation in research.

The initial phase of the two-year graduate program is comprised of advanced study in architectural disciplines, building upon the fundamentals established in a four-year undergraduate study program. This initial phase is a two-semester integrated sequence in architectural administration, design, structures, and electives. This work completes the common core of coursework required of all candidates for the Master of Architecture professional degree.

Election of an optional area of concentration constitutes the final phase of the graduate program and allows students to devote two semesters of work to a specific field of their choice. The *School* offers optional areas of concentration in architectural design, architectural history and historic preservation, architectural practice and technology, architectural structures, and architectural research.

Candidates admitted with full or limited status to the two-year professional degree program must complete at least 62 hours of graduate work. Candidates must spend at least four semesters and earn at least half of the required graduate hours in residence. Candidates admitted with full status may complete the program in two years of full-time academic study.

### ***Master of Architecture (Limited Standing)***

The variable-length professional degree program has been designed for applicants who have a bachelor's degree (*or higher*) in any field other than architecture. Emphasis is placed on the development of sufficient background in introductory architectural studies so that the applicants may successfully complete the two-year degree program described above.

Applicants accepted into *this* program will initially be admitted with limited status. Full status may be attained by completion of introductory architectural studies. Once full status is attained, a minimum of 54 hours of graduate work is required for completion.

The time necessary to complete the program will depend on the nature of undergraduate coursework completed by the applicant and on the **optional area selected**.



## **Doctor of Philosophy**

This program offers advanced, rigorous education for those student whose goal is the advancement of the intellectual base of the discipline through a career of research and scholarship. *Three* areas of concentration are offered: history and theory, *social* and cultural factors in design, and *Technology and Environment*. The program is administered jointly with the Department of Landscape Architecture.

Students with a professional degree must complete 96 graduate hours of credit, including 32 graduate hours of thesis credit, culminating in a dissertation.

## **Master of Architecture and Master of Urban Planning**

This joint degree program offers an opportunity to obtain an education for a career that combines the disciplines of architecture and urban planning. The program requires a match of related subject areas from the two programs in order to meet the requirements for each degree. These areas include: housing/ community development, preservation/preservation planning, urban design/environmental planning and land use, and management/planning. For entry into this program, applicants must satisfy the admission requirements of *both* academic units. Application for admission may be made either simultaneously to both units or in sequence.

Candidates entering the program with a four-year baccalaureate in architectural studies must complete at least 86 hours of graduate work and, if admitted with full status, may complete the program in six semesters and one summer session. Candidates entering the program with a five-year Bachelor of Architecture degree must complete at least 64 hours of graduate work and, if admitted with full status, may complete the *MSAS/MUP* program in four semesters and a summer session.

## **Master of Architecture and Master of Business Administration, or Master of Computer Science**

Two joint master's degree programs prepare graduate degree candidates for the broad range of management or computer applications activity now developing in architectural practice. Work in *these program areas* can lead to one of the following joint master's degree combinations: Master of Architecture and Master of Business Administration or Master of Architecture and Master of Computer Science.

For entry into one of these programs, applicants must satisfy the admission and performance requirements of *both* academic units. Application for admission may be made simultaneously to both units or admission to one unit may be sought after gaining entry to the other.

Candidates entering the Master of Architecture/Master of Business Administration joint degree with a four-year baccalaureate in architectural studies must complete 110 hours of graduate work. The combination of Master of Architecture and Master of Computer Science degrees requires 74 graduate hours plus nine semester hours of prerequisites in computer science. If admitted with full status, students can complete the M. Arch/MCS degree in five semesters, or the M. Arch/MBA in six semesters. Candidates entering the M. Arch/MCS program with a five-year Bachelor of Architecture degree must complete 92 hours of graduate work and, if admitted with full status, may complete the *MSAS/MBA* program in five semesters. Candidates entering the M. Arch/MCS program with a five-year Bachelor of Architecture degree must complete at least 64 hours of graduate work and, if admitted with full status, may complete the *MSAS/MCS* program in four semesters.

## **Master of Architecture and Master of Science in Civil and Environmental Engineering (Construction Management)**

This joint degree program offers qualified applicants the opportunity to develop competence in a career that combines the disciplines of architecture and civil engineering (construction



management). For entry into this program, applicants must satisfy the admission and performance requirements of *both* academic units. Application for admission should be made to the School of Architecture. Admission to the other unit may be sought after the first semester of graduate study in Architecture.

Candidates entering the program with a four-year baccalaureate in architectural studies must complete at least 78 hours of graduate work and, if admitted with full status, may complete the program in five semesters. Candidates entering the program with a five-year Bachelor of Architecture degree must complete at least 64 hours of graduate work and, if admitted with full status, may complete the *MSAS/MSCE* program in four semesters.

### **Master of Architecture and Master of Science in Civil and Environmental Engineering (Structures)**

This joint degree program offers qualified applicants the opportunity to develop competence in a career that combines the disciplines of architecture and civil engineering (structures). For entry into this program, applicants must satisfy the admission and performance requirements of *both* academic units. The Structures Option is intended for Architecture or CEE students interested in obtaining joint degrees in both Architecture and CEE. Application for admission should be made to the department in which a student is initially registered. Admission to the other unit may be sought after the first semester of graduate study in Architecture.

Candidates entering the program with a four-year baccalaureate in architectural studies must complete at least 78 hours of graduate work and, if admitted with full status, may complete the program in five semesters. Candidates entering the program with a five-year Bachelor of Architecture degree must complete at least 64 hours of graduate work and, if admitted with full status, may complete the *MSAS/MSCE* program in four semesters. CEE candidates entering the program must complete at least 70 hours of graduate work in addition to the required undergraduate architecture courses and, if admitted with full status, may complete the program in six semesters.

### **Financial Aid**

Financial aid for graduate students in architecture is available in the form of fellowships and assistantships (teaching, research, and graduate or resource). Qualified candidates are considered for financial support upon application and subsequent years of study.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** upon approval

### **SAMPLE MSAS (ONE YEAR, DESIGN RESEARCH) DEGREE PROGRAM**

#### First Semester

ARCH 423 Soc/Beh Factors for Design 3 hrs  
ARCH 563 Soc/Beh Research Designed Env 4hrs  
EPSY 480 Educational Statistics 4 hrs  
Electives 5 hrs

**16 hours**

#### Second Semester

ARCH 599 Thesis Research 12 hrs  
Electives 4 hours

**16 hours**

**Total 32 hours**

### **SAMPLE M. ARCH (TWO YEAR, ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN) DEGREE PROGRAM**

#### First Semester

ARCH 501 Architectural Practice 4 hrs  
ARCH 571 Architectural Design Studio 6 hrs  
Electives 6 hrs

**16 hours**

#### Second Semester

ARCH 502 Structural Planning 4 hrs  
ARCH 572 Arch Design Studio 6 hrs  
ARCH 597 Special Problems in  
Architectural Design (Thesis  
Preparation) 3 hrs  
Electives 3 hrs

**16 hours**

#### Third Semester

ARCH 573 Architectural Design Studio 8 hrs  
Electives 8 hrs

**16 hours**

#### Fourth Semester

ARCH 574 Arch Design Studio 8 hrs  
Electives 6 hrs

**14 hours**

**Total 62 hours**

c: my docs/associate director/degree nomenclature/proposal to the senate committee on educational policy  
rev: 22 September 2006