Faculty of Architecture and the Built Environment

MSc Programme
Architecture, Urbanism and Building Sciences

Architecture

Designing for contemporary demands for continuity and change.

The Architecture track draws on the rich architectural tradition of the faculty. Teaching encourages students to develop creative and innovative building projects that use design as a means to deal with the technical, social and spatial challenges encountered in the built environment. This programme sets itself apart from other architecture schools in the diversity of directions available. Students can choose from over thirty studios each with a different focus from conceptual to concrete, from technical to theoretical and from building to city scales. Each studio combines teaching by academics and practitioners from leading architectural firms, including Kees Kaan, Winy Maas, Michiel Riedijk and Dick van Gameren.

Programme
The master is a two year programme structured with a preparatory year focusing on core subjects and studios followed by a graduation studio in the final year. Students choose to specialise in one of many graduation studios, giving students a wide choice of options within the programme. Students develop an independent and academic attitude and are given the opportunity to design their own projects in the speciality of their choice, supported by an excellent infrastructure of model-making facilities, studio spaces and frequent excursions, workshops and seminars. The Architecture track is one of five specialisation tracks within the Architecture, Urbanism and Building Sciences master programme. On graduation, students receive Master of Science degree in Architecture, Urbanism and Building Sciences (Architecture track).
## Curriculum Architecture

### First year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1st semester</th>
<th>2nd semester</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Delft Lectures on Architectural Design (3 ECTS)</td>
<td>Delft Lectures on Architectural Sustainability (3 ECTS)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Delft Lectures on Architectural History (3 ECTS)</td>
<td>Thesis Architectural History or Theory (6 ECTS)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Delft Seminars on Building Technology (6 ECTS)</td>
<td>Electives (21 ECTS), including an approved MSc 2 Architecture design project worth 12 ECTS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Delft Lectures on Architectural Sustainability (3 ECTS)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Design Studio (12 ECTS)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 Studio related courses (2 x 3 ECTS)</td>
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### Second year

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<tr>
<th>3rd semester</th>
<th>4th semester</th>
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<tr>
<td>Lecture Series Research Methods (6 ECTS)</td>
<td>Graduation Studio (30 ECTS)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Studio related courses (9 ECTS)</td>
<td>Graduation Studio (15 ECTS)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Graduation Studio (15 ECTS)</td>
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ECTS = European Credit Transfer System

One academic year = 60 ECTS (1680 hrs study, 1 ECTS 28hrs)

Total amount of credits MSc programme = 120 ECTS

For more information on all courses, please visit: [www.studyguide.tudelft.nl](http://www.studyguide.tudelft.nl)

### Programme specialisations

**Architectural Engineering** focuses on innovative, engineered architecture. Our society asks for smart and responsible solutions regarding topics such as energy, flexibility, food, materials, mobility and water storage. How do we integrate new technologies in architecture to improve societal issues and good anchoring in the context?

**Architecture and Dwelling** is concerned with the architectural design of our everyday living environment and housing. While investigating conditions of density, functional diversity and contemporary lifestyles, in its curriculum the Chair of Architecture and Dwelling addresses two diametrically opposed conditions: the Netherlands on the one hand and emerging economies worldwide on the other.

**The Public Building** design studios address the contemporary and future meaning of the public domain as realm of (ex)change in an urbanized society, as ‘place where strangers meet’. The focus is on how new architectural models, typologies, programmes, and design strategies can be developed to meet public needs on different levels.

**Interiors Building Cities** explores a territory that ranges in scale from the extended interior to the intimate city. Working from a critical understanding of an existing situation, students materialise the architecture of the public, urban interior as a place within which the concerns of contemporary society and culture can be embodied in a direct, immediate and inclusive manner.

I found TU Delft to be an excellent university with amazing facilities and faculty members such as: Kees Kaan, Tony Fretton, Pier Vittorio Aureli, Patrick Healy, Jan de Vylder, and Winy Maas. The university offers an incredible selection of seminars, debates, lectures and workshops thus providing a solid architectural infrastructure for ambitious students to have a challenging and engaging study. I would definitely recommend the TU Delft if you are interested in studying in a top ranked European university and would like to continue working in Europe after you graduate. My study at the TU Delft helped prepare me to work in the highly competitive office of OMA.

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Tanner Merkeley
Complex Projects is concerned with the contemporary condition where cities are renewed by large projects rather than long term visions or master planning. Students learn how to deal with complex projects that require negotiation between multiple and often conflicting interests.

Heritage and Architecture focuses on the re-use of existing buildings where there are demands for both continuity and change. Students examine the preconditions for re-use and create designs that meet competing aesthetic, cultural, historical, technical and functional demands.

Methods and Analysis aims to be a laboratory for students who want to explore pioneering ways to analyse, understand and intervene in the built environment. Architecture is seen as more than just problem solving or a response to programme, but the development of distinct approaches and tools.

The Why Factory explores the future of urban life. Based on current and upcoming urban urgencies the students make spatial scenarios for the city of the future. The master studios form an integral part of the Why Factory’s ongoing research. Argumentation, parameterization and visualisation lead to visionary designs, including object, building and urban scale.

Veldacademie focuses on the complex social-economic issues and degradation that many districts in European cities face. As this studio is situated in one of Rotterdam’s regeneration areas students interact daily with the site and the stakeholders involved in its regeneration.

Architecture students can also graduate through other faculty studios: Transitional Territories – Water, Land, Infrastructure deals with the development of delta areas worldwide. The studio focuses on research and design projects that not only result in increased safety from water threats but also stronger spatial identities and new cohesions between city and landscape.

Explore Lab provides an opportunity for students to undertake a unique interdisciplinary graduation project that is not supported by the other studios. Students must demonstrate the ability to lead themselves and others in theoretical and design research.

I must say that one of the best things in Delft is the Architecture building itself, the BK City. I really enjoyed its relaxed and lively atmosphere, especially the crazy colours and so many people working together. The best things were the numerous special events and the really good guest lectures that can be attended by everyone. After grabbing a sandwich in the so-called Boiler House, on your way back to your Studio you can stop by and listen to an interesting lecture or check out the new exhibition in the main hall.

The theoretical classes as well as the Studios were well-organised and the assignments were relevant and interesting. Many Studios deal with areas abroad, which is inconvenient if you want to get to know the Netherlands, but on the other hand this does give you the opportunity to travel, and you can still pick a studio project in the Netherlands if you prefer.

I personally was involved in projects in Marseille, Hamburg and Chicago, where I learned how to work and intervene in distant places, which is very important nowadays. However, the design approach in Delft is very much research based, with different levels in each Studio which was hard for me at first. but it really taught me how to do research and use it properly in architectural design. To conclude I would definitely recommend studying in Delft to everyone.

Hrvoje Smidihen
After finishing my undergraduate programme in Zagreb in Croatia I decided to go on to study abroad. Since I am very fond of Dutch architecture and the Netherlands is so open towards International students, the logical decision was to come to Delft.

It was a hard decision to make, to leave all my friends and family, but in the end I didn’t regret it. Even though there were some tough moments, I spent two very nice years full of intriguing assignments, interesting lectures and nice people.
Career prospects
Graduates from this programme have an integrated, design-led approach to tackle complex issues of the contemporary built environment allowing them to take up a diversity of career prospects in architecture and related fields. Given the university’s connection to important industry figures, graduates have good access to job opportunities in the Netherlands and abroad. To obtain the right to use the title of Architect, Urban Designer or Landscape Architect after having graduated from the tracks in question (Architecture, Urbanism or Landscape Architecture, respectively) you are required to first complete a two-year period of professional experience.

Admission requirements and application procedures
This is a summary of the requirements only. They are subject to change. Therefore, always consult the websites indicated which give the latest and definitive instructions.

BSc degree from a Dutch University
In most cases, if you hold a BSc degree that is closely related to the master’s programme you are applying for, you will be admitted. However, if the master’s programme does not follow directly from your undergraduate programme, you will be required to complete a bridging programme. To see which master’s programmes are open to you on completion of your bachelor’s degree from a non-technical Dutch university go to www.studiekeuze123.nl If you completed your bachelor’s at a technical university, go to www.doorstroommatrix.nl

Degree from a Dutch University of applied sciences
An HBO bachelor’s degree does not qualify you for direct admission to a TU Delft master’s degree programme. To start a master’s degree programme, you will first need to complete a supplementary programme in order to bring your knowledge to the required level. This programme starts in February. Details can be found at: www.aubs.msc.tudelft.nl/hbo

International applicants
You must:

1. hold a bachelor’s degree from a respected university (or proof that you are soon to complete one) in a main subject closely related to the MSc programme to which you are applying;
2. have achieved a bachelor cumulative grade point average (CGPA) of at least 75% of the scale maximum, unless specific requirements are defined for the country in which you obtained your bachelor’s degree;
3. meet our English language requirements;
4. submit a motivation essay, reference letters and an extensive curriculum vitae;
5. include examples of your work.

The requirements are given on the TU Delft admissions and applications website: www.admissions.tudelft.nl

More specific information about the requirements of each programme and track are given on the faculty website: www.aubs.msc.tudelft.nl

The application period starts on 1 October and closes on 1 April. All applications are made online through the TU Delft website and require an application fee. It usually takes six to eight weeks before the admission decision can be communicated to you. You are advised to apply as early as possible.