Programme syllabus

Degree Programme in Architecture
Arkitektutbildning
300.0 credits

Valid for students admitted to the education from autumn 20 (HT - Autumn term; VT - Spring term).

This is a translation of the Swedish, legally binding, programme syllabus.

Programme objectives

The information applies to students starting their studies in the academic year 2020-2021. There may be changes in the programme content for years 2-5. Always refer to www.kth.se for information on the latest approved syllabus.

The programme provides the students with knowledge and skills relating to the professional practice of architecture as well as the discipline of architecture; and continually develops and debates the subject of architecture, the professional role of the architect, and the education of architects.

The programme is given a content and a culture to encourage and offer a broad range of views and perspectives to create a fruitful environment where new ideas and visions develop. The programme addresses significant contemporary issues such as globalisation, sustainability, and equality. The programme contributes skills and tools needed to design, problematize, synthesize, communicate, and collaborate. To be awarded a Master of Architecture, a student should demonstrate knowledge and skills required to work autonomously as an architect.

Knowledge and understanding

A student who has completed the programme should be able to:

- demonstrate knowledge of the disciplinary and artistic foundation of the field and insight into relevant research and development work; and demonstrate both broad knowledge and

- understanding of architectural theory and history as well as specialised knowledge of architectural design, planning and the development of built environments and also the processes, methods and statutory provisions that affect them.

Skills and abilities
A student who has completed the programme should be able to:

- demonstrate the ability to plan, design, maintain and renew built environments and buildings in complex contexts and with a holistic approach informed by various demands, in particular the sustainable development required by the community;

- demonstrate the ability to use appropriate architectonic methods and syntheses to undertake and evaluate advanced and creative tasks autonomously and critically and within predetermined parameters in the field of architecture and urban planning;

- demonstrate the ability to apply knowledge about physical circumstances and technological principles to the erection and alteration of buildings;

- demonstrate the capacity for teamwork and collaboration with various constellations, and

- demonstrate the ability in dialogue with different audiences in both national and international contexts to present and discuss, using images and models, his or her conclusions and the knowledge and reasoning on which they are based in speech, writing or some other way and so contribute to the development of the profession and professional practice.

**Ability to make judgements and adopt a standpoint**

A student who has completed the programme should be able to:

- demonstrate the ability to adopt a holistic view in making judgements and appraisals informed by the relevant disciplinary, social, aesthetic and ethical aspects and which at the same time take into account the different needs and functional abilities of communities and individuals as well as the interaction between individuals and their physical settings, including occupational health and safety;

- demonstrate the disposition to base his or her work on high-quality, well-designed long-term functional solutions and

- demonstrate the ability to identify the need for further knowledge and undertake on-going development of his or her skills.

**Extent and content of the programme**

A Master of Architecture (arkitektexamen) is awarded after the student has completed the courses required for 300 credits. The programme is divided into a Basic Level (Year 1-3) and an Advanced Level (Year 4-5).

A requirement for a Degree of Master of Architecture is the completion of an independent Degree Project amounting to 30 credits.

After completing the Basic Level of studies, comprising 180 credits, students are eligible for the degree of Bachelor of Science with a major in Architecture (Teknologie kandidatexamen inom huvudområdet arkitektur).
All courses and projects in the programme provides the student with an opportunity to apply and develop skills in varied application areas as well as tools to reflect on the learning process.

The courses include the conceptions and ideas relating to society’s goal for sustainable development.

**Teaching language**
In the Basic Level the main teaching language is Swedish. In the Advanced Level the main teaching language is English.

**Basic Level**
The Basic Level of the programme contributes core skills relating to the discipline and professional practice of architecture. The Basic Level is structured around a successive progression in studio-based design projects, courses, and workshops. Students are introduced to the various scales and problem areas of the discipline from the very first year of study. These studies are deepened, developed, and expanded in the years that follow. The relation between the various phases of the curriculum is essential, since the knowledge, methods, and techniques that students acquire in courses and workshops will be brought to bear in the design projects.

The instruction is organised in teaching teams comprising architects and specialists from related disciplines, in studios with 20-25 students who work primarily on project-based assignments in the field of architecture. In addition to their studio work, students are required to complete compulsory courses in various areas of the field including Architectural Technology and History and Theory of Architecture. The third year of study begins with urban planning and concludes with a Degree Project.

**Year 1: Experiments**
The overall objective for Year 1 is to give students basic knowledge in the discipline of architecture. Their work throughout the year equips them with a set of tools and concepts that allow critical understanding of the discipline and its working methods, and the ability to develop them. In the first year, students are introduced to various analogous and digital techniques for model making and drafting as tools for organizing and generating architecture, including building construction, urban environments, and basic historic contexts.

**Year 2: Articulations**
Articulations are introduced in Year 2 as a deeper exploration of the discipline of architecture. Students develop an articulated working method through projects which deals with the composition of a building—accommodating its functional programme and activities, considering its life cycle, and relating its details to architectural design. The design projects increase in complexity, encompassing construction techniques, sustainability, and the building’s interface with its users and surroundings.

**Year 3: Practices, references, profession**
In Year 3, the focus is on how students encounter the profession, relate to associated professions, and understand the context of their work. They are introduced to and begin in-depth studies in the field of urban planning, learning to understand and use the field’s concepts and theories. In addition, students develop the skills to analyse and design urban design projects of high quality from master planning to detail. Year 3 ends with a Degree project, Basic Level (15 credits).
Advanced Level
The overall aim of the Advanced Level of the programme is to ensure individual progression and individual deepening of knowledge, competence and judgement within architecture and related knowledge areas.

The Advanced Level of the programme corresponds entirely to the 2-year Master’s programme in Architecture (120 credits).

Each semester of Advanced Level of the Degree Programme in Architecture consists of:

- two Studio Projects (12 credits each)
- two courses: an Orientation course (3 credits) and a Seminar course (3 credits)

The last semester consists of a final independant Degree Project (30 credits).

During the Advanced Level an individual student completes six Studio Projects, each providing an opportunity to apply and develop skills in varied application areas; and tools to reflect on the learning process.

Eligibility and selection

General entry requirements:
In accordance with the Admissions Standards for Undergraduate and Graduate Education at the Royal Institute of Technology http://www.kth.se/utbildning/anmalan-antagning-behorighet/behorighet/grundlaggande-behorighet-1.54566

Information about area of competence: KTH Regulations, www.kth.se

Information about entry requirements and selection rules and procedures- Admission regulations of KTH: KTH Regulations, www.kth.se

Note: a third group of applicants will be admitted based on an Architectural Aptitude Test (Arkitektprovet) per decision by the Swedish National Agency for Higher Education, HSV 2011-11-21, Reg.nr 83-05254-11.

Implementation of the education

Structure of the education

The Academic Year is 40 weeks.

The Degree programme in Architecture depends little on traditional examinations, which is why the academic year runs continuously without week-long breaks for exams.

Examination takes place through submissions and reviews, as well as an active participation in the teaching.
There is no possibility to choose for optional courses in Architecture Degree programme 300 credits, as all
courses included are mandatory. On the other hand, there is a greater option for choice within the projects, mainly at the advanced level.

**Courses**

The programme is course-based. Lists of courses are included in appendix 1.

The programme combines courses and project-courses with studio-based teaching. The teaching in the studio mainly includes project-based exercises in the field of architecture. In addition to the project-courses there are courses in the various subjects of the architectural field.

**Grading system**

Courses in the first and the second cycle are graded on a scale from A to F. A-E are passing grades, A is the highest grade. The grades pass (P) and fail (F) are used for courses under certain circumstances.

Courses within the Degree Programme in Architecture are graded as follows:

The grades pass (P) and fail (F) are used in the programme.

**Conditions for participation in the programme**

Participation requires admission to courses within the programme and course registration.

Application for admission to courses within the programme must be done before each semester on antagning.se.

Course registrations are done via the personal menu at www.kth.se

For students starting their education from the autumn semester 2018, previous promotion requirements have been replaced with special admission requirements to each course. Admission requirements are specified in the course syllabus.

**Regulation regarding completion**

For both the basic and advanced level special completion rules apply which are accessible on the programme web.

**Recognition of previous academic studies**

Students have the opportunity to apply for credit transfer of results from courses at another higher education institution/university within or outside the country. The entire KTH policy for credit transfer is included in KTH's regulatory framework, www.kth.se.

For more information, refer to the Programme's study advisory service.
Studies abroad

Students within the Degree programme have the possibility to go on exchange studies. Exchange studies are possible in the advanced level only, and usually take place in Study Year 4.

For more information and recommendations of appropriate term for studies abroad, refer to the Programme's international administrator.

Degree project

Degree project, First Level

The Degree Project on the first level comprises 15 credits.

The degree project is the final part of the education on first level. The project work may begin when special admission requirements for the course are fulfilled.

The Degree Project in Architecture, Advanced Level

The Degree Project in Architecture at the Advanced Level comprises 30 credits.

The degree project is the final part of the education. The project work may begin when special admission requirements for the course are fulfilled.

Degree

- Bachelor of Science with a Major in Architecture, 180 credits

  The Degree of Bachelor of Science may be awarded after completion of all compulsory courses in the first three years of studies within the Degree Programme in Architecture and if the student fulfills the national qualifications requirements.

  Master of Architecture, 300 credits

  The Degree of Master of Architecture, 300 credits may be awarded after completion of all compulsory courses within the Degree Programme in Architecture and if the student fulfills the national qualifications requirements.

  Master of Science with a major in Architecture, 120 credits
The Degree of Master of Science with a Major in Architecture, 120 credits may be awarded after completion the equivalent of all compulsory courses within two year Master's programme in Architecture and if the student fulfills the National qualifications requirements.

*The European Architect Directive*


**Appendix 1 - Course list**
**Appendix 2 - Programme syllabus descriptions**
Appendix 1: Course list

Degree Programme in Architecture (ARKIT), Programme syllabus for studies starting in autumn 2020

General courses

Year 1

Mandatory courses (60.0 Credits)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course code</th>
<th>Course name</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Edu. level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A11HIB</td>
<td>History and Theory of Architecture 1: Introduction to European Architecture</td>
<td>7.5 hp</td>
<td>First cycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A11IAA</td>
<td>Introduction to the Discipline of Architecture</td>
<td>3.0 hp</td>
<td>First cycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A11IYA</td>
<td>Introduction to Architectural Practices</td>
<td>3.0 hp</td>
<td>First cycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A11KOB</td>
<td>Artistic Methods and Techniques 1</td>
<td>3.0 hp</td>
<td>First cycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A11P1B</td>
<td>Architecture Project 1:1 Assemblies, Geometries, Scales</td>
<td>8.0 hp</td>
<td>First cycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A11P2B</td>
<td>Architecture Project 1:2 Landscapes, Structures, Movements</td>
<td>9.0 hp</td>
<td>First cycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A11P3B</td>
<td>Architecture Project 1:3 Living, Working, Climates</td>
<td>16.0 hp</td>
<td>First cycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A11REA</td>
<td>Representation 1: Drawing and Descriptive Geometry</td>
<td>3.0 hp</td>
<td>First cycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A11TEB</td>
<td>Architectural Technology 1</td>
<td>7.5 hp</td>
<td>First cycle</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Optional courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course code</th>
<th>Course name</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Edu. level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A11INA</td>
<td>Introductory Course not compulsory</td>
<td>2.0 hp</td>
<td>First cycle</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Supplementary information

Year 1

Experiments

The overall objective for Year 1 is to give students basic knowledge in the discipline of architecture. Their work throughout the year equips them with a set of tools and concepts that allow a critical understanding
of the discipline and its working methods, and the ability to develop them. In the first year, students are introduced to various analogous and digital techniques for model making and drafting as tools for organizing and generating architecture, including building construction, urban environments and basic historic contexts. By the end of the year, students shall have learned the fundamentals of these tools and be able to generate, develop, document, reflect over, and evaluate their own (and others’) work; study references and gather information; and incorporate the knowledge they learn, develop and deepen that knowledge, and articulate it in architectural schemes.

An important aspect of Year 1 are design-based studies that open up and allow the discovery of the influence of various parameters on one another. Throughout the year, exercises introduce the complexity of architectural design by focusing on problems that are limited in scope but can illuminate complex issues. Each exercise builds on the previous one, focusing on fundamental concepts in architecture such as composition, scale, geometry, spatial connections, landscape, structure, movement, activity, massing, location, site, and climate. The students’ understanding of these concepts deepens with historical and theoretical contextualizing that gives them the opportunity to see each concept in relation to issues of power, systems of aesthetic values, culture, and gender.

**Year 2**

**Mandatory courses (60.0 Credits)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course code</th>
<th>Course name</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Edu. level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A21AYA</td>
<td>The Discipline and Practices of Architecture</td>
<td>3.0 hp</td>
<td>First cycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A21HIC</td>
<td>History and Theory of Architecture 2: Architecture Modernity</td>
<td>9.0 hp</td>
<td>First cycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A21KOB</td>
<td>Artistic Methods and Techniques 2</td>
<td>3.0 hp</td>
<td>First cycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A21P1C</td>
<td>Architecture Project 2:1 Structure, Place, Activity</td>
<td>16.0 hp</td>
<td>First cycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A21P2B</td>
<td>Architecture Project 2:2 - Tectonics, Ornament, Transformation</td>
<td>5.0 hp</td>
<td>First cycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A21P3C</td>
<td>Architecture Project 2:3 Material, Space, Detail</td>
<td>12.0 hp</td>
<td>First cycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A21REA</td>
<td>Representation 2: Fabrication and Descriptive Geometry</td>
<td>3.0 hp</td>
<td>First cycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A21TEB</td>
<td>Architectural Technology 2</td>
<td>9.0 hp</td>
<td>First cycle</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Supplementary information**

This is a preliminary course list, study year 2, for students who started the programme 2017. Changes may occur. For an updated, current course list, please see the course and programme directory.

**Year 2 Articulations**

In the second year, *articulations* are introduced as a deeper exploration of the discipline of architecture. Students develop an articulated working method through projects which deal with the composition of a building, accomodating its functional programme and activities, considering its life cycle and relating its details to architectural design. The design projects increase in complexity, encompassing construction techniques, sustainability and the building’s interface with its users and surroundings.
Students explore the complexity that constitutes a work of architecture through processes specific to the discipline. First semester studio assignments focus on an accretive conceptual investigation of fundamental principles of the making of buildings, with themes such as structure, place, and activity. The assignments, which build on the concepts and techniques introduced in the first year, provide a means for the student to develop and maintain a systematic working method for the completion of projects within given parameters. These parameters also include aspects of social, historical, environmental, political and gender issues. The second semester studio projects advance in complexity while addressing concepts and principles of tectonics, ornament and transformation through the renovation/re-construction of an existing structure, problematising lifecycle perspectives. Likewise, material, space and detail are explored in the final project. All projects include work with physical models and advanced digital modelling and fabrication. In addition to design studio, courses in Architecture and Profession, Representation, Artistic Methods, History and Theory of Architecture and Architectural Technology

**Year 3**

**Mandatory courses (60.0 Credits)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course code</th>
<th>Course name</th>
<th>Credits Edu. level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A31EXA</td>
<td>Degree Project in Architecture, First Cycle</td>
<td>15.0 hp First cycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A31H1A</td>
<td>History and Theory of Architecture 3:1 World Architecture</td>
<td>6.0 hp First cycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A31P1A</td>
<td>Project Studio 3:1, Urban Design</td>
<td>12.0 hp First cycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A31P2D</td>
<td>Project 3:2 Urban Spaces and Landscapes</td>
<td>6.0 hp First cycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A31REA</td>
<td>Representation 3: Processing and Presentation</td>
<td>3.0 hp First cycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A31SFA</td>
<td>Urban Morphology and Urban Design Theories</td>
<td>6.0 hp First cycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A31T1A</td>
<td>Architectural Technology 3:1 Building, City, Process</td>
<td>6.0 hp First cycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A31T2A</td>
<td>Architecture Technology 3:2: Building, City, Process</td>
<td>3.0 hp First cycle</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Supplementary information**

This is a preliminary course list, study year 3, for students who started the programme 2017. Changes may occur. For an updated, current course list, please see the course and programme directory.

**Year 3**

**Practices, Precedents, Profession**

The focus in Year 3 is on how students encounter the profession, relate to associated professions and understand the context of their work.

The students are introduced to and begin in-depth studies in the field of urban planning, and learning to understand and use the field’s concepts and theories. In addition, students develop the skills to analyse and design urban planning projects of high quality from master planning to detail.
The students reflect generally and specifically on the city’s global, historical, and cultural role in society. Central to this process are insights into the way various cultures and societal forms give physical shape to their communities through urban development. Students are meant to become aware in particular of the central role the discipline of urban planning plays in promoting sustainable urban and social development.

Through a series of practical assignments, students develop fundamental knowledge about infrastructure, landscape planning, and the planning process and regulations. In lectures and seminars, they learn about urban planning theory and history, and make use of that knowledge in their own work. Students are required to resolve assignments at different scales, from regional to master and site planning, and to integrate their work with individual buildings. They must master digital tools, and receive particular training in the ability to judiciously employ various presentation techniques. Students must demonstrate the ability to work both individually and in a group.

Year 3 ends with a Degree project, Basic Level (15 credits). In this project, students shall demonstrate well-developed knowledge of and skills in the architectural profession’s core expertise of architectural design and its technical, functional, and aesthetic dimensions, from urban planning to the details of an individual building. They must show that they can apply this knowledge in a concrete and compound architectural project and make a critical argument for and reflect on their work. This project marks the conclusion of the bachelor’s degree program and the urban planning year with a complex assignment that spans from a comprehensive urban perspective to individual building details, thus defining the architect’s primary field of activity.

**Year 4**

**Mandatory courses (60.0 Credits)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course code</th>
<th>Course name</th>
<th>Credits Edu. level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A42A13</td>
<td>Studio Project, Advanced Level</td>
<td>12.0 hp Second cycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A42B13</td>
<td>Studio Project, Advanced Level</td>
<td>12.0 hp Second cycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A42C14</td>
<td>Studio Project, Advanced Level</td>
<td>12.0 hp Second cycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A42D14</td>
<td>Studio Project, Advanced Level</td>
<td>12.0 hp Second cycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A42O1A</td>
<td>Orientation; History, Theory and Technology of Architecture 4: 1</td>
<td>3.0 hp Second cycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A42O2A</td>
<td>Orientation; History, Theory and Technology of Architecture 4: 2</td>
<td>3.0 hp Second cycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A42SEH</td>
<td>Seminar Course, Advanced Level 4HT</td>
<td>3.0 hp Second cycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A42SEV</td>
<td>Seminar Course, Advanced Level 4VT</td>
<td>3.0 hp Second cycle</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**Supplementary information**

This is a preliminary course list, study year 4, for students who started the programme 2017. Changes may occur. For an updated, current course list, please see the course and programme directory.

The overall aim of the Advanced Level of the programme is to ensure individual progression and individual deepening of knowledge, competence and judgement within architecture and related knowledge areas.
The Advanced Level of the programme corresponds entirely to the 2-year Master’s programme in Architecture (120 credits).

Each semester of Advanced Level of the Degree Programme in Architecture consists of:

- two Studio Projects (12 credits each)
- two courses: an Orientation course (3 credits) and a Seminar course (3 credits)

The last semester consists of a final independent Degree Project (30 credits).

During the Advanced Level an individual student completes six Studio Projects, each providing an opportunity to apply and develop skills in varied application areas; and tools to reflect on the learning process.

**Year 5**

**Mandatory courses (30.0 Credits)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course code</th>
<th>Course name</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Edu. level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A52EXA</td>
<td>Degree Project in Architecture, Second Cycle</td>
<td>30.0 hp</td>
<td>Second cycle</td>
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</table>

**Conditionally elective courses**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course code</th>
<th>Course name</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Edu. level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A52A13</td>
<td>Studio Project, Advanced Level</td>
<td>12.0 hp</td>
<td>Second cycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A52B13</td>
<td>Studio Project, Advanced Level</td>
<td>12.0 hp</td>
<td>Second cycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A52O1A</td>
<td>Orientation; History, Theory and Technology of Architecture 5</td>
<td>3.0 hp</td>
<td>Second cycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A52O2A</td>
<td>Orientation; History, Theory and Technology of Architecture 5; 2</td>
<td>3.0 hp</td>
<td>Second cycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A52SEH</td>
<td>Seminar Course, Advanced Level 5HT</td>
<td>3.0 hp</td>
<td>Second cycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A52SEV</td>
<td>Seminar Course, Advanced Level 5VT</td>
<td>3.0 hp</td>
<td>Second cycle</td>
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</table>

**Supplementary information**

This is a preliminary course list, study year 5, for students who started the programme 2017. Changes may occur. For an updated, current course list, please see the course and programme directory.

The overall aim of the Advanced Level of the programme is to ensure individual progression and individual deepening of knowledge, competence and judgement within architecture and related knowledge areas.

The Advanced Level of the programme corresponds entirely to the 2-year Master’s programme in Architecture (120 credits).
Each semester of Advanced Level of the Degree Programme in Architecture consists of:

- two Studio Projects (12 credits each)
- two courses: an Orientation course (3 credits) and a Seminar course (3 credits)

The last semester consists of a final independent Degree Project (30 credits).

During the Advanced Level an individual student completes six Studio Projects, each providing an opportunity to apply and develop skills in varied application areas; and tools to reflect on the learning process.
Appendix 2: Specialisations

Degree Programme in Architecture (ARKIT), Programme syllabus for studies starting in autumn 2020

This programme has no specialisations.